

Liturgy Rosters:  
Many thanks for your ministry in the Parish

Weekend: of 14th & 15th September

Vigil: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am  
Reader: M Picard  
Prayers: I Eichler  
Minister: K Loftus  
Computer: Volunteer Please

Weekend of 21st & 22nd September:

Vigil: 6.00pm

Reader: D Bennett  
Prayers: Volunteer Please  
Minister: D Kierce  
Computer: Volunteer Please

Sunday: 10.30am  
Reader: M Picard  
Prayers: K Loftus  
Minister: I Eichler  
Computer: Volunteer Please

Weekend of 28th & 29th September:

Vigil: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am  
Reader: J Sandeman  
Prayers: M Schultz  
Minister: M McGenniken  
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**



15th of  
September  
2024  
24th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time



### Weekday Services

17th to 22nd September 2024

**Tuesday: NO MASS**  
**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**  
**21st & 22nd of September**  
**25th Sunday Year B**

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

#### Anniversaries: 16th to 22nd of September.

Gerda Domburg, Anne Russo, Eileen Auld, Watty Crowe, Sr Imelda Gallagher RSM, Mary Gilbert, Muriel Mugavin, Marie Bicknell, Ronald Smith, Leon Murphy, Des Boland, Harriet Stuchbery, Margaret King, Lloyd Zelenc, Kevin Compton, Marie Stewart, John McKinnon, Sylvia Beasley, Ray Maloney, Ray Keating, Leo de Gardis, Rev Paul Mercovich, Arthur Weston, Angela Watt.

#### 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 September: For the cry of the earth: Let us pray that each of us listen with our hearts to the cry of the Earth and of the victims of environmental disasters and the climate crisis, making a personal commitment to care for the world we inhabit.**

## "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.*

### Season of Creation 2024

The Season of Creation runs from September 1 – October 4, with the theme for 2024, "To Hope and Act with Creation".

#### 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.

**Water security** - access to safe drinkable water is a basic and universal human right, since it is essential to human survival and, as such, is a condition for the exercise of other human rights. The quality of available safe water is constantly diminishing. In some places there is a growing tendency, despite its scarcity, to privatise this resource, turning it into a commodity subject to the laws of the market (Laudato Si 30). Consider your water usage even though here in Australia we are lucky to have access to this precious resource!

#### CASPA's - National Week of Prayer and Action: September 16 – 20, 2024

Each year, the **Catholic Alliance for People Seeking Asylum** (CAPSA) holds a National Week of Prayer and Action and celebrates World Day of Migrants and Refugees. This National Week of Prayer and Action will focus on "Journeying together with Refugees and People Seeking Asylum."

There will be an online webinar on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 from 7.00pm – 8.30pm with a panel of speakers to explore further what "Journeying together with refugees and people seeking asylum" entails.

Register at <https://events.humanitix.com/capsa-webinar-national-week-of-prayer-and-action-journeying-together-with-refugees-and-people-seeking-asylum>



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 \$526.00.00**  
**Target \$55,000**

**Total YTD 2024–2025, \$13,979.00**

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: \$ 713.70**

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 Isaiah 50:5-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

<sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backwards.  
<sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.  
<sup>7</sup>The Lord God helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;  
<sup>8</sup>He who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.  
<sup>9</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?  
All of them will wear out like a garment;  
the moth will eat them up.

The word of the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 114:1-6. 8-9. R. v.9

**(R.) I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.**

1. I love the Lord for he has heard the cry of my appeal; for he turned his ear to me in the day when I called him. **(R.)**

2. They surrounded me, the snares of death, with anguish of the tomb; they caught me, sorrow and distress.

I called on the Lord's name, O Lord my God, deliver me! **(R.)**

3. How gracious is the Lord, and just; our God has compassion.

The Lord protects the simple hearts; I was helpless so he saved me. **(R.)**

4. He has kept my soul from death, my eyes from tears and my feet from stumbling.

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living. **(R.)**

### Second Reading James 2:14-18

A reading from the letter of St James

<sup>14</sup>What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? <sup>15</sup>If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, <sup>16</sup>and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? <sup>17</sup>So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. <sup>18</sup>But someone will say, 'You have faith and I have works.' Show me your faith without works, and I by my works will show you my faith.

The word of the Lord.

### Gospel Acclamation Galatians 6:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world. Alleluia!

### Gospel Mark 8:27-35

From the holy Gospel according to Mark.

