

Liturgy Rosters:

Many thanks for your ministry in the Parish

Weekend of 15th & 16th of February:
6th week in Ordinary Time Year C
Vigil: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am
Reader: K Loftus
Prayers: K Arnott
Minister: B McGenniken
Computer: Volunteer Please

Weekend of 22nd & 23rd of February:
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
Vigil: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am
Reader: M Schultz
Prayers: D Kierce
Minister: D Arnott
Computer: Volunteer Please

Weekend: of 1st & 2nd of March
8th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
Vigil: 6.00pm

Reader: D Bennett
Prayers: K Howman
Minister: P Howman
Computer: Volunteer Please

Sunday Mass: 10.30am
Reader: M Picard
Prayers: I Eichler
Minister: K Loftus
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



16th of February 2025
6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C



Parish Services

18th to 23rd February 2025

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

Weekend Masses

22nd & 23rd of February
7th week in Ordinary Time
Saturday: 6.00pm Mass
Sunday: 10.30am Mass

Recent Death: Tricia Cosgriff.

Anniversaries: 17th to 23rd of February.

Margaret O'Dea, Peter Crowe, Ian Berry, Pat Lloyd, Mary McCluskey, Ann Parry, Graeme Firth, Katrina Cairns, Lorraine Zordan, Rex Jennings, Emmanuel Farrugia, Owen Williams, Jennifer Diamond ibvm, Peter Burch, Victor Drought, Maureen Saxon, Paddy Delaney, Norm McNess, Peter Lewis, Margaret Farrugia, Barry Edrich, Pat Bourke.

Prayer Requests:

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

If you have any prayer requests please contact 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:

Ash Wednesday: March 5th, Mass at 10.00am & 6.00pm.

Mass of the Holy Oils: April 14th @ 1.00pm. St Patrick's Cathedral Ballarat.

Lenten Penance Service, 7.00pm April 15th

Easter Triduum: Holy Thursday 7.00pm April 17th, Good Friday 3.00pm April 18th, Holy Saturday 6.00pm April 19th.



"The Spire"

All Saints Parish

Portland - Heywood - Dartmoor

All Saints Parish Office

Office Entrance 8 Henty Street
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Portland VIC 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 Wednesdays 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.



World Day of Prayer 2025

All Saints Church, Friday, 7th March at 10:30 am (Morning tea to follow the Service)

The country of focus this year is the Cook Islands with the theme of the Service being "I made you wonderful".

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome everyone to join in prayer and action for peace and justice.

Southern Stars Family Group

February Gathering, Sunday 23rd February, from 12.00pm at the Skate Park BBQ. Cliff St Portland.

Praying with Pope Francis

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

Prayer for February - for vocations. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.



Gaza Crisis Appeal 2025

We urgently need your support. The ceasefire means more aid can assist people in Gaza, but the need is immense and the

recovery long. Gaza's people cannot recover alone. They need the support of the global community to survive and rebuild. Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal. You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone **1800 024 413.**



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, \$33,279.40

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: \$677.25

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

6th Week in Ordinary Time Year C

First Reading Jer 17:5-8

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

17:5 Thus says the Lord:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.

6 They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.
They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

7 Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.

8 They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 1:1-3,4,6

Response: Blessed are they, who hope in the Lord.

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,
or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;

but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law they meditate day and night. ®

They are like trees planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.

In all that they do, they prosper. ®

The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish. ®

Second Reading 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

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

Brothers and Sisters;

15:12 If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead,
how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead?

16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised.

17 If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile
and you are still in your sins.

18 Then those also who have died in Christ have perished.

19 If for this life only we have hoped in Christ,
we are of all people most to be pitied.

20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have died.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Lk 6:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad; your reward is great in heaven.

Alleluia!

Gospel Lk 6:17-26

From the holy Gospel according to Luke.

6:17 Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place,
with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea,
Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.

18 They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases;
and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.

