

**Liturgy Rosters:**  
**Many thanks for your ministry in the Parish**  
**This Weekend: 4th & 5th May**

**Vigil: 6.00pm**

Reader: P Howman  
 Prayers: D Baudinette  
 Minister: K Howman  
 Computer: Volunteer please

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Reader: K Loftus  
 Prayers: I Eichler  
 Minister: A McIntyre  
 Computer: B Dillon

**Next Weekend: 11th & 12th May**

**Vigil: 6.00pm**

Reader: P Howman  
 Prayers: K Howman  
 Minister: Volunteer Please  
 Computer: Volunteer please

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Reader: P Coultie  
 Prayers: J Sandeman  
 Minister: K Loftus  
 Computer: B Dillon

**Following Weekend: 18th & 19th May**

**Vigil: 6.00pm**

Reader: G Priestley  
 Prayers: K Howman  
 Minister: D Kierce  
 Computer: Volunteer please

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Reader: J Sandeman  
 Prayers: M Schultz  
 Minister: D Arnott  
 Computer: Volunteer please

**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 normally 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.

**We currently have a pressing need for Volunteers on each of the days of operating during our advertised Hours, and for on-call volunteers who can fill in at other times.**

**Please contact Kate Howman 0428235218 or Diane Kierce 0427946053 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**



**5th of May**

**2024**

**6th Sunday in Easter**

**Year B**



**6th Week in Easter Services**

**5th to 12th of May 2024**

**Tuesday NO MASS**  
**Wednesday: 10.00am Mass**  
**4.30pm Rosary**  
**Thursday: 10.00am Mass**  
**Friday: 9.30am Morning Prayer**  
**10.00am Mass**  
**5.00pm Evening Prayer**

**11th & 12th of May 7th Ascension Sunday**

**Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil Mass**  
**Sunday: 10.30am Mass**

**Recent Deaths:** Rev Fr Thomas Patrick Brophy

**Anniversaries: 6th to the 12th of May.**

Kelly Anson, Darby McCarthy, Evelyn Ness, George Kempton, Nonie Mitchell IBVM, Gary Hollis, Jim Cassie, Luigi Natale, Desmond O'Neill, Jack McNamara, Dot Grimshaw, Karl Mellbloom, John Van Gameren, Joan Rivett, Margaret Sherman, Clarrie Tonkin, Tom Ray, Olivia Lantry, Xavier Mugavan, Fred Fish.

**Prayer Requests:**

Les Hildebrand, Lea-anne Bourke, Michelle Mutch, Deanne Atkinson, Jose Trimble.

*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:**

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024**

Friday 17th May 5.30pm. Prayer Service at St Stephen's Anglican Church. Please bring a plate to share for a light meal after Prayers.

**Please Mute your phone in the Church during Mass**



**"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](mailto:portland@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

[www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/parishes)

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

email: [greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:greg.tait@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**Mobile 0475 512530**

Parish Office Hours: Most Tuesdays to Fridays 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 Gundiṯimara 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.*



Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day. (Laudato Si' 25).

*reduce reuse recycle rethink repurpose*

**Southern Stars Family Group.**

Please join us at Yambuk Lake on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm for a beach/river walk followed by afternoon tea. BYO drinks and chairs and something to share for afternoon tea. If it is wet we can still meet there as an undercover area is available. If anyone would like sausages on the BBQ, please feel free to do so. Looking forward to seeing everyone then. Kind regards, Gabrielle Lewis.

**Mass Counts start on weekend 4-5 May:**

The Annual Diocesan Mass Count will take place over 4 weekends in May. Counting will start on 4-5 May and continue each weekend until the end of May.

**Save the Date: Formation in preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November 2024.**

In preparation for the Diocesan Assembly in November 2024, there will be formation sessions held around the diocese with a focus on leadership and governance. An invitation is also extended to people who have leadership potential and who would like to participate. Leadership teams are invited to nominate others who might benefit from this experience.

*Fr Justin Driscoll will facilitate the formation sessions. Session for the Sth. West in Warrnambool - August 25*

**Our Parish Finances**

**Planned Giving for Parish Account**

**Planned Given inc. eft \$ 892.00**

**Target \$62,400**

**Total YTD 2023-2024, \$45,591.10**

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: \$ 907.75**

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 Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

**10:25** On Peter's arrival Cornelius met him, and falling at his feet, worshipped him. **26** But Peter made him get up, saying, 'Stand up; I am only a mortal.' **34** Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, **35** but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. **44** While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. **45** The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, **46** for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, **47** 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' **48** So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 97:1-4. R. see v.2**

**(R.) The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.**

1. Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders. His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **(R.)**
2. The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations. He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **(R.)**
3. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout to the Lord all the earth, ring out your joy. **(R.)**

**Second Reading 1 John 4:7-10**

A reading from the first letter of St John

**4:7** Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. **8** Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. **9** God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. **10** In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

The word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation John 14:23**

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them. Alleluia!

