

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

This Weekend: 27th August

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: A. McIntyre
 Prayers: P. O'Brien
 Ministers:
 Computer: A. Francis

Next Weekend: 3rd & 4th September

Saturday: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: K. Arnott
 Prayers: K. Loftus
 Ministers: D. Arnott
 Computer: A. Francis

Following Weekend: 10th & 11th September

Saturday: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: P. Couttie
 Prayers: J. Sandeman
 Ministers: M. McGennissen
 Computer: A. Francis

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.

Shared Table Project - Yanaoca

Once again, on behalf of all who enjoy the benefits and blessings provided through the Shared Table, thank you to everyone who continues to support our communities and especially the children. I am still finding my feet to some extent up here in the Sierra, but it is clear that community needs are many and varied. I have no doubt that within the next six to twelve months we will have begun to develop a number of community projects and services thanks to the Shared Table. I look forward to keeping our supporters informed and ask that you continue to keep us in your prayers. You are all certainly in the prayers of the locals here. God bless – Fr Michael McKinnon

Total Parish contribution: \$1,626



28th August 2022

22nd Sunday Ordinary Time Year C



Weekly Services 30/08 to 04/09

Tuesday: 5.00pm Mass
Wednesday: 10.00am Mass
Thursday: 10.00am Mass
Friday: 9.30am Adoration & Morning Prayer
10.00am Mass
5.00pm Evening Prayer
Saturday: 10.00am Sacrament of Penance
6.00pm Mass
Sunday: 10.30am Mass

Recent Deaths:

Belinda O'Dea (ne Carr),
 Fr Barry Brundell MSC (Brother of Kath McMahon)

Anniversaries:

Kim Dover, Mary Caveny, Madison Arnold, Mollie Oliver, Mavis O'Meara, Dot Berry, Tom Hill, Irene Barnes, Bill Aldridge, Ivan Sanderson, Frances Elliott, Maureen Bourke, Jim McCarthy, Fr Peter Taffe, Hazel Young, Bill Woods

Prayer Requests:

Margaret Couttie, Noela Clifford, Les Hildebrand, Claire Jesser, Lea-anne Bourke, Michelle Mutch, Deanne Atkinson

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

1st Saturday of the month 10am
 or any other time 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 Gunditjmara 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

Celebrate Mary MacKillop's life and legacy with a commemorative prayer book that inspires us all to



Order your FREE copy of "Flourish with Mary's heart" today!
 Call 02 8912 2763 or scan the QR code.

Prayer for Social Justice Sunday

Loving God, you made each of us in your image and likeness.

Open our eyes to recognise one another as equals, replacing domination and control, violence, and abuse, with mutuality, reciprocity, respect, and freedom. Help us to love like you.

Jesus Christ, you rejected the use of religious traditions to justify violence.

Teach us to unmask manipulations of our faith used to justify violent, abusive, or coercive behaviour.

Teach us to be people who show tenderness, respect and care for others as you did.

Holy Spirit, you are with us always, showing us the way.

Move us to assist those who experience violence and abuse, and support their call for justice.

Empower us to hold perpetrators of violence and abuse responsible, encouraging them to change their behaviour. Amen.

Our Finances

Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week, inc. EFT: \$ 671.50

Target \$62,400

Total YTD 2022/23 \$ 12,185

Total YTD 2021/22 \$ 8,406

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 \$ 556.40

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

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Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.

My child, perform your tasks with humility; then you will be loved more than a giver of gifts. The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the might of the Lord, but by the humble he is glorified. When calamity befalls the proud, there is no healing, for an evil plant has taken root in him. The mind of the intelligent appreciates proverbs, and an attentive ear is the desire of the wise.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 67

(R.) God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, they shall exult and dance for joy.
O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. (R.)

Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, such is God in his holy place.
God gives the lonely a home to live in; he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. (R.)

You poured down, O God, a generous rain: when your people were starved you gave them new life.
It was there that your people found a home, prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. (R.)

Second Reading

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Alleluia!

Gospel

From the holy Gospel according to Luke.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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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.

What, then, is the common factor in all the different kinds of prayer? This really amounts to asking: What is prayer? We must avoid the tendency to give too narrow an answer to that question. We may be praying far more than we think we are. It is good to recognise this, since it is more encouraging to build on something which has already started than to feel we have to begin from scratch.

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.

And the result is a kind of homesickness which only God can finally cure.

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.

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