

Liturgy Rosters:
Many thanks for your ministry in the Parish

This Weekend: 3rd & 4th February

Saturday: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: B Healy
Prayers: K Loftus
Ministers: B McGennissen
Computer: B Dillon

Next Weekend: 10th & 11th February

Saturday: 6.00pm

Reader: G Priestley
Prayers: P O'Brien
Minister: D Kierce
Computer: A O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: P Coultie
Prayers: I Eichler
Ministers: A McIntyre
Computer: B Dillon

Following Weekend: 17th & 18th February

Saturday: 6.00pm

Reader: D Baudinette
Prayers: D Bennett
Minister: K Howman
Computer: A O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: A McIntyre
Prayers: K Loftus
Ministers: J Sandeman
Computer: B Dillon

All Saints Outreach Op-Shop:

(In Woolworth's Car park)
Phone: 5521 1587

The Parish Outreach Op-Shop is always in need of good quality clothing, bric a brac or furniture.

Donations during shop hours only.

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 10am - 3pm
Thursday 10am - 3pm
Friday 10am - 4pm
Saturday 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.

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.

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



4th February
2024

5th Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year B



Portland Daily Services 6th 11th of February 2024

**Tuesday Bayview College Commencement
Service 2.00pm**

**Wednesday 10.00am Mass
4.30pm Rosary**

Thursday 10.00am Mass

**Friday All Saints PS Opening Mass 10.00am
5.00pm Evening Prayer**

February 3/4th, 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 10th February: 6.00pm Mass

Sunday 11th February: 10.30am Mass

Anniversaries: 5th to 11th of February.

Maria Townsend, Lucy O'Toole, Carolyn Rankins, Margaret Gray IBVM, Bert Tober, Johnny Panozzo, Trevor Troeth, William O'Brien, Rev. Leo Donnelly SCC, Helen Stoove, Marie Walsh, Stacey Barnes, Tony Mizzi, Dorothy McEwan, Joyce Thomas, Hazel Harris, Angelo Costa, Evelyn Ennis, Leonie Lucas, Kevin Smith, Joan Carr, Bride Baldwin PBVM.

Prayer Requests:

Les Hildebrand, 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 at 10.00am
or any other time by appointment with Fr Gregory

Dates to Remember

Ash Wednesday 14th February

Mass 10.00am & 6.00pm All Saints Church

Bishop's Visitation: 24th & 25th February

Passion Sunday 24th March

Easter Triduum 28th to 30th March

Easter Sunday 31st March

Please mute your phone in the Church.



"The Spire"

All Saints Parish

Portland - Heywood - Dartmoor

All Saints Parish Office
Entry via 8 Henty Street
PO Box 210 Portland 3305
Phone: 5523 1046

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

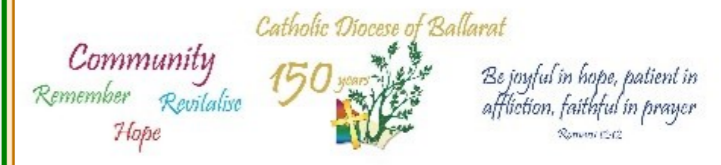
Mobile 0475 512530

Parish Office Hours

Tuesday to Thursday 9.00am till 3.00pm or by appointment with Fr Gregory

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 emerging. We commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation and constitutional acknowledgement of first nation peoples.



The Diocese of Ballarat will turn 150 on March 30, 2024. During this year there will be many events to acknowledge this significant anniversary. Keep up-to-date at the diocesan website;

<https://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/150th-anniversary-of-the-diocese-of-ballarat/>

Our Parish Finance

Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given inc. eft \$982.00

Target \$62,400

Total YTD 2023-2024, \$34,232.10

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

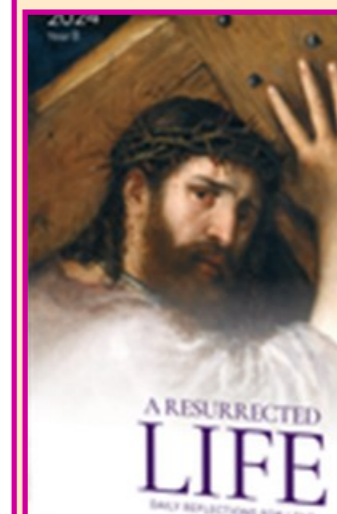
Presbytery Account

Priest support, inc eft: \$781.80

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



Evangelisation Brisbane has developed a new Lent and Easter reflection resource called "A Resurrected Life".

Written for busy individuals but easily adapted for groups, each day includes a scripture reading and a reflection upon it, some questions to aid prayer and discussion, and relevant quotes from Pope Francis.

We have ordered 30 copies; to reserved one for yourself, please place \$6.00 in an envelope with your name and Label it "A Resurrected Life".

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Job 7:1-4,6-7

A reading from the book of Job.

Job began to speak:

- 7 'Do not human beings have a hard service on earth, and are not their days like the days of a labourer?
2 Like a slave who longs for the shadow, and like labourers who look for their wages,
3 so I am allotted months of emptiness, and nights of misery are apportioned to me.
4 When I lie down I say, "When shall I rise?"
But the night is long, and I am full of tossing until dawn.
6 My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle, and come to their end without hope.
7 'Remember that my life is a breath; my eye will never again see good.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3

(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

1. Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving: to him our praise is due. (R.)
2. The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted, he binds up all their wounds. He fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name. (R.)
3. Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured. The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust. (R.)

