

Liturgy Rosters:
Many thanks for your ministry in the Parish

Weekend of 9th & 10th November:

Vigil: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: K Arnott
Prayers: M Schultz
Minister: D Arnott
Computer: B Dillon

Weekend: of 16th & 17th of November

Lay Led Assembly: 6.00pm

Leader: P & A O'Brien
Reader: D Baudinette
Prayers: Volunteer Please
Minister: M Lambert
Computer: Volunteer Please

Sunday Mass: 10.30am

Reader: M Picard
Prayers: J Sandeman
Minister: I Eichler
Computer: B Dillon

Weekend of 23rd & 24th November

Vigil: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: P Couttie
Prayers: K Loftus
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



10th of November
2024
32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Weekday Services

11th to 17th November 2024

Tuesday 5.00pm Mass

Wednesday: 10.00am Funeral Mass
Paul Craig Thornton
4.30pm Rosary

Fr Greg away at Clergy & Diocesan meetings

Thursday: 10.00am Morning Prayer
Friday: 10.00am Morning Prayer

Weekend Masses

9th & 10th of November
32nd Sunday Year B

Saturday: 6.00pm Lay Led Assembly
Sunday: 10.30am Mass

Recent Death: Tony Hodges, Paul Thornton, Colin McKenna, Raymond Lindsay, Iris Yap.

Anniversaries: 11th to 17th of November.

Cornelius Melis, Les Shepherd, Jocelyn Perry, Dellas Bryant, Bernadette Collins, Kylie Harders, Terry Carr, Coral Hunt, Eamon Brabender, Joan Lynch, Bill Clancey, Barry McInnes, David James May, Carmen Galea, Kath Cowland, Derrick Spencer, Jean Dumaresq, Rita Taylor, Gavan O'Brien, Connor Prunty, Pat Benedict.

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



Dates to Remember:

November Masses of Remembrance 7th & 8th November.

December Anointing Mass, 6th December
11.00am Mass & Shared Lunch in the Presbytery after Mass.

"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.

Remembering the Fallen: Honouring Sacrifice and Reflecting on the Cost of War.

As Remembrance Day approaches, we honour those who sacrificed their lives to protect our freedoms and way of life. The solemn ceremonies, the laying of wreaths, and moments of silence are expressions of our deep gratitude. Yet, amid our reflections, it's crucial to acknowledge a sobering reality: the burden of war often falls disproportionately on the poor.

We are currently witnessing the devastation of war in regions like the Middle East and Ukraine. These conflicts not only result in tragic loss of life but also displace countless families, destroy homes, and disrupt communities. The turmoil exacerbates existing inequalities, leaving the most vulnerable to bear the heaviest burdens. The images of destroyed neighbourhoods and stories of families torn apart remind us that the consequences of war are far-reaching and indiscriminate, yet often most acutely felt by those with the least resources to recover.

As we reflect on these realities, the words of the prophet Isaiah resonates: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more" (Isaiah 2:4, NRSV). This passage envisions a world transformed by peace and justice, where resources are redirected from instruments of war to tools that cultivate life and prosperity.

As we wear poppies and attend memorials, let us also commit to addressing the underlying issues that lead to such disproportionate sacrifices. Supporting veterans, many of whom struggle with poverty and homelessness upon returning home, is a start.

In remembering those who have protected our way of life, we must strive to protect theirs. Let this week serve as a call to action—not only to commemorate the past but to actively shape a future where the costs of war are not shouldered by the most vulnerable among us. ©Magellan Media.2024.



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 \$1301.00
Target \$55,000

Total YTD 2024-2025, \$21,141.40

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: \$ 1071.75

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

Readings 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B 2024

First Reading 1 Kings 17:10-16

A reading from the first book of the Kings

17:10 Elijah the Prophet set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, 'Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.' 11 As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, 'Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.' 12 But she said, 'As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.' 13 Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. 14 For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.' 15 She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. 16 The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 145:7-10. R.v.2

(R.) Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith forever who is just to those who are oppressed.

It is he who gives bread to the hungry, the Lord who sets prisoners free. (R.)

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down.

It is the Lord who loves the just, the Lord who protects the stranger. (R.)

3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan but thwarts the path of the wicked.

