

Liturgy Rosters:
Many thanks for your ministry in the Parish

Weekend of 11th & 12th of January:
The Baptism of the Lord Year C
Vigil: 6.00pm

Reader: P O'Brien
Prayers: D Kierce
Minister: M Lambert
Computer: A O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: J Sandeman
Prayers: M Schultz
Minister: B McGenniken
Computer: B Dillon

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

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



12th of January 2025
The Baptism of the Lord 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
2nd week in Ordinary Time
Saturday: 6.00pm Mass
Sunday: 10.30am Mass

Recent Death: David & Ann Taylor, Margaret Noone ibvm.

Anniversaries: 13th to 19th of January. Margaret Holmes, Gwen Lenehan, Graham Jennings, Margaret Donnithorne, Cliff Humphries, Mark Becirvic, Hugh Allan Francis, Jim Molan, Bill Teal, Peter White, Sam Jack Gilmer, Tom Lyons, Kath Gleeson, Francis Desmond Sheehan, Patricia Zierbath ibvm, Winston Morton, Michael & Pat Caveny, Ern Sharrock, John-Paul Cairns, Ian Farrell, Michael Monaghan, Lulu Ferguson.

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 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.



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of charity enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed hope
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us
into tireless cultivators of
the seeds of the Gospel.

May those seeds transform from
within both humanity and the whole
cosmos in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread
the joy and peace of our
Redeemer throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed,
be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

Franciscus



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 \$757.00

Target \$55,000

Total YTD 2024-2025, \$28,984.40

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: \$1323.95

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 42:1-4. 6-7**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

42:1 Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. **2** He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; **3** a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. **4** He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching. **6** I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, **7** to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 28:1-4. 9-10. R. v.11**

(R.) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

1. O give the Lord you sons of God, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his name.

Adore the Lord in his holy court. (R.)

2. The Lord's voice resounding on the waters, the Lord on the immensity of waters; the voice of the Lord, full of power, the voice of the Lord, full of splendour. (R.)

3. The God of glory thunders.

In his temple they all cry: 'Glory!'

The Lord sat enthroned over the flood: the Lord sits as king for ever. (R.)

Second Reading **Acts 10:34-38**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

34 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. **36** You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ he is Lord of all. **37** That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: **38** how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation **Mk 9:8**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father's voice was heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Alleluia!

Gospel **Lk 3:15-16. 21-22**

From the holy Gospel according to Luke.

15 The people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,

16 John answered all of them by saying, "I baptise you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

21 Now when all the people were baptised, and when Jesus also had been baptised and was praying, the heaven was opened,

22 and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.

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/>

The Baptism of the Lord Year C 2025, Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter:

Today's gospel begins with a level of expectancy among the people that John the Baptist may be the Christ; the Messiah. This seemingly throw away introductory comment confirms the fact that the Jewish expectation of the Messiah was particularly heightened at the time of John and Jesus.

At the time of the ministries of John and Jesus, the Romans had been the occupying force in Judaea for about 80 or 90 years. Throughout most of their lives the infamous Galilee area had been relatively peaceful and free of revolutionary activity but that changed from about 26 CE. With the anti-Roman sentiment on the rise, the ancient yearning for a Messiah resurfaced.

This Messianic expectation stretched back hundreds of years and was richly associated with the sovereign line of King David. The Davidic line ruled for more than 400 years until it was ended in the early 6th Century BCE by the Jewish people being exiled in Babylon for about 50 years.

The term, Messiah, literally means anointed one. In ancient Israel, the king was designated by being anointed with oil on his head. Following the exile in Babylon, the people longed for another great king, in the style and from the line of David. Over time, this expectation grew into an ideal that one day a perfect king would rise up again and be the anointed one; the Messiah.

As the years grew into decades and centuries, this expectation took on more and more significance. When the Messiah came, the whole world would be put to right; a period of justice and peace would prevail; the oppressed would be liberated.

Whilst the people longed for the Messiah to appear, the gospels reveal that they had difficulty believing Jesus was the one for whom they hoped.

Historical context – Baptism

John makes clear to the people that the baptism he performs is with water but the baptism by Jesus is with the Holy Spirit. John preached a baptism of repentance. In keeping with his Jewish tradition, John called upon the people to make a public declaration of their wrong-doing and commitment to be washed clean of this sinfulness and desire to live in right relationship with God and others. The baptism to which he refers is the complete change of heart and mind that comes through the Holy Spirit and results from a person accepting the message of Jesus.

Gospel focus – My Son, the Beloved

'You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.' This declaration by the voice from Heaven – the voice of God – is an amalgamation of two earlier pieces of scripture: 'You are my son; today I have begotten you' (Ps 2:7) and 'Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights' (Is 42:1). The fact that it is uttered before Jesus has begun his ministry is a sign to all of us that God delights in us for who we are, not for what we have achieved in our lives.

Have you thought? Trinity

The baptism event in the gospels is a moment of revelation of the Trinitarian nature of God. The Holy Spirit descends upon Jesus in the form of a dove whilst the voice of God is heard to declare of Jesus, 'You are my Son.' It is a unique moment in the scriptures where the three persons of God are individually and collectively revealed. Although the scriptures do not explicitly name God as Trinity, by the time of Paul's early writings, blessings in the name of Jesus, God and the Holy Spirit are frequent. Despite this, Trinity continues to be a difficult concept for many Christians.

Questions for your personal reflection:

1. Why might people have begun to think that John might be the Christ; the Messiah?
2. What reasons can you suggest for why people had difficulty believing Jesus was the Messiah?
3. What phrase or image from today's gospel captures your attention? Why?
4. For whom do you need to give reassurance that your 'favour' rests on them?

Learning moments

- Compare the description of the baptism of Jesus in the three synoptic gospels (Mk 1:9-11; Mt 3:13-17; Lk 3:21-22). What do these short passages reveal about the nature of each of the gospels that is to follow?
- Research the tradition of the Jewish Messianic expectation.
- Why is the Baptism of the Lord celebrated as part of the Christmas season?

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.