

Liturgy Rosters:
 Many thanks for your ministry in the Parish
Weekend of 23rd & 24th November
Christ the Universal King

Vigil: 6.00pm

Reader: D Kierce
 Prayers: Volunteer Please
 Minister: Volunteer Please
 Computer: A O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: M Picard
 Prayers: K Loftus
 Minister: D Arnott
 Computer: Volunteer Please

Weekend of 30th November & 1st December:
1st Weekend in Advent Year C

Vigil: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: J Howman
 Prayers: I Eichler
 Minister: D Kierce
 Computer: Volunteer Please

Weekend: of 7th & 8th of December
2nd Sunday in Advent

Vigil: 6.00pm

Leader: D Baudinette
 Reader: P Howman
 Prayers: M Lambert
 Minister: Volunteer Please
 Computer:

Sunday Mass: 10.30am

Reader: K Loftus
 Prayers: K Arnott
 Minister: J Sandeman
 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 2-3 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



24th of November 2024
34th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Christ the Universal King



Weekday Services

26th November to 1st December 2024

Tuesday 5.00pm Mass
Wednesday 10.00am Mass
4.30pm Rosary
Thursday: 10.00am Mass
Friday: *No Mass TBC*

Weekend Masses
30th of November & 1st December
1st Sunday in Advent

Saturday: 6.00pm Mass
Sunday: 10.30am Mass

Recent Death: Tony Burns, Carmel Blackman, Mario Valori, Neville Doodt.

Anniversaries: 18th to 24th of November.
 Matthew O'Halloran, John Finnegan, Una Gladman, Bob Stuchbery, Liz Johnson IBVM, Kevin Treloar, Donald Stuchberry, Robert Foran, Linda Wilson.

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
Please Mute your phone in the Church during Mass

Dates to Remember:
December Anointing Mass, 6th
December 11.00am Mass & Shared Lunch in the Presbytery after Mass.

Christmas Masses 2024
Dartmoor, Sunday 22nd December 5.00pm.
Christmas Eve 24th December.
Portland Carols 7.30pm.
Portland Mass 8.00pm.
Portland Christmas Day Mass 9.30am.



"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: 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 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.

United in Prayer: Supporting Survivors of Violence Greetings

As we approach the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women on 25 November, it's a good time to reflect on the ongoing issue of violence against women and girls. Globally, nearly one in three women—about 736 million—have experienced physical and/or sexual violence at some point in their lives. This statistic highlights the urgent need for us to come together to address and prevent such violence.

The United Nations points out that violence against women can take many forms, including intimate partner violence, sexual harassment, human trafficking, female genital mutilation, and child marriage. These acts not only violate basic human rights but also have serious psychological, physical, and social impacts on individuals and communities.

In the Scriptures, we find clear guidance against violence. Colossians 3:19 advises, "Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them." This verse reminds us of the importance of treating women with love, respect, and kindness, reflecting the broader biblical principle of valuing and honouring one another.

As a community committed to fostering love and respect, let's take this opportunity to raise awareness about the issue of violence against women. We encourage everyone to engage in conversations, support initiatives aimed at prevention, and advocate for policies that protect and empower women and girls.

We also invite you to join us in prayer for all those affected by violence. Let's pray for healing for survivors, strength for advocates, and wisdom for leaders to implement effective measures to combat this issue. Together, through awareness, action, and prayer, we can contribute to a world where every woman and girl lives free from violence and fear.

For more information and resources, please visit the United Nations' official page on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. ©Majellan Media



We now have CDF Pay; You can use this QR Code portal for all you giving if you wish.

****Before using please cancel any prior electronic payments**.**

When you access this code, follow the prompts for frequency of payment, then amount, then; "My giving is for ..." Stewardship, (Parish Account) or Priest Support (Presbytery Account), then record your personal and Card details as the prompts ask you. Thank you. Fr Gregory Tait PP

Planned Giving for Parish Account
Given this week inc eft \$1512.00

Target \$55,000

Total YTD 2024–2025, \$22,944.40

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

Meat Trays 2024: this year so far: \$95.00

Presbytery Account

Priest support, inc eft: \$ 774.00

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

Readings 34th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B 2024
Christ the Universal King

First Reading Dan 7:13-14

A reading from the prophet Daniel

7:13 As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. 14 To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 92:1-2. 5. R.v.1

(R.) The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.

1. The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed; the Lord has robed himself with might, he has girded himself with power. **(R.)**
2. The world you made firm, not to be moved; your throne has stood firm from of old. From all eternity, O Lord, you are. **(R.)**
3. Truly your decrees are to be trusted. Holiness is fitting to your house, O Lord, until the end of time. **(R.)**

Second Reading Rev 1:5-8

A reading from the book of Revelation.