The Lord will reign for ever, Zion's God, from age to age. (R.)

Second Reading Hebrews 9:24-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

24 Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. 25 Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; 26 for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for

all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. 27 And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgement, 28 so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia!

Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 12:38-44

From the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Jesus was teaching in the Temple and a large crowd was listening to him.

12:38 He said, 'Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the market-places, 39 and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honour at banquets! 40 They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.' 41 He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. 42 A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. 43 Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. 44 For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Text, New Revised Standard Version Bible: Anglicized Catholic Edition, copyright © 1989, 1993, 1995 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. The English translation of the Palm Responses, the Alleluia and Gospel Verses, and the Lenten Gospel Acclamations, and the Titles, Summaries, and Conclusion of the Readings, from the Lectory for Mass © 1997, 1998, 1999, International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. All rights reserved. The prayers are from the English Translation of the Roman Missal © 2010 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc. (ICEL). All rights reserved.

Praying with Pope Francis

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

Intention for November: For those who have lost a child: Let us pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and may receive peace of heart from the Spirit of Consolation.

31st Sunday Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter:

We would normally hear or read the second half of this week's gospel as a stand alone example of generosity and faith – often without the section that immediately precedes it. Whilst the actions of the widow are certainly worthy of comment, when we read it in the context of the condemnation that immediately precedes it, the widow's offering is placed in a different light.

Jesus condemns the scribes who parade their wealth and seek trappings of earthly power and glory: being recognised and greeted as they walk the streets; taking the front seats in synagogue; and expecting to be seated in the place of honour at banquets. Whilst parading their wealth and feasting at banquets, they are also swallowing up the property of widows – taking advantage of those in need.

We often hear widows and orphans named in the scriptures as those in need. Widows and orphans (and strangers in the land) are marked out for special attention in the Torah. They are named as deserving of special care – the lost and broken of society. So despite holding a special place in Jewish Law and tradition, the widows are being taken advantage of by the scribes, who are taking over their property for their own gain.

One of the duties of the scribes was to administer the proper payment of Temple taxes. The treasury referred to in the passage is the Temple treasury. Rather than a great act of generosity, we can now see the widow's payment of Temple tax as a burdensome, heart-wrenching obligation to pay the very last coins she had to a corrupt, uncaring system. We usually read praise into Jesus' comments about the widow's offering, but it can also be read as moral outrage at the system that demands this woman pay all that she possesses to the Temple.

Living the Gospel – Hypocrisy

Throughout the gospels, what Jesus appears to abhor more than anything else is hypocrisy. His harshest condemnation of the scribes and the Pharisees is that they are hypocrites. In this passage, whilst Jesus hates the scribes' parading around and claiming honour that is not their due, what really sees him condemn them is their mistreatment of widows 'while making a show of lengthy prayers'. We cannot praise God in prayer while at the same time mistreating our neighbour. That is hypocrisy! Our actions are an extension of our prayer. We cannot celebrate the Eucharist on Sundays and fail to live it the rest of the week!

Have you thought? What's in a word?

It's interesting that we have traditionally read Jesus' comments about the widow's offering as praise and perhaps even some pride in her actions. Nothing in the words themselves give away Jesus' emotion. Try reading Jesus' words with a variety of different emotions: anger; sadness; joy; triumph; dismay. How does the emotion with which we read these words change our understanding of them? Can you think of other passages that could be read in a whole new light if we changed our preconceived ideas about the emotion with which Jesus spoke?

Historical Context – The Widow

In ancient Jewish culture, until a woman was married she was literally the property of her father. Upon marrying, the woman left her family and became part of her husband's family and became specifically the property of her husband. If the woman's husband were to die, leaving her a widow, she no longer had anywhere to belong. Because a woman's identity was based on which man she belonged to, she effectively ceased to belong anywhere. It is for this reason that the Torah names widows as deserving of special care and protection from the whole community.

Questions for your personal reflection:

1. Has this week's reflection changed your ideas about this passage?
2. Why does Jesus promise such a severe sentence for the scribes?
3. What group in our society is the equivalent of the 'widows' of Jesus' time?
4. How do you think the disciples reacted to Jesus' comment about the widow?
5. Why is the tiny contribution of the widow so much more significant than the large sums paid by the rich?

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.