

Liturgy Rosters:
Many thanks for your ministry in the Parish

This Weekend: 20th & 21st January

Saturday: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: K Arnott
Prayers: M Schultz
Ministers: M McGenniskien
Computer: B Dillon

Following Weekend: 27th 28th January

Saturday: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: M Picard
Prayers: A McIntyre
Ministers: I Eichler
Computer: B Dillon

Following Weekend: 3rd & 4th February

Saturday: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: B Healy
Prayers: K Loftus
Ministers: B McGenniskien
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 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 3 hours in the mornings or afternoons.

Please contact Kate Howman 0428 235 218 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



21st January
2024

3rd Sunday in
Ordinary Time
Year B



Portland Daily Services 23rd to 28th of January 2024

Tuesday NO MASS

Wednesday 10.00am Mas
Thursday 10.00am Mass

Friday 10.00am Australia Day Mass

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 27th Jan: 6.00pm Mass
Sunday 28th Jan: 10.30am Mass

Anniversaries: 22nd to 28th of January.

Bill Amor, Maurie Sykes, Peter Wombwell, John Goggin, Faye Herbertson, Sheila Swain, Peter Healey, Richard Berry, Ted Walsh, Ida Leslie, Margaret Warke, Jim Ketelaars, John Wilson, Margaret Brown.

Prayer Requests:

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

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

Dates to Remember

Ash Wednesday 14th February
Mass 10.00am & 6.00pm All Saints Church

Bishop's Visitation: 24th & 25th February

Passion Sunday 24th March
Easter Triduum 28th to 30th March
Easter Sunday 31st March

Please mute your phone in the Church.



"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

Tuesday to Thursday 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.

Southern Stars Family Group.

Our first activity for 2024 will be a picnic/sausage sizzle on Sunday 04 February.

We will gather at the traditional location on the Foreshore, next to the skate park and the Trawler Wharf, on Sunday morning.

Pat & Anne O'Brien will be there from 11.30 a.m. in order to secure a BBQ and will bring along sausages, onions and bread for the "multitude".

Please BYO everything (including chairs) and, if possible, something to share.

In case of wet weather, which on the basis of recent experience may be a possibility, we will switch locations to Nun's Beach and the shelter there.

Our Parish Finance

Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given inc. eft 08/01 to 19/01 \$878.00

Target \$62,400

Total YTD 2023-2024, \$33,250.10

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

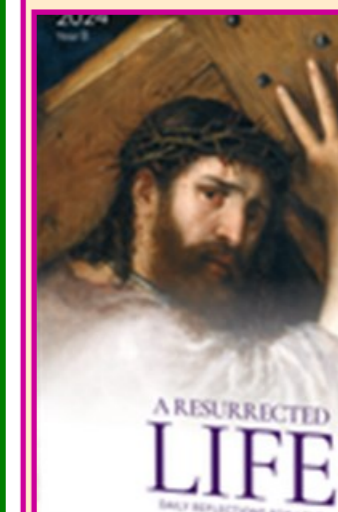
Presbytery Account

Priest support, inc eft: 08/01 to 19/01 \$1,122.00

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



Evangelisation Brisbane has developed a new Lent and Easter reflection resource called "A Resurrected Life".

Written for busy individuals but easily adapted for groups, each day includes a scripture reading and a reflection upon it, some questions to aid prayer and discussion, and relevant quotes from Pope Francis.

We have ordered 30 copies; to reserved one for yourself, please place \$6.00 in an envelope with your name and Label it "A Resurrected Life".

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading **Jonah 3:1-5,10**

A reading from the prophet Jonah.

3:1 The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, 2 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' 3 So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. 4 Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' 5 And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. 10 When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm **Ps 24:4-9. R. v.4**

(R.) Teach me your ways, O Lord.

1. Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour. **(R.)**

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old.

In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord. **(R.)**

3. The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray, he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor. **(R.)**

Second Reading **1 Corinthians 7:29-31**

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

29 I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, 30 and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, 31 and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation **Mark 1:15**

Alleluia, alleluia!
The kingdom of God is near: believe the Good News!

