

Liturgy Rosters:  
Many thanks for your ministry in the Parish

Weekend of 31st August & 1st September:

Vigil: 6.00pm

Reader: D Baudinette  
Prayers: P Howman  
Minister: M Lambert  
Computer: Volunteer Please

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: P Couttie  
Prayers: K Loftus  
Minister: J Sandeman  
Computer: B Dillon

Weekend of 7th & 8th September:

Vigil: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: J Howman  
Prayers: M Schultz  
Minister: Volunteer Please  
Computer: Volunteer Please

Weekend: of 14th & 15th September

Vigil: 6.00pm

Reader: D Baudinette  
Prayers: D Bennett  
Minister: P Howman  
Computer: K Howman

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: M Picard  
Prayers: I Eichler  
Minister: K Loftus  
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 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**



1st of  
September  
2024  
22nd Sunday in  
Ordinary Time



### Weekday Services 3rd to 8th September 2024

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

### Weekend Masses 7th & 8th of September 23rd Sunday Year B

Saturday: 6.00pm Vigil Mass  
Sunday: 10.30am Mass

### Anniversaries: 2nd to 8th of September.

Bill Aldridge, Tom Hill, Ivan Sanderson, Frances Elliott, Maureen Bourke, Jim McCarthy, Rev Peter Taffe, Hazel Young, Bill Woods, Patricia Belfield, Murray Penrose, Mary Bartram, Mary Veronica Morrissey, Rev Bob Markey, Agnes Nash, Pauline Johnson, Mary Mugavin Brown, Jim Wallers, Dennis Carr, Sr Anne McMillan RSM, Jenni Stewart, Sr Meg Hannan.

### Prayer Requests:

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

*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:

**Pope's intention for August: For political leaders:** Let us pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, taking care of those who have lost their jobs and giving priority to the poor.

## "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](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: 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.*



### Ballarat Clergy Support Fund Collection for Retired Priests 2024

The Ballarat Clergy Support Fund provides for retired priests who have spent a lifetime selflessly caring for others, and who deserve a happy and peaceful retirement.

The Fund is currently supporting and caring for seventeen retired priests. Over the next few years a number of priests currently in parish ministry will be moving into retirement and will also need to be supported by the fund.

This annual collection has allowed the Fund to continue to support our retired priests. Please give as generously as you can and help us continue 'caring for those who cared for us'.

Special envelopes are available for this collection, which will be taken up next weekend, the 7th & 8th of September.



If you scan this QR link, you may give via CDF Pay and contributions over \$2.00 are tax-deductible. Caring for those who cared for us the Church community's responsibility.



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 \$4166.00  
Target \$55,000

Total YTD 2024-2025, \$12,016.00

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: \$ 880.30

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** Deuteronomy 4:1-2,,6-8

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people:

4:1 So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. 2 You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you. 6 You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!' 7 For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? 8 And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

The Word of Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm** Ps 14:2-5. R. v.1

**(R.) The just will live in the presence of the Lord.**

1. Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain? He who walks without fault; he who acts with justice and speaks the truth from his heart. **(R.)**

2. He who does no wrong to his brother, who casts no slur on his neighbour, who holds the godless in disdain, but honours those who fear the Lord. **(R.)**

3. He who keeps his pledge, come what may; who takes no interest on a loan and accepts no bribes against the innocent. Such a man will stand firm for ever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading** James 1:17-18,21-22,27

A reading from the letter of St James

17 Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18 In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. 21 Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that

has the power to save your souls. 22 But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.

The word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation** James 1:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruits of his creation. Alleluia!

**Gospel** Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

From the holy Gospel according to Mark.

7:1 Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, 2 they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. 3 (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; 4 and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) 5 So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?' 6 He said to them, 'Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, "This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; 7 in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines." 8 You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.' 14 Then he called the crowd again and said to them, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand: 15 there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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**Diocesan Social Justice Commission  
Reflection Day, Saturday, September 7, 2024.**

The Ballarat Diocesan Social Justice Commission invite all to a Reflection Day, in celebration of the launch of the Australian Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2024-2025, "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World" on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 10.00am - 2.30pm at Ss Michael and John's Horsham Parish Centre. Facilitator for the day is writer and educator, Michael McGirr. Registration will be required to attend. See link below.

<https://www.trybooking.com/CTUZF>

## Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter:

No matter how good the intention, sometimes misguided principles can lead to false action. This is what Jesus chastised the Pharisees about. The traditions that had been established through the Pharisees and the Lawyers were certainly based on the Law as stated in the Torah. However, the practices that had been established to try to help people honour the Torah had effectively replaced the Law. In order to maintain spiritual cleanliness, a tradition of physical cleanliness had emerged particularly around interaction with Gentiles and around eating. However, the purpose of the tradition had become lost. The need for physical cleanliness had replaced the maintenance of spiritual cleanliness.

The Pharisees observe some of the disciples eating without properly washing their hands and challenge Jesus about it. They are upholding the tradition that has effectively become the Law. Jesus reminds them – somewhat forcefully – that these external practices are not the Law; rather the Law is observed internally. Jesus goes so far as to call the Pharisees hypocrites. It is a criticism of them that the gospel writers attribute to Jesus quite frequently. For Jesus, hypocrisy was one of the greatest failings.

Because Jesus placed such a high price on integrity of word and action he could not abide those who proclaimed to be just, pious or forgiving and yet acted in ways that were contrary to these claims. His chastisement of the Pharisees – calling them hypocrites – was a challenge to their observation of external practices and rituals instead of seeking to understand the Torah as a call to a change of heart. Jesus points out that no amount of ritual cleansing will make a person clean within. Similarly, evil and uncleanness come from within a person – one doesn't 'catch it' from contact with strangers.

### Historical Context – Pharisees

Pharisees were mostly lay men (i.e. generally not Priests) who were characterised by a strict observance of the Torah as well as an oral tradition of teaching and interpretation. They believed that the Torah required interpretation – by engaging in this interpretation they participated in God's ongoing revelation. They also had a strong belief that all Jewish people were called to be a priestly people. This belief naturally put them at odds with the Priests of the Temple. After the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE, the teachings of the Pharisees gained prominence and eventually developed into Rabbinic Judaism that continues today.

### Scriptural context – Mark's Audience

It is widely believed that the Gospel of Mark was written for a predominantly Greek-speaking, Gentile audience. Today's gospel passage is a perfect example of literary evidence that has been used to establish this position. The gospel writer clearly explains the Jewish practice of washing to the elbows before eating and ritual cleansing upon return from the marketplace where they would have encountered Gentiles. Obviously, a Jewish audience would not need this explanation. This practice of looking for information about the author and their audience within the text itself is a form of Literary Criticism.

### Gospel Focus – The things within

We live in a culture that is very quick to lay blame on external factors; some people are very reluctant to accept responsibility for their own actions and look for opportunities to distance themselves from feelings of guilt or even regret. Jesus makes it very clear that evil intentions the things that make a person 'unclean' – actually come from within. He presents a confronting list of the things that come from within and we may be able to add others relevant to our own time. In our culture of no personal responsibility, Jesus challenges us to rethink just where the buck does stop.

### Questions for your personal reflection:

1. Do you think Jesus and his disciples deliberately provoked this confrontation?
2. Is the problem of honouring God 'only with lip-service' still a problem in today's Church?
3. Does this teaching of Jesus challenge the notion that human beings are intrinsically good?
4. Although 'evil things come from within' are there external things that 'feed' these vices?

### Learning moments

- Develop a clear definition of 'hypocrisy' by identifying examples, non-examples and characteristics of hypocrisy.

© 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.