

### Liturgy Rosters:

Many thanks for your ministry in the Parish

**Weekend of 15th & 16 of March:**  
**2nd Sunday in Lent Year C**  
**Vigil: 6.00pm**

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

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Reader: J Sandeman  
Prayers: M Schultz  
Minister: M McGenniken  
Computer: Volunteer Please

**Weekend: of 22nd & 23rd of March:**  
**3rd Sunday in Lent Year C**  
**Vigil: 6.00pm**

Reader: D Bennett  
Prayers: Volunteer Please  
Minister: M Lambert  
Computer: A O'Brien

**Sunday Mass: 10.30am**

Reader: J Sandeman  
Prayers: I Eichler  
Minister: K Loftus  
Computer: Volunteer Please

**Weekend of 29th & 30th of March:**  
**4th Sunday in Lent Year C**  
**Vigil: 6.00pm**

Reader: G Priestley  
Prayers: D Bennett  
Minister: M Lambert  
Computer: D Kierce

**Sunday: 10.30am**

Reader: K Arnott  
Prayers: J Sandeman  
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 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 March**  
**2nd Sunday**  
**in Lent**  
**Year C 2025**



### Parish Services

**18th to 23rd of March 2025**

**Tuesday 5.00pm Mass**  
**Wednesday 10.00am Mass**  
**Stations of the Cross 4.30pm**  
**Thursday: 10.00am Mass**  
**Friday: 9.30am Adoration & Morning Prayer**  
**10.00am Mass**  
**5.00pm Evening Prayer**

**Weekend Masses**  
**22nd & 23rd of March**  
**3rd Sunday in Lent**

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

**Recent Death:** Peter Vu Hoang Son Bom

**Anniversaries: 17th to 23rd of March.**

Ray Mizzi, Sue Quinlivan, Marie Kearney, Hilary Lodge, Joy Jennings, Jean Hocking, Joan Grace, Stanley Toleman, Christopher Mugavin, Bessie Sevilla, Jean Smurthwaite, David Thomas, Coral Dart.

#### 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:

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

**Lenten Penance Services,** April 12th at 11.00am & 15th @ 7.00pm

**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](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: **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.



#### TOEFUATA'IGA from SAMOA

13-year-old Toefuata'iga (Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah), a student in the Upolu region of Samoa, experienced water scarcity at her school. The absence of a reliable

and hygienic water supply has not only affected students' education but also impacted their health.

Despite being surrounded by water, many Samoans struggle with consistent access to clean drinking water, and resort to relying on rainwater or neighbours who have access to a water pipeline. Climate change is leading to longer, drier periods. The Samoan Water pipeline frequently shuts down due to natural disasters and maintenance. Additionally, it is often unsafe for consumption after heavy rains.

Access to water is about more than convenience. It is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty, and to helping students like Toefuata'iga fulfil her dreams: "I would like to become a good teacher. To teach the children so they will have a brighter future."

Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need. You can support Project Compassion 2025 by scanning our own parish's QR code



**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 \$501.00**

**Target \$55,000**

**Total YTD 2024-2025, \$38,508.40**

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: \$701.00**

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

### 2nd Week in Lent Year C

#### First Reading Gen 15:5-12, 17-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

<sup>5</sup>The Lord said to Abram: "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. <sup>7</sup>Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." <sup>8</sup>But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" <sup>9</sup>He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." <sup>10</sup>He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. <sup>11</sup>And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. <sup>12</sup>As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. <sup>17</sup>When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. <sup>18</sup>On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

The Gospel of the Lord.

#### Responsorial Psalm Ps 26:1, 7-9, 13-14.

##### (R.) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life before whom shall I shrink? (R.)
2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer. Of you my heart has spoken: 'Seek his face.' (R.)
3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek, hide not your face. Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help. (R.)
4. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living. Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. Hope in the Lord! (R.)