1:5 Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, 6 and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 7 Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. 8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation Mk 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed is he who inherits the kingdom of David our Father; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 18:33-37

From the holy Gospel according to John.

18:33 Pilate summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

34 Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own,

or did others tell you about me?"

35 Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?"

36 Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."

37 Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

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. Praying each month 'The Pope Video' forms part of the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network – view at www.thepopevideo.org

Intention for November: For those who have lost a child: Let us pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and may receive peace of heart from the Spirit of Consolation.

Supporting Portland Families at Christmas 2024. We will be partnering with the Salvation Army again this year in providing meat trays valued at \$40.00 per tray. If you would like to assist by donating to this cause, please put your money in an envelope and mark it "**Meat Trays 2024**" and place it in the weekend collection. Alternatively you may directly deposit in into the Parish Account & note "**MT 2024**" in the reference on your eft deposit. **This appeal will conclude on the 15th December.** Many thanks, for your assistance once again.

Fr Greg.

Caritas Australia's Lebanon Crisis Appeal

Lebanon is currently facing a dire crisis and the need for your support has never been greater. Communities are being devastated by conflict and economic instability, leaving countless families without access to basic needs like food, water and medical care. Our Caritas Australia partners on the ground are doing everything they can, but they desperately need your help.

Please show your love for Lebanon and donate today to help supply essential items such as food, shelter and medical aid, as well as long-term support to rebuild communities.

Donate today at www.caritas.org.au/lebanon

Christ the Universal King; 34th Sunday Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter:

This week marks the end of the liturgical year. Next week, with the first week of Advent, we begin the new liturgical cycle. It is fitting that the Church concludes the liturgical year with the celebration of Christ the King. The conversation between Jesus and Pilate displays a lot of word play on the part of Jesus and quite a lot of confusion on the part of Pilate. The confusion stems from different perceptions of what it means to be a king.

For Pilate, part of the most powerful political and military rule in the ancient world, the idea of a king was a threat. Claiming kingship was claiming authority and power that would inevitably lead to challenging the authority and power of Rome and, more directly, its representative in Palestine – Pilate.

Jesus, of course, had a completely different idea about ushering in a kingdom. He does indeed declare that he is a king and that is what leads us to today's feast of Christ the King. However, his intention is not to claim a position of power and authority.

When we think back to Jesus' teachings about the kingdom of God, we recall that he declares the people of highest status – the first – in the kingdom to be the lowliest of this world. It is the poor, the sick, the outcast, the children and the widows who will hold the highest places in the kingdom of God. In a kingdom like that, what does it mean to declare oneself king? The confusion about what it means to be a king that is captured in this interaction between Jesus and Pilate is the same confusion that we saw among the disciples as they came to terms with exactly what it means to be the Messiah.

Gospel Focus – Truth

Jesus says to Pilate that he came into the world 'to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice.' That is where today's gospel passage finishes but as the gospel continues on, Pilate famously asks Jesus 'What is truth?' and the question is left dangling; unanswered. The truth Jesus has borne witness to is the truth of his whole life – the revelation of God's love for humanity. It is for proclaiming this truth that Jesus is placed on trial and is brought before Pilate.

Historical Context – Christ the King

Unfortunately, political and military images of kingship have played a dominating role in the Church since very early in its history. The very earliest Christians, or followers of the Way, did not conform to social and political hierarchies of their day. But when Emperor Constantine declared Christianity to be the official religion of the Roman Empire the structure of the Church quickly adopted the political and social structures of the empire. At times in history the Pope has adopted a regal status and led huge armies into battle. Many of these structures persist today and we sometimes struggle to recapture Jesus' intention when he declared himself a king.

Have you thought? The Kingdom of God

When Jesus speaks about the Kingdom of God he never gives a particularly clear picture of what he means. He usually refers to the kingdom with metaphoric language ('the kingdom of God is like ...') and often the kingdom is defined by what it is not. The kingdom is also a real contradiction: it is here and now and yet it is still to come; it is almost impossible for some to enter the kingdom while others are assured a place; it is within us and in our hearts and yet is a great banquet to which all are invited.

Questions for your personal reflection:

1. Why do you think Pilate questioned Jesus the way he did?
2. To what 'truth' did Jesus come into the world to bear witness?
3. How are we called to continue to bear witness to this truth?
4. Have you ever felt challenged about what you believe?
5. Do you find 'Christ the King' a helpful or significant image of Jesus?

Learning moments

- Create two word and image collages: one that represents attitudes and structures of kingdoms of this world; and one that represents attitudes and structures of the kingdom of God. Share observations about the similarities and differences between the two concepts of kingdom.

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.