

**Liturgy Rosters:**  
Many thanks for your ministry to the Parish!

**This Weekend: 26th & 27th February**

**Saturday: 6.00pm**

Reader: K. Howman  
Prayers: P. Howman  
Minister  
Computer: A. O'Brien

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Reader: K. Arnott  
Prayers: M. Picard  
Ministers: D. Arnott  
Computer: A. Francis

**Next Weekend: 5th & 6th March**

**Saturday: 6.00pm**

Reader: D. Baudinette  
Prayers: D. Bennett  
Minister  
Computer: C. Leonard

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Reader: M. Schultz  
Prayers: A. McIntyre  
Ministers: J. Sandeman  
Computer: A. Francis

## PRAYER

O God,  
you reveal the signs of your presence  
among us in the church, in the liturgy  
and in our brothers and sisters.

Let no word of yours  
ever fall by the wayside  
or be rendered ineffective  
through our indifference or neglect.  
Rather, make us quick to recognise  
your saving plan  
whenever we encounter it,  
and keep as ready always  
to serve as prophets  
and apostles of your kingdom  
Amen.

If you would like to receive a weekly copy of "The Spire" by email, please send us an email and we can add you to a list of subscribers

## LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

All Saints Parish has been present at most of the important milestones in your life: your Baptism, your First Communion, at times of great celebration and at times of great sadness.

By leaving a gift to your Parish in your Will, you will leave a legacy of faith – a legacy to help ensure that the mission and pastoral outreach that has been important to you will continue both for today's needs and for those of our children, our grandchildren and beyond.



**27th February  
2022**

**8th Sunday  
Ordinary Time  
Year C**



## Weekly Services 01/03 to 06/03

**Tuesday: 5.00pm Mass**

**Wednesday: 10.00am Ash Wednesday Mass  
6.00pm Ash Wednesday Mass**

**Thursday: 10.00am Mass**

**Friday: 9.30am Morning prayer &  
Adoration Lent**

**10.00am Mass**

**6.00pm Evening prayer lent**

**Saturday: 6.00pm Mass**

**Sunday: 10.30am Mass**

## Recent Deaths:

Sr Anne Forbes RSM

## Anniversaries:

Dorothy McCluskey, Ria Pepperkamp, Sr Mary Shelley, Sr Theresa Parisq, Jack Manley, Terrence Bourke, Maureen O'Brien, Terry Sheriff, Paul Couch, Leila Mizzi, Fay Rizzo, Lorna Barclay, Dora Bourke, Anna Ackerley, Kizzie O'Dea, John Muldoon, Barry Payne

## Prayer Requests:

Margaret Coultie, Noela Clifford, Les Hildebrand, Nicky Schultz, Claire Jesser, Lea-anne Bourke, Michelle Mutch, Deanne Atkinson, Vincent Bailey

*If you have any prayer requests please contact Antonella at the Parish Office; for privacy reasons only Next of Kin may ask for names to be added: Thank you*

## Baptisms and Marriages

by appointment with Fr. Gregory Tait.

## Sacrament of Penance

by Appointment with Fr Gregory

# "The Spire"

**All Saints' Parish**

**Portland - Heywood - Dartmoor**

All Saints' Parish Office

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www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

Rev. Gregory A. D. Tait, P.P.

email: greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au

Parish Secretary: Antonella Webbstock

Wednesday & Thursday 9.00am till 3.00pm

*All Saints Parish is committed to Child Safety - our Child Safety Policy and Code of Conduct are on display on the Parish website and noticeboard in the Tower Entrance of the Church.*

*All Saints Parish Portland acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which our Parish Community meets, the Gunditjmarra people. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation and constitutional acknowledgement of first peoples*

## Psalm 92 1-2, 12-13, 14-15

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

It is good to give thanks to the Lord  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High,  
to declare your steadfast love in the morning  
and your faithfulness by night.

The righteous flourish like the palm-tree  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.  
They are planted in the house of the Lord;  
They flourish in the courts of our God.

In old age they still produce fruit;  
They are always green and full of sap,  
Showing that the Lord is upright;  
He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness  
in him.

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Shine on the world like bright stars;  
you are offering it the word of life.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The English translation of the Psalm Responses, the Alleluia and the Gospel verses, are from the Lectionary for Mass © 1997, 1981, 1968, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved.

## Our Finances

### Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week, inc. EFT: \$ 761.00

**Target \$62,400**

**Total YTD 2021/22 \$ 36,710**

**Total YTD 2020/21 \$ 37,203**

Direct deposit payments for planned giving and donations can be made electronically. Details are as follows:

**Account Name:** Portland Catholic Church

**BSB:** 083 532

**Account No.** 5159 81661

### Presbytery Account

Priest support: inc. EFT \$ 505.30

Direct deposit payments for the presbytery account can be made electronically. Details are as follows:

**Account Name:** All Saints Presbytery Portland

**BSB:** 083 526

**Account No.** 24476 6002

## Blind to our own prejudice



Jesus confronts a very human reality, namely, the tendency to notice the failings of others while being blind to our own: "Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own?" The solution is also clearly stated by Jesus: "Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter in your brother's eye!"