#### Second Reading Phil 3:17 – 4:1

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

<sup>17</sup>Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup>For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup>Their end is destruction; their god is the

belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. <sup>20</sup>But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>21</sup>He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. <sup>4:1</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

The word of the Lord.

#### Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.  
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

#### Gospel Lk 9:28-36

From the holy Gospel according to Luke.

<sup>28</sup> Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. <sup>29</sup>And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>30</sup>Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. <sup>31</sup>They appeared in glory and were speaking of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. <sup>32</sup>Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. <sup>33</sup>Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" not knowing what he said. <sup>34</sup>While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. <sup>35</sup>Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!" <sup>36</sup>When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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### Praying with Pope Francis

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

**Prayer for March - for families in crisis:** Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

## 2nd Week in Lent Year C 2025, Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter:

In all three versions of this Transfiguration event that appear in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, the context in which the event occurs is identical. That's a little unusual with these three gospel writers who like to put their own spin on events and often play with the chronology or settings of events. However, in this case, all three writers report the Transfiguration event as taking place immediately after a particular sequence of events. Jesus has asked the disciples who they think he is and Peter has made his confession of faith by declaring that Jesus is the Messiah. This declaration is followed by Jesus teaching about the demands of discipleship and then the account of the Transfiguration. Furthermore, all three versions are directly followed by an account of a man who brings his possessed son to Jesus for healing after the disciples have tried and failed to cast out the demon.

When all three of the synoptic gospels use the same story with little variation and all three retain the same context around the event then there are some pretty clear signals that this was a commonly accepted sequence of events and their sequence holds significance. The core message of this sequence of stories is about the faith of the disciples. Whilst Peter declares Jesus to be the Messiah, he and the others don't really yet know what this means. In the Transfiguration, they are given the clearest possible indication of Jesus' identity and yet they're half asleep and we're told Peter doesn't know what he's saying when he starts talking about building tents. The following failure by the disciples to cast out a demon shows that they still haven't understood fully who and what Jesus is. What a great reading for the season of Lent!

### Scriptural context – Gospel Parallels

The account of the Transfiguration appears in all three synoptic gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke). The word, synoptic, means 'seen together' and these three gospels can be seen together because they have so much material in common. It is now accepted that the gospel of Mark was the first written as so much of it appears in the other two, while the gospels of Matthew and Luke both seem to have also drawn on another source of Jesus material (known as the 'Q' source). Despite the parallels, each writer uses the same story to convey the particular message of that gospel.

### Living the Gospel – 'Listen to him!'

God's voice from the cloud claims Jesus as his Son, the Chosen One and then goes on to instruct those present – and we, the readers – to 'Listen to him!' For the disciples, this was a message not to get carried away with their own ideas about the Messiah but to listen to what Jesus was saying about the suffering he must endure and to what he was saying about true discipleship. Jesus tells us that to be a follower of his involves sacrifice, hardship and often unpopularity. It is this message we must listen to as much as the promise of salvation.

### Gospel Focus – Asleep again?

It seems that at crucial points in the gospel where Jesus' true identity and mission are revealed, the disciples are falling asleep! The gospel of Luke is unique in suggesting that the disciples were sleepy at the Transfiguration. They managed to fight off sleep in this instance, but were fast asleep at the Mount of Olives as Jesus prayed in agony. The sleepiness of the disciples at these crucial times is indicative of limited grasp of what Jesus is on about. They are wearied by all that he asks of them, rather than energised by it, and consequently they're not ready to witness great events when they come along.

### Questions for your personal reflection:

1. What is the significance of Moses and Elijah appearing with Jesus?
2. Why do you think the disciples are portrayed as being sleepy at this important event?
3. Can you recall other biblical events in which mountaintops feature at special moments?
4. Why might Peter have suggested constructing tents?
5. What does the command, 'Listen to him' mean for you in your life?

### Learning moments:

- How difficult would it have been for the three disciples to remain silent about what they had seen? Imagine the conversation with the other disciples when Jesus and the three came down from the mountain.

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.