Alleluia!

Gospel **Mark 1:14-20**

From the holy Gospel according to Mark.

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, 15 and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.' 16 As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake for they were fishermen. 17 And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' 18 And immediately they left their nets and followed him. 19 As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. 20 Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed 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.

Quote for January.

"Be compost smart" Did you know? Learning more about composting helps the earth. Instead of just food scraps, you can also compost cardboard, egg cartons, paper napkins, grass clippings and newspapers.

Praying with Pope Francis:

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer) is an international prayer 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.

Pope's intention for January – For the gift of diversity: Let us pray that the Spirit helps us recognise the gifts of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter:

This week's Gospel shows us clearly that those Jesus chose to follow him closely were the most ordinary of people. Anyone today wanting to enter into some sort of public life would gather around them a team of advisers, an image stylist, a public relations expert, a market analyst and probably a guard or two. Who did Jesus choose to be 'entourage'? A few fishermen, some friends of friends and even a tax collector – one the most despised occupations of his time. The very ordinariness of these disciples was a deliberate action on the part of Jesus. It was a clear statement that his message was not for the learned scholars and interpreters of the Torah but rather for the everyday person. Throughout the gospels we see that the vast majority of encounters and interactions that Jesus has are with common, everyday people. When he encounters the officials of the Jewish faith – the scribes and Pharisees – it is inevitably in a conflict situation. Those to whom he directs his ministry are the common people – those who have felt the brunt of Roman oppression and the strict interpretation of Jewish Law.

The gospel passage also gives us an insight into what a charismatic figure Jesus must have been. Fishing was a good solid livelihood. Fish was a staple in the diet of Galileans and so supplying that staple would have provided a regular income. But on encountering this man Jesus, the fishermen abandon their nets and begin to follow him. They must have immediately seen something in him that impressed them. It seems hard to believe that physically tough men such as fishermen would have been easily impressed – much like today. So the impact that Jesus made on these men must have been quite special to make them walk away from everything that they knew.

Scriptural Context – The Gospel in a hurry.

One of the features of this week's gospel is the immediate response that Jesus inspires from the fishermen as they give up all that they previously knew to follow him. We will see throughout this year of readings that this is characteristic of the Gospel of Mark. This gospel is sometimes referred to as the gospel in a hurry as the writer uses a lot of language that implies haste – 'straight away'; 'immediately'; 'that day'; 'at once'. Such language is used to describe the movement of Jesus around Galilee but it is also used to describe the powerful reactions people have to him.

Have you thought? Year B.

Although the new liturgical year began with Advent, this week's reading is the first time that we enter into the cycle of the gospel for this liturgical year, the Gospel of Mark. The Church calendar works on a cycle of three years: Year A; Year B; and Year C. Each of the three synoptic gospels is associated with one of the years: Matthew in Year A; Mark in Year B; and Luke in Year C. Throughout this liturgical cycle we will move through the Gospel of Mark from beginning to end – usually in the part of the liturgical calendar known as Ordinary Time.

Living the Gospel – The Good News is here.

This week's gospel marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry in the Gospel of Mark. The gospel writer has Jesus clearly announcing his message in plain, simple language: 'The kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.' That message is as true for us today as it was when those words were first spoken. The kingdom is still close at hand if we would only recognise it in our midst rather than pinning our hopes on some future reward. The call to repent and believe the Good News is as relevant for us as it was for the first believers.

Questions for your personal reflection:

1. What significance can we attach to Jesus' choice of fishermen as his first disciples?
2. How has the symbolism of the fisherman been carried on in the church?
3. What would be your equivalent of being called to abandon fishing to follow Jesus?
4. What signs exist that the kingdom really is 'close at hand'?
5. Why is Jesus' call to 'Repent' still a very difficult challenge?
- 6.

Learning moments:

Fishermen were an integral part of the life and economy of the area around the Sea of Galilee in Jesus' time. To have fishermen as followers was to be in touch with the very heart of the community. If Jesus were to come today to your district, what sort of people would he call to follow him that would again put him in touch with the heart of the community?

© 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.