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23

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

16 If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe be-tide me if I do not proclaim the gospel! 17 For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. 18 What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. 19 For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. 22 To the weak I be-came weak, so that I might win the weak. I have be-come all things to all people, so that I might by any means save some. 23 I do it all for the sake of the gos-pel, so that I may share in its blessings.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 8:17

Alleluia, alleluia!
He bore our sickness, and endured our suffering.
Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 1:29-39

From the holy Gospel according to Mark.

29 As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. 31 He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. 32 That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. 33 And the whole city was gathered around the door. 34 And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the de-mons to speak, because they knew him. 35 In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. 36 And Simon and his companions hunted for him. 37 When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' 38 He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may pro-claim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' 39 And he went throughout Galilee, pro-claiming the message in their synagogues and cast-ing out demons.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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Laudato Si': Everything is connected

In his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis reminds us that everything is connected. Our relationship with nature is not separate from our relationship with God and others. This concept of integral ecology encour-ages us to care for the Earth and each other. It calls us to action.

Quote for January.

"Think before you buy" Did you know? A great way to reduce waste is to think about whether you need something before you buy it. See if you can buy it second hand rather than new. Buying from small local business is also a good way to reduce your environmental impact.

Praying with Pope Francis:

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old. Each month, the Pope puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life, encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at;

www.thepopevideo.org.

Pope's intention for February – For the terminally ill: *Let us pray that the sick who are in the final stages of life, and their families, receive the necessary medical and human care and accompaniment.*

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter:

This week's gospel follows directly on from last week's reading and, as is typical with Mark's gospel, the events occur on the very same day. The urgency of the gospel is obvious in this week's reading; Jesus had a very busy 24 hours! Having launched his public ministry in the synagogue earlier that day, Jesus accompanies his new disciples to meet some of their family and have a meal. However, on arriving at the home of Simon and An-drew, they find Simon's mother-in-law is sick. Unlike the public displays of his healing power that preceded and will follow this episode, Jesus does not say anything but simply takes the woman by the hand and helps her up. Her response of beginning to wait on Jesus and his disciples is a faith response and a recognition of who Jesus is. A theme that runs through this gospel is that the disciples never fully understand who Jesus is. Here, a woman who has just met him recognises him as the Messiah and begins to serve him.

Still on the same day, we see the expansion of Jesus' healing ministry. On this one day he has cast an unclean spirit out of a possessed man in the synagogue, healed Peter's mother-in-law of a fever and then healed the crowds of people who came to the door. The next morning he announces that they will take the ministry to the whole region of Galilee. In a very simple way, the gospel of Mark has described the growth of Jesus' ministry from very humble isolated examples to a deliberate reaching out to the people of an entire region.

Historical Context – Capernaum

Jesus appears to have made Capernaum his base after leaving Nazareth. He may, in fact, have based himself at Simon Peter's house. There are many references in the gospels to Jesus' actions in Capernaum. Archaeolo-gists have identified the house in Capernaum that they believe to be Simon Peter's house – less than 100 me-tres from the Capernaum synagogue. Evidence reveals carved inscriptions and symbols that identify both Je-sus and Peter. The house appears to have been used as a 'house-church' until a church was built on the site in the 5th Century. Excavations of the site can be seen today.

Have you thought? Simon's Wife?

In this week's reading, it is Simon's mother-in-law who is healed. This obviously means that Simon is married. However, there is no mention whatsoever about his wife. Is she alive or dead? Do they have children? We have no indication. It is not until the writings of Paul (1 Cor 9:5) that we learn Simon Peter was indeed married and that his wife accompanied him on his travels. Perhaps this visit to his family home was to announce to his wife and family that he had decided to follow Jesus and give up fishing.

Living the Gospel – Prayer

In the midst of an extremely hectic 24 hours where Jesus effectively launches his public ministry, Jesus takes time to go aside to a lonely place and pray. The passage tells us that it was 'long before dawn' that he did this. It may have been his usual practice to pray early in the morning or he may have been restless after the events of the previous day and the thought of what lay ahead. Nevertheless, Jesus provides us with a model of using prayer to reflect on events and to prepare ourselves for the day ahead.

Questions for your personal reflection:

1. What is the significance of Jesus healing by touch alone?
2. Why might people like Simon's mother-in-law recognise Jesus as the Messiah when the disciples don't?
3. Why did Jesus leave Capernaum when his disciples told him that everyone was looking for him?
4. Where and when do you find prayer most powerful?
5. How can you better follow Jesus' example of using prayer in the busy times?

Learning moments:

Conduct an internet search to explore the archaeological evidence about the Capernaum house of Simon Peter. Construct a timeline to show the changes that occurred on the site.

Use the internet and a biblical atlas to make a list of reasons why Capernaum was a significant town at the time of Jesus.

Use a concordance (print or online) to identify all the events of Jesus' ministry that occurred in Capernaum. Is there sufficient evidence to support the argument that Jesus used Capernaum as a base for his ministry?

© Greg Sunter: Greg Sunter has worked in Catholic Education (Brisbane) for many years, most recently as a member of the Religious Education team and Mission and Formation team. He has extensive experience of praying with young people and forming others to lead prayer with young people. He is the au-thor of books on adolescent faith, is a regular speaker at youth and evangelisation conferences, and is a retreat and reflection facilitator and presenter. His areas of interest include religious education, theology, scripture, spirituality, Catholic ethos, prayer, and ministry with young people.