

Liturgy Rosters:

Many thanks for your ministry in the Parish

Weekend: of 18th & 19th of January
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Vigil: 6.00pm

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

Sunday Mass: 10.30am

Reader: K Arnott
Prayers: M Schultz
Minister: D Arnott
Computer: B Dillon

Weekend of 25th & 26th of January:
3rd week in Ordinary Time Year C
Vigil: 6.00pm

Reader: G Priestley
Prayers: D Baudinette
Minister: M Lambert
Computer: Volunteer Please

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: M Picard
Prayers: J Sandeman
Minister: I Eichler
Computer: B Dillon

Weekend of 1st & 2nd of February:
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
Vigil: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: K Loftus
Prayers: K Arnott
Minister: D Arnott
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 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



19th of January 2025
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C



Parish Services

15th to the 19th of January 2025

Wednesday 10.00am Mass
4.30pm Rosary
Thursday: 10.00am Mass
Friday: 9.30am Morning Prayer
10.00am Mass
5.00pm Evening Prayer

Weekend Masses

18th & 19th of January
3rd week in Ordinary Time
Saturday: 6.00pm Mass
Sunday: 10.30am Mass

Recent Death:

Anniversaries: 20th to 26th of January.

Mark Araldi, Samantha Kelly, Kevin Pettigrove, John Malone, Kevin Pitts, Claire Greenham, Wilmur Hallinan, Bill Amor, Maurie Sykes, Peter Wombwell, John Goggin, Faye Herbertson, Sheila Swain, Peter Healey, Richard Berry, Ted Walsh, Ida Leslie, Margaret Warke.

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



Praying with Pope Francis

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international movement that is more than 170 years old.

Prayer for January – For the right to an education: Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

"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 Gunditjmara 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.



30th anniversary of Mary MacKillop's Beatification, 19th January 2025

At *Mary MacKillop Today* we are proud to continue the legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of Saint Joseph by empowering communities through education and the teaching of life skills.

As the 30th anniversary of Mary's beatification approaches on we want to offer a way for you a way to acknowledge this significant milestone with us.

We would like to invite you to join us in celebrating the extraordinary life and inspiring legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop by ordering a FREE prayer book, written by the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

If you have any questions about the prayer book, please contact Mary MacKillop Today on;

hello@marymackilloptoday.org.au

or phone (02) 8912 2763.



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 \$521.00

Target \$55,000

Total YTD 2024-2025, \$29,505.40

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

Presbytery Account

Priest support, inc eft: \$716.20

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

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Is 62:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

62:1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. 2The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. 3You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. 4You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. 5For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 95:1-3, 7-10. R. v.3

(R.) Proclaim his marvellous deeds to all the nations.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth.

O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **(R.)**

2. Proclaim his help day by day, tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples. **(R.)**

3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power, give the Lord the glory of his name. **(R.)**

4. Worship the Lord in his temple.

O earth, tremble before him.

Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'

He will judge the peoples in fairness. **(R.)**

Second Reading 1 Cor 12:4-11

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

Brothers and Sisters;

12:4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5 and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; 6 and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of

spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation 2 Thes 2:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

God has called us with the gospel to share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia!

Gospel Jn 2:1-11

From the holy Gospel according to John.

2:1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.

2 Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."

4 And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." 5 His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. 8 He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. 9 When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom 10 and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." 11 Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

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 encourages us to care for the Earth and each other. It calls us to action. 2025 promises to be an "annus mirabilis" (wonderful year) in the life of the Church. With a global Jubilee, the 10th anniversary of *Laudato Si'* and of *Laudato Si'* Movement, the 800th anniversary of the *Canticum of the Creatures* and a momentous UN conference on climate change, this is a year for change. Without doubt, 2025 will be a grand adventure. Join us for these key moments along the journey.

<https://laudatosimovement.org/news/2025-a-year-of-adventure/>

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C 2025, Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter:

Today's first reading from Isaiah is one of several references in the Old Testament that use wedding imagery – bride and groom – to describe the relationship between God and the people of Israel. The imagery is never that of an 'old married couple' but rather young lovers entering into a new life together full of hope; full of romance; and full of passion.

This image of God and the people as bride and groom would not have been lost on the first audiences of today's gospel passage. Immediately, they would have recognised the significance of Jesus' first outing in public ministry being at a wedding feast – at the coming together of God and God's people, Jesus is present! It is a very neat and quite deliberate follow on from the prologue of the Gospel of John where the gospel writer uses the image of 'the Word made flesh who lives among us' to describe Jesus. The Word has come into the world and the first public appearance is at an event that symbolises the relationship between God and God's people.

The interplay between Jesus and his mother is very interesting in this gospel event. In this particular gospel it is one of only two occasions that Mary is mentioned: this event at the beginning of Jesus' ministry and then at the foot of the cross as he is crucified. Mary does not ask Jesus to do anything. She simply states, 'They have no wine', but one can almost hear the motherly tone with which it was said. I'm sure Jesus was left in no doubt that he was expected to do something about it. When he tries to avoid the issue, Mary apparently ignores his objections and instructs the servants to do whatever Jesus tells them. No fuss; no argument. How do mothers do it?

From the perspective of ... The servants

What must the servants have been thinking? First of all, there was insufficient wine for the feast. They probably knew who was going to wear the blame for that ordering mistake! Then they're told to fill the enormous water jars with water, draw some into a serving vessel and go and present it to the steward of the household – effectively their overseer; their boss! They must have been very nervous about how the steward would respond to what they were taking to him. Yet they, along with Mary and Jesus, were the only witnesses to Jesus' first miracle! Even the steward was unaware of the miracle.

Different View – Use of alcohol

Sadly, this text is sometimes used by people to show that Jesus legitimises drinking alcohol. If there was anything wrong with drinking, they say, Jesus wouldn't have made wine out of water! This argument is used to not only justify consumption of alcohol (sometimes to excess) but also to berate and ridicule those who, for religious and other reasons, abstain from alcohol. It is, of course, a feeble attempt to misappropriate scripture and use it completely out of context and for their own purposes. One could not even justify this argument on the grounds of a literal interpretation of scripture!

Gospel Focus – The best wine

The steward comments that the best wine had been kept until the end of the wedding celebration – a clever use of an image for Jesus. Remembering the use of wedding imagery to describe the relationship between the people of Israel and God, the wedding feast is celebration of that relationship, and at the very heart of the celebration and the relationship is Jesus. He is the best wine that is kept until the end – the 'finishing touch' to a magnificent celebration, just as he is the 'finishing touch' to the relationship between God and God's people to that point.

Questions for your personal reflection:

1. How appropriate to you does the image of bride and groom for the people and God seem?
2. What does this event tell us about the relationship between Jesus and his mother?
3. What do you think is the significance of Mary's involvement in this incident?
4. What does the final sentence of the passage suggest to be the purpose of Jesus' actions?
5. Why might this event have been chosen by the gospel writer to appear as Jesus' first act of ministry?

Learning moments

- Use a cartoon strip or story board to illustrate the story. Use thought bubbles to suggest the thoughts and feelings of different participants (e.g. Jesus, Mary, disciples, servants, steward, bride and groom, wedding guests, kitchen staff)
- Use a think-pair-share process to identify cultural practices and social structures revealed within the story.

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.