This is related to what is sometimes called the "scapegoat syndrome", that is the even more insidious way humans place all responsibility for the world's ills onto others without taking any personal responsibility. On a global scale this is expressed in terms of racism whether directed to Jews, Arabs, Muslims, Africans, Asians, Indigenous people or others. The anti-Semitic attitudes of Nazis (and neo-Nazis) is a particular case in point resulting, as we know, with the extermination of millions of Jews.

The scapegoat syndrome is also alive and well in the theatre of Australian politics: it is always the 'other' political party rather than one's own that is attempting to destroy the Australian economy, ignore people's real needs and, if in government, will surely destroy our entire Australian way-of-life!

The scapegoating technique also works well in families, offices and market-place – just about anywhere human beings find themselves! When things go wrong, how quick we can be to name the 'other', the culprit rather than admit our own actions, attitudes and behaviours might have something to do with the negative state of affairs. This is not to deny the reality that, sometimes, other people are to blame. But today Jesus is having us focus on the many more times we judge others while being blind to our own failings.

Significant among Jesus' miracles is the healing of blindness. Mark's account of Jesus' curing the blind man at Bethsaida is revealing in the way the process takes time. At first, the blind man sees, but only partially: "I see men walking around like trees." It is only when Jesus touches his eyes again that the man sees everything clearly [Mark 8: 22-26]. Curing spiritual blindness is also a process that takes time, effort and God's grace.

Yet, as with any disease, we must recognise the condition and want to be healed. There are still too many Australians refusing to admit our political policies and human attitudes to migrants and refugees are, in part, scapegoating mechanisms. We also have to reckon with our history which advocated a "White Australia Policy" and treated our Indigenous peoples so poorly. We must stop the blame-game if we are to move towards genuine reconciliation and human goodness.

Jesus' other statement about the sound tree producing good fruit, and the rotten tree bad fruit, is compelling. We are called to ongoing conversion if we are to be cured of our own blindness and open our hearts to people who are 'other' and 'different' to ourselves.

Gerard Hall SM © Majellan Media 2022



Project Compassion  
Sunday 26 & 27 February



Support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and For All Future Generations.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2022 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come to build better future for all.

As St Pope John Paul II said,  
"The future starts today, not tomorrow."

You can donate through Project Compassion envelopes (hopefully delivered next week), by visiting [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au), using the QR code attached or by calling 1800 024 413.



**All Saints Outreach Op-Shop: (In Target Car park) Phone: 5521 1587**

**The Parish Outreach Op-Shop is in urgent need of good quality bric a brac or furniture.**

Please ring Outreach for pick up if necessary. Thank you all for your ongoing support of Outreach. Outreach is open Monday to Thursday 10 am - 3pm, Friday 10am - 4pm and Saturdays 10am - 12 mid-day.

Outreach is a significant fundraiser within the Parish and we regularly need Volunteers to give 3 hours in the mornings or afternoons.

**Please contact Marg Herbertson at Op-Shop for further information.**

### Dates to Remember

- March 2 - Ash Wednesday Mass 10.00am, All Saints Church  
- Ash Wednesday Mass 6.00pm, All Saints Church
- March 9 - Parents Penance Preparation 7.00pm, All Saints Church
- March 17 - St Patrick's Day Mass, 11.00am, All Saints Church  
St Patrick's Shared Lunch 12.00pm, Presbytery
- April 12 - Sacrament of Penance 7.00pm, All Saints Church
- April 22 - Anointing Mass 10.00am, All Saints Church  
Shared morning tea 11.00am, Presbytery

### World Day of Prayer

Friday 4th March 2022  
11.00am

Baptist Church - 33 Learmonth  
St Portland (Old Holden site).

The focus this year is on the countries of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The theme of the service is God's promise to his people in exile in Babylon, found in the book of Jeremiah.



### Briny Bunch Family Group

Sunday, 6th March, from 12 noon, we'll be having lunch at The Ploughed Field (opposite the hospital).

BYO lunch. Barbecue is available.

Any queries, contact Anne McIntyre



### Family Groups

Anne and I have received today, in the mail, a certificate from The National Coordinating Team (NCT) of the Passionist Family Group Movement (PFGM).

This certificate acknowledges the 15 year anniversary, in February 2022, of the All Saints Parish inauguration of the Passionist Family Groups in our Parish. The National Coordinating Team congratulates All Saints Parish and thanks all members of the Family Groups in our Parish. It notes particularly: "Jesus called people to love one another and that's what the Family Group people at Portland have been doing for many years."

It is signed by Dennis Morris on behalf of the PFGM NCT.

Pat & Anne O'Brien