**Gospel John 15:9-17**

From the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

**15:9** As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. **10** If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. **11** I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. **12** 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **13** No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. **14** You are my friends if you do what I command you. **15** I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. **16** You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. **17** I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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**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.

**Pope's intention for May:**

**For the formation of men and women religious and seminarians:** Let us pray that men and women religious, and seminarians, grow in their vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, that leads them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.

**Diocesan History Timeline & Parish History**

As part of the 150th Anniversary of the Diocese of Ballarat, a timeline of significant dates and events over the past 150 years has been published on the diocesan website [www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/history-2/](http://www.ballarat.catholic.org.au/our-diocese/history-2/)

There has also been an "Our History" section added to parish pages on the website for parishes to update with their own history. If you would like to add any dates to the diocesan timeline or need assistance with adding information to the parish "Our History" section, please email [pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au](mailto:pastoralministry@ballarat.catholic.org.au)

**First Eucharist 2024:**

We make welcome our Candidates for 1st Eucharist this year and their families. Please make your self known to our Candidates and to their Families. Please keep them in your prayers at this most important time.

**Confirmation 2024:** I am now taking registrations for Confirmation for 2024. If you have a child (or Grandchild) in Grade 4, please contact me ASAP on 0475512530. Regards, Fr Greg.

## Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter:

As a young person, there is nothing better than being in love! Sure, loving your family and being loved by them is pretty important, but to 'fall in love' with someone and have that love returned is something quite extraordinary. Love sets us on fire! To be loved by someone else makes all the tough times endurable; it makes us believe in ourselves because someone else sees something worthwhile within us. It's exciting and it's incredibly life-giving!

This is something of the message that Jesus is trying to convey to his disciples in this week's gospel. He is trying to share with them some understanding of the incredible joy he experiences through his relationship with the Father. And just as he is loved by the Father, so Jesus loves his disciples and so are they invited to share in the love of the Father. Jesus' whole mission and ministry was to share with people the love of God that he knew so intimately. His actions towards the 'lesser ones' of the world was to demonstrate to them that they are not only worthy of love but were already loved. Jesus tells his disciples that all they have to do to constantly remain in his love is to keep his commandments and then he clarifies for them that his only commandment to them is to love one another as Jesus loved. To live in the love of Jesus and know the love of the Father, all we have to do is love one another. It seems simple. The challenge is that we are to love all people – even those who make our lives difficult and unpleasant. As we are told in the Gospels of Luke and Matthew, 'If you love only those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them!' (Lk 6:32; Mt 5:46)

### Scriptural context – The Last Supper Discourse

In the three synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke), the events of the Last Supper are dealt with in a very similar way. They all include Jesus taking bread and wine and speaking what are referred to as the words of institution – the words that are spoken over the bread and wine in every Eucharistic celebration today. In the Gospel of John, however, the Last Supper is dealt with very differently. It includes an extended 'discourse' that is incredibly rich in imagery and theological implications. Perhaps because this gospel was written well after the others it was deemed unnecessary to retell the story but it was timely to do some reflecting on the meaning of the events?

### Living the Gospel – Love One Another

Have you ever thought what it really means when Jesus commands us to love one another? At first, it seems like a simple commandment: I can love my family; my friends; I can even feel love for some people I've never met. But there was a condition that Jesus placed on the command: love one another as I have loved you. How did Jesus love? Without restriction and without seeking something in return. He loved those that no one loved and he even loved those who hated him and sought his downfall. Can I love those who hate me? Those that others ridicule and despise? Can I love without counting the cost?

### Have you thought? - Love

There is a wonderful line from the musical, Les Miserables, when the hero, Valjean, is told, 'To love another person is to see the face of God.' As Christian people, we believe that every person is created in the image and likeness of God. To look upon another person with love and compassion is to see the face of God revealed. When we are called to love, we are called to recognise that every single person is worthy of love and every single person is made in the image of God – even ourselves!

### Questions for your personal reflection:

1. Where does Jesus' enormous capacity to love come from?
2. Is the sort of love that Jesus spoke of really possible?
3. When have you felt a non-romantic love for someone else?
4. What situation in your life would be changed if you responded out of love?

### Learning moments.

- Create 'What if ...' scenarios about situations that would be changed by acts of love (e.g. What if ... governments acted with compassionate love towards the poor? What if ... I treated with love someone I don't like?). Suggest a variety of possible consequences to the What if ... scenarios.
- Create a concept map of the different ways in which we 'love' and examples of ways in which we demonstrate the different forms of love.

© 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 author 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.