19 And all in the crowd were trying to touch him,
for power came out from him and healed all of them.

20 Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

21 “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

22 “Blessed are you when people hate you,
and when they exclude you, revile you,
and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

23 Rejoice in that day and leap for joy,
for surely your reward is great in heaven;
for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

24 “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

25 “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

26 “Woe to you when all speak well of you,
for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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Start ANEW in Christ.

Daily reflections for Year C Lent 2025. \$5.00 each we have 30 copies available. Produced by the Archdiocese of Brisbane. See Fr Greg, to secure your copy. Books available now!

6th Week in Ordinary Time Year C 2025, Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter:

We are perhaps more familiar with the Beatitudes from the Gospel of Matthew in which the kingdom of heaven is promised to those who are 'blessed' because of their afflictions. Rather than the Sermon on the Mount from the Gospel of Matthew, the Gospel of Luke presents the same event and teaching as the sermon on the plain as it occurs on 'a piece of level ground'.

This version may appear a little more confronting than the Matthew version. Rather than the afflicted being 'blessed', they are to be 'happy'. It seems odd that anybody should be happy to be poor, hungry, mourning or reviled and we would certainly regard these as states of sadness and difficulty; not times for rejoicing at our good fortune! However, this gospel in particular frequently reminds us that God does not think, feel and behave as we might expect. God's actions are frequently contrary to the expectations of society.

The Gospel of Luke makes it plain that the reign of God will upend the structures of society. The lowly will be raised and the mighty will be brought low. It is in this context that the poor, the hungry and the outcast are regarded as happy. Their happiness comes from the reassurance that although they are rejected and dismissed by society, they are indeed the most favoured of God. Whatever the world dishes up to such as these, they can rejoice in the knowledge that in the reign of God their fortunes will be reversed and they will be favoured.

However, just as the fortunes of the poor and afflicted will be reversed for the better, those who are rich, well fed, happy and well regarded will also have their fortunes reversed. Alas to them! Their comfort and joy leaves no room for the generosity of God!

Scriptural context – Message for all

Throughout the Gospel of Luke, the author is keen to demonstrate that the message of Jesus is for all people – not just the Jews, but for the Gentiles and Pagans as well. We can see this message revealed in the gathering of people who listened to Jesus' sermon on the plain. We're told there were people from all parts of Judea (all Jews) as well as people from the pagan lands of Tyre and Sidon. The first audiences of this gospel would immediately have recognised the significance of people from Tyre and Sidon standing alongside Jews from Judea.

Have you thought? – Gospel of prosperity

The sermon on the plain challenges our ideas about happiness and success – particularly those of us who live in a relatively prosperous society. Those who are rich and well regarded are actually condemned by Jesus. This also flies in the face of the so-called Gospel of Prosperity that has gained some prominence amongst Pentecostal churches in the last 20-30 years. This teaching holds that God blesses the faithful with wealth and influence. It doesn't take a lot to see how this teaching is out of step with the gospel blessing of the poor and cursing of the rich.

Gospel Focus – Treated as the prophets

As part of his sermon, Jesus announces, 'Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man... This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.' The prophets of the Old Testament were the chosen spokesmen of God. Their message was often unpopular and they were often threatened and berated for challenging the social order. To be treated in this way is in fact something of an affirmation that one's words and actions are reflecting the message of God. The Word of God is confronting and challenging!

Questions for your personal reflection:

1. Why does Jesus' sermon balance the blessings for the poor with the curses on the rich?
2. What comfort can the poor and rejected take from this sermon?
3. In what ways might this sermon be misinterpreted to avoid addressing the needs of the poor?
4. What implications does this gospel have for people with riches and success today?

Learning moments:

- Select one of the groups of people identified (poor; hungry; those in mourning; those rejected and denounced) and identify an action you could undertake to make a difference to their situation.
- Investigate an agency or group in your local area that works with the poor and marginalised of the community. Identify ways in which you could support and promote their work.

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.