<sup>27</sup>Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that I am?' <sup>28</sup>And they answered him, 'John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' <sup>29</sup>He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.' <sup>30</sup>And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him. <sup>31</sup>Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup>He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup>But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' <sup>34</sup>He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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## Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter:

"But you, who do you say I am?" This would have to be one of the most powerful questions of the gospels. It echoes down the centuries and is just as relevant today as it ever was. 'Who do you say I am?' Our answer to that question is perhaps the most revealing statement of our faith. Our answer no doubt changes over time as we grow in understanding and as we experience the ups and downs of life, but nonetheless, just like Peter in the gospel passage, our answer remains a clear statement of our faith. 'Who do you say I am?' Just a good guy who lived 2,000 years ago? A role model? A friend? God made flesh? The Word come down from heaven? Nobody? Everybody? Our saviour? An inspired man of God? The Messiah?

Perhaps you've never tried to actually answer the question yourself. It is a confronting question, 'Who do you say I am?' It's confronting because, as Christian people, we believe that our actions are a reflection of our beliefs and values. It's confronting because whatever we say in answer to that question has implications for the way we live. 'Who do you say I am?' You see, the question is in the present tense, not the past. It doesn't ask 'Who do you say I was?'; it asks, 'Who do you say I AM?' The very question asks us to recognise that Jesus was not just some guy who lived 2,000 years ago but rather someone who continues to be a presence in our lives today. And he stands before each and every one of us today and asks that same, demanding, confronting, purposeful question: 'Who do YOU say I am?'

### Scriptural context – A Turning Point

This passage forms a crucial turning point in the Gospel of Mark. It occurs at the very mid-point of the gospel – the end of chapter 8 in a 16 chapter gospel. From this point on the gospel takes a greater focus on what it means to be a disciple and Jesus' movement towards Jerusalem. This passage in which Peter professes his faith in Jesus as the Messiah is immediately followed by the account of the Transfiguration. From this point onwards, the gospel writer reveals the growing understanding of Jesus' identity that until now has been wrapped in secrecy.

### Gospel Focus – Peter's insight

When Peter answers Jesus' question he demonstrates the disciples' dawning awareness of Jesus' true identity. It is the first occasion that the disciples are called to own what they think about Jesus. However, when Jesus begins to spell out what being the Messiah reality means – persecution and death – Peter tries to convince Jesus that he doesn't need to go down that path. Jesus turns on Peter and snaps, 'Get behind me, Satan!' It is a reminder of the desert temptation Jesus had to face at the start of his ministry when he wrestled with what sort of messiah he was called to be.

### Scriptural context – Sandwich technique

The Gospel of Mark is famous for a technique of 'sandwiching' stories or sections between two related events to bring what is sandwiched into greater focus. This gospel passage falls within a significant sandwich that runs from 8:22 (the healing of a blind man at Bethsaida) to 10:52 (the healing of blind Bartimaeus). The healings of blindness that surround the sandwich reflect the lack of 'sight' that the disciples have. The 'meat' of the sandwich is all about the disciples not really understanding Jesus' mission and what it means to truly be a disciple. Read the whole section from 8:22 – 10:52 and see how it works.

### Questions for your personal reflection:

- 1) Why did Peter argue with Jesus when he explained the destiny that lay before him?
- 2) In what way was Peter's argument like the temptation of Satan in the desert in chapter 1 of the gospel?
- 3) Why does Jesus portray discipleship in such demanding terms?
- 4) Is being a follower of Jesus today as demanding as Jesus described?
- 5) What does it mean to 'lose' your life for Jesus' sake in order to save your life?

### Learning moments

- Take four different responses to 'Who do you say I am?' and develop a line of consequences that flow from the response. e.g. if one believes this ... then ... then ... then ...

© 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.

**175 YEARS**  
OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN PORTLAND  
ALL SAINTS PARISH SCHOOL

Order of Events:

**Thursday 17th of October 2024**  
Time Capsule Creation

**Friday 18th of October 2024**  
Old Fashioned Dress-Up  
9am - 12pm - School Tours\*  
12 pm- School Assembly, Mass & Shared Lunch\*  
2:30pm - Whole School Old Fashioned Sports

**Saturday 19th of October 2024**  
9am - 12pm - School Tours\*  
6:30pm (doors open) Gala Dinner

**Sunday 20th of October 2024**  
10:30am - Parish Mass

\*Please book using the following QR code or at  
Humantix.com