

Liturgy Rosters:
Many thanks for your ministry to the Parish!
****Communion ministers please have a mask****

This Weekend: 2nd & 3rd April

Saturday: 6.00pm

Reader: D. Kierce
 Prayers: D. Bennett
 Minister
 Computer: A. O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: B. Healy
 Prayers: K. Arnott
 Ministers: M. McGenniken
 Computer: A. Francis

Next Weekend: 9th & 10th April

Saturday: 6.00pm

Reader: D. Bennett
 Prayers: C. Leonard
 Minister
 Computer: A. O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: A. McIntyre
 Prayers: K. Loftus
 Ministers: J. Sandeman
 Computer: A. Francis

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

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
 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.

Project Compassion



Shaniella 23, from the Solomon Islands was determined to forge a path out of poverty, moving away to vocational school. With your support, Shaniella was able to overcome further challenges of natural disasters, and gain the skills she needs to create a brighter future for herself.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 so this transformational program can continue to empower and strengthen vulnerable communities For All Future Generations.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow For All Future Generations. You can donate through Project Compassion envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.



Total to date: \$ 410



3rd April 2022

5th Sunday Lent Year C

Weekly Services 05/04 to 10/04

Tuesday:	5.00pm	Mass
	5.30pm	Gospel Reflection & Night Prayer
Wednesday:	10.00am	Mass
Thursday:	10.00am	Mass
Friday:	9.30am	Morning prayer & Adoration
	10.00am	Mass
	6.00pm	Night prayer
Saturday:	6.00pm	Mass
Sunday:	10.30am	Mass

Recent Deaths:

Colin Sullivan

Anniversaries:

Margaret James, Dawn Turner, Carmel Dawson, Pat Curran, Rose Troc, Maryanne Gore, Ron Cruse, Fr Phil Crotty SJ, Sr Sheila Gleeson RSM, Jenny Anson, Lyn Knowles, Georgina Crowe, Peter McCallum, Josh Thomson, John Clarke, Brendan Hoy, Norman Leslie, Pauline Stuart, John Roach

Prayer Requests:

Margaret Couttie, 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

PO Box 210 Portland 3305

Phone: 5523 1046 Mobile 0475 512530

email: portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au

www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes

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

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

Parish Secretary: Antonella Webstock

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

Prayer for Peace & Justice in Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
 who change the hardened heart
 and break the power of violence,
 we entrust the people of Ukraine to you.

Protect them in this time of peril;
 let them know not death but life,
 not slavery but freedom.

You are Father of all;
 we are brothers and sisters.

Give us the strength
 to live that truth in love,
 choosing peace not war.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen



Henry will be selling fresh Hot Cross buns next Sunday (Palm Sunday) after mass. Cost \$6 for half dozen.

Our Finances

Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week, inc. EFT: \$ 735.00

Target \$62,400

Total YTD 2021/22 \$ 43,037

Total YTD 2020/21 \$ 44,902

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 \$ 479.55

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

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord,
who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage, it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs. (R.)

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad. (R.)

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap. (R.)

They go out, they go out, full of tears, carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song, carrying their sheaves. (R.)

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians.

Brothers and Sisters;

I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,

press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel

Jn 8:1-11

From the holy Gospel according to John.

While Jesus went to the Mount of Olives.

Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, they said to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery.

Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?"

They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground.

When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."

And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground.

When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him.

Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

She said, "No one, sir." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Dates to Remember

Saturday April 9	- Sacrament of Penance - 10.00am -11.00am
Tuesday April 12	- Sacrament of Penance for Parish - 7.00pm, All Saints Church
Thursday April 14	- Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's supper, 7.00pm
Friday April 15	- Passion, 3.00pm
Saturday April 16	- Easter Vigil Mass, 6.30pm
Saturday April 16	- Easter Vigil Supper - Presbytery
Sunday April 17	- Easter Sunday Mass, 10.30am
Friday April 22	- Anointing Mass 10.00am, All Saints Church Shared morning tea 11.00am, Presbytery

Purposeful prayer

As Christians each of us is called to be a person of prayer and each of us has to discover the kind of prayer—or rather the kind of setting for prayer—that suits us best. What matters is that we pray. The methods we adopt are of secondary importance and depend to a great extent on knowledge of ourselves, of our strengths and weaknesses.

When the disciples of Jesus asked him for a lesson in prayer he gave them, not an instruction on technique, but the Our Father. In other words he taught them what to pray about. He apparently said little about how to do it. He himself seems to have preferred the open countryside as the setting for his prayer, but he never suggested that this was the best setting for everyone else.

Prayer is, first and foremost, an attitude to life. It is reaching out beyond the appearance of things to the deepest realities which lie behind, beyond, and yet within those appearances. The occasion may be an explicitly 'religious' one, like a Sunday Mass, but it may also be a beautiful sunset, the smile on a baby's face, a great piece of music, the encouraging word of a friend; the occasion scarcely matters.

What matters is what we feel ourselves reaching for depths of meaning in life. The depth of meaning is part of what we mean by God. To sense it is to begin to pray. It needs no words, though we may grope for words to express it or use a form of words which others have used.

Prayer is a rising of the mind and heart to God. I know 'raising' is the more usual word but 'rising' is more faithful to one great spiritual school in the Christian Church. It is not we who begin the movement towards God. It is God who draws us. The human mind and heart are made with a built in homing device. Or to put it in the more poetic language of the Eastern Church, God puts a divine spark in every human being. That spark seeks out the fire from which it came. Prayer is the process which allows this to happen and which involves us in that process.

We can, of course, seek to disconnect the homing device or extinguish the spark. To do so gives the illusion of making life simpler and more comfortable. We do not always want to be reminded that we are destined for more than even the best things this life can offer. So we try to fill all the silences with activities, like people who cannot endure a moment without our iPod. As soon as a space occurs in our lives we rush to fill it. If we cannot find something to hand, we resign ourselves to boredom.

Many of us do not want to be alone with ourselves, still less alone with God. Until we can conquer this fear of solitude, prayer will remain for us a rather fitful, childish and boring interlude which occurs on the surface of our lives. It is not so much prayer itself which frightens and bores us as the prospect of entering a pool of inner silence where we may hear more than we want to hear. In that pool our minds and hearts are cleansed, so that we can hear the murmur of God's voice and see the glimmer of his light.

It takes courage to pray because it takes courage to face the really big things in life, the things that simply cannot be managed or controlled. And so we are more comfortable with small answers than with big questions, which cannot be adequately answered this side of the grave. But the big questions never go away, and that is our hope. It is never too late to face the inescapable fact that God has put something of himself in all of us.

Prayer is a conscious effort to welcome, indeed to intensify, that homesickness, that hunger for the reality which lies beyond appearances. It is the conscious recognition that we are wayfarers on a journey to eternal fulfilment. It is the deliberate will to allow the Godward side of us to rise to its creator in the knowledge that each and every one of us, whether we know and appreciate it or not, is made in God's image. We bear within us an unquenchable spark of God's very being.

When we have realised this great central truth about ourselves, we can then go onto to choose the circumstances or settings which suit our own particular temperament. Though God has made us for himself, he has also given us the freedom to escape from him.

God draws us – but always with a gentleness which leaves us creative partners in what is happening. If we create the space, or simply use the spaces which life itself provides, we shall quickly discover the power, subtlety, and delight of God's attractiveness. - *majellan.media*