

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

This Weekend: 14th & 15th January

Saturday: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: K. Loftus
Prayers: M. Schultz
Ministers: M. McGenniskien
Computer: Vol. please

Next Weekend: 21st & 22nd January

Saturday: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: M. Picard
Prayers: K. Loftis
Ministers: A. McIntyre
Computer: Vol. please

Following Weekend: 28th & 29th January

Saturday: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: M. Schultz
Prayers: J. Sandeman
Ministers: M. McGenniskien
Computer: Vol. please

All Saints Outreach Op-Shop: (In Woolworth's 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 1pm - 3pm
Tuesday 10am - 1pm
Wednesday 1pm - 3pm
Thursday 10am - 3pm
Friday 10am - 4pm
Saturdays 10am - 12pm

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

Please contact Kate Howman 0428 235 218 for further information.

Lenten Booklet

From Ashes to Hope will nourish and nurture prayer each day during Lent and into the first week of Easter.

The daily reflections will invite the reader to contemplate a verse from the Scripture reading of the day. This reflection will be followed by a quote from Pope Francis and a simple prayer.

The daily reflections will only require a few minutes for a person to read, reflect and pray. This Lenten practice will lead the reader into a deeper reflection on their daily life. As they 'look to Jesus' – in their families, workplaces and the community – they will walk as 'missionary disciples' on the path to Easter, and beyond.

The cost of the booklet is \$5. If you would like a copy please put money in an envelope with your name on it, and place in collection plate.



15th January 2023

2nd Sunday Ordinary Time Year A



Weekly Services 17/01 to 22/01

Tuesday: 5.00pm Mass

Wednesday: 10.00am Mass

Thursday: 10.00am Mass

Friday: 9.30am Morning Prayer & Adoration
10.00am Mass
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Saturday: 6.00pm Mass
Sunday: 10.30am Mass

Recent Deaths:

+George Cardinal Pell, Don Errey, Anne Kenny

Anniversaries:

Tom Lyons, Kath Gleeson, Francis Sheehan, Sr Patricia Zierbath IBVM, Winston Morton, Michael Caveny, Ern Sharrock, Gerrard Dumesque, Ian Farrell, Michael Monaghan, Lulu Ferguson, Mark Araldi, Samantha Kelly, Kevin Pettigrove, John Malone, Kevin Pitts, Claire Greenham, Bill Amor, Maurie Sykes

Prayer Requests:

Margaret Couttie, Noela Clifford, Les Hildebrand, Lea-anne Bourke, Michelle Mutch, Deanne Atkinson, John Healy

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

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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 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

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

Our Finances

Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week, inc. EFT: \$1,048

Target \$62,400

Total YTD 2022/23 \$ 32,943

Total YTD 2021/22 \$ 31,868

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 \$ 749.20

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

Ukraine Appeal: \$ 775.15, thankyou

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength - he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

I waited, I waited for the Lord
and he stooped down to me;
he heard my cry.

He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God. (R.)

You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,
but an open ear.

You do not ask for holocaust and victim.
Instead, here am I. (R.)

In the scroll of the book it stands written
that I should do your will.

My God, I delight in your law
in the depth of my heart. (R.)

Your justice I have proclaimed
in the great assembly.
My lips I have not sealed;
you know it, O Lord.

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

I, Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. He enabled those who accepted him to become the children of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel

From the holy Gospel according to John

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'

I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."

And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'

And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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A term of great honour



Some people today may be puzzled by John the Baptist referring to Jesus in today's gospel as the "lamb of God", since for most of us the lambs we see in the paddocks are cute, but weak and vulnerable to predators. You don't hear of nations, or even sporting teams, adopting 'lambs' as their emblem. Why should John identify "the Chosen One of God" as the "lamb of God"?

The people for whom John was writing would have heard the "lamb of God" very differently to us. For those familiar with the Old Testament, the term "lamb of God" had

extremely powerful resonances, especially in the suffering servant passages in Isaiah, as well as in the Exodus from Egypt.

Recall how Isaiah gives an astonishing account of the suffering servant who is beaten, arrested and put to death: "Like a lamb about to be slaughtered, like a sheep about to be sheared, he never said a word." Yet by his endurance we are saved and forgiven by God (53:7).

Again at the Exodus from Egypt, we read of God sending a destroying angel to kill all the first born in the land, of people and animals, to force Pharaoh to release the Israelites from their bondage. Moses instructs the Israelites to take the blood of a lamb or kid and put it on the doorpost overnight to protect them from the angel of death (Ex. 12). This Passover became a defining feast for the Jewish people ever after, and it resonates in our Christian Eucharist as well.

So for us the "lamb of God" is indeed a term of great honour, not one of weakness but of incredible endurance and commitment by God in Jesus to our wellbeing and salvation. The symbol of the lamb is not one of threat or violence, but of innocence and solidarity with those in suffering.

Curiously in John's gospel, there is no mention of him baptising Jesus. John even says he did not know Jesus, but recognised him from the sign of the Spirit descending on him. John speaks as a prophet witnessing to the true identity of Jesus as the Chosen One who takes away "the sin of the world", the primordial disorder in all creation and in us.

John witnesses the Holy Spirit coming down on Jesus, but the Spirit is not for Jesus alone. Jesus will baptise with the Holy Spirit, and so the Spirit will be alive in all the followers of Jesus.

John is intent on showing how the same Holy Spirit in Jesus is the very same Spirit animating the small and seemingly insignificant Christian communities of his day. He is urging the followers of Jesus to allow God's Spirit to nudge them to be good news, with the 'lamb of God' as their emblem, capturing God's intense personal commitment to our wellbeing, and calling us to a similar commitment to others.

Bruce Duncan CSSR

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Pope Francis' January prayer intention: For educators

Pope Francis invites the faithful to pray "that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than confrontation and helping especially the youngest and most vulnerable above all."

In his prayer intention for January, Pope Francis invites educators to add "fraternity" to the content of their teaching, noting that "educators are witness who impart not only their mental knowledge, but also their convictions, their commitment to life."

He added that education itself is an "act of love" that can show us the way "to recover a sense of fraternity, so we will not ignore those who are most vulnerable."

Pope Francis called on the faithful to pray "that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than confrontation, and helping especially the youngest and most vulnerable above all."

The Holy Father "wants to broaden the reach of education, so it will not be centred only on content." As authentic witnesses, the Pope expresses his hope that educators will be able "to be heeded more attentively and will be builders of community."