

Liturgy Rosters:
Many thanks for your ministry to the Parish!

This Weekend: 29 & 30th April

Saturday: 7.00pm

Readers: P. O'Brien
Prayers: D. Bennett
Minister
Computer: A. O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: P. Couttie
Prayers: Vol. please
Ministers: B. McGennissen
Computer: B. Dillon

Next Weekend: 6th & 7th May

Saturday: 6.00pm

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

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: A. McIntyre
Prayers: K. Arnott
Ministers: D. Arnott
Computer: B. Dillon

Following Weekend: 13th & 14th May

Saturday: 6.00pm

Reader: D. Bennett
Prayers: D. Baudinette
Minister
Computer: A. O'Brien

Sunday: 10.30am

Reader: K. Loftus
Prayers: M. Picard
Ministers: M. McGennissen
Computer: B. Dillon

All Saints Outreach Op-Shop: (In Woolworth's Car park) Phone: 5521 1587
The Parish Outreach Op-Shop is in urgent need of good quality bric a brac or furniture.

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.

Palms Australia - Mission: Transform Lives - theirs...and yours

Communities in Africa, Asia and the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development.

Explore 35 positions at <https://palms.org.au/current-opportunities/>.

On the website you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know, ph. 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567



30th April 2023

4th Sunday Easter Year A



Weekly Services 02/05 to 07/05

Tuesday: 5.00pm Mass

Wednesday: 10.00am Mass

Thursday: 10.00am Mass

Friday: 9.30am Morning Prayer & Adoration
10.00am Mass
5.30pm Evening Prayer

Saturday: 10.00am Sacrament of Penance

Saturday: 6.00pm Mass
Sunday: 10.30am Mass

Recent Deaths:

Barry Humphries

Anniversaries:

Trudy Van Lammeren, Kerrin Hurley, Kevin Kelly, Mary Jean Murphy, Bill Cannon, John Flint, Frank Sheehan OAM, Irene Donne, Jean Gracias, Neil Pritchard, Elizabeth Alexander, John Cassie, Dawn McIntyre, Allan Carman, Kelly Anson, Darby McCarthy, Evelyn Ness, George Kempton, Sr Nonie Mitchell IBVM, Gary Hollis, Jim Cassie, Jimmy Natale, Desmond O'Neil

Prayer Requests:

Margaret Couttie, Noela Clifford, 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 10am
or any other time by appointment with Fr Gregory

“The Spire“

All Saints' Parish

Portland - Heywood - Dartmoor

All Saints' Parish Office
PO Box 210 Portland 3305

Phone: 5523 1046 Mobile 0475 512530

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

Parish Secretary: Antonella Webbstock

Wednesday & Thursday 9.00am till 3.00pm

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 commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation and constitutional acknowledgement of first peoples

**World Day of Prayer for Vocations:
Sunday, 30th April 2023**

Vocations Prayer

Holy Spirit, stir within us the passion to promote vocations to the single and married life, consecrated life, societies of apostolic life, diocesan priesthood and permanent diaconate.

Inspire us daily to respond to Your call with boundless compassion, abundant generosity, and radical availability.

Help us to remember our own baptismal call to rouse us to invite the next generation to hear and respond to Your call.

Inspire parents, families and lay ecclesial ministers to begin a conversation with young Catholics to consider how they will live lives of holiness and sacred service.

Nudge inquirers and motivate discerners to learn more about vowed and associate commitment in apostolic life, cloistered life, evangelical life, lay ecclesial ministers, missionary life, monastic life and societies of apostolic life.

Ignite our Church with the confident humility that there is an urgent need for all the baptised to live their vocation in solidarity with those who are poor, neglected, and marginalized. Amen.

Our Finances

Planned Giving for Parish Account

Given last week, inc. EFT: \$ 595.00

Target \$62,400

Total YTD 2022/23 \$ 47,187

Total YTD 2021/22 \$ 49,215

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 \$ 662.35

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

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.' Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 22

(R.) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **(R.)**

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **(R.)**

Second Reading

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty. This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. . He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge.

Second reading continued

He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls. The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.
Alleluia

Gospel

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.' Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them. So Jesus spoke to them again: 'I tell you most solemnly, I am the gate of the sheepfold. All others who have come are thieves and brigands; but the sheep took no notice of them. I am the gate. Anyone who enters through me will be safe: he will go freely in and out and be sure of finding pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.'

The Gospel of the Lord

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OUR SHEPHERD PROTECTOR



I was once driven by a farmer named John to his farm in country Victoria. It was winter and rather cold. He drove an old farm truck and I was seated on the front passenger side. Our journey took us through green, undulating countryside and through many pastures.

As I was the front seat passenger it was my duty to hop in and out of the truck and open and close every gate we encountered. I had to get out of our cosy and warm truck to open and close between 13 and 15 swing gates in a freezing wind. It was not much fun.

On the way back from John's farm, it was the same ritual. I was puzzled why there were so many gates on the one property. With a broad smile John explained, "I think it deters criminals, knowing they have to stop and get out to open the gates."

Jesus uses two 'shepherding' images in today's gospel. He describes himself as a shepherd of his flock of sheep and as a gate to protect the sheep. He teaches, "I am the gate of the sheepfold. Anyone who enters rightly through this gate will be safe. Anyone who does not enter through the gate but gets in some other way is a criminal."

The image of God as a shepherd also features in the Old Testament, where God's relationship with the people of Israel is compared to a shepherd and his sheep. The prophet Isaiah says that God is like "a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms." God says to the prophet Ezekiel, "I myself will pasture my sheep ... I shall be a true shepherd to them."

In biblical lands of old, sheep were an important part of the economy. The shepherd stayed very close to his sheep, by day and by night. So close and so caring that, as Pope Francis says, the good shepherd "smells the sheep."

A shepherd would risk his life for his flock. He slept with the sheep and looked after them, knowing them individually and calling them using a unique whistle or call. The sheep heard the familiar call and followed the sound. They knew their welfare depended on staying close to the shepherd and responding to his call.

The concept of God as shepherd is fulfilled in Jesus, our true shepherd, our gate and our protector. He is the good shepherd, who calls his sheep individually by name. The sheep follow him because they know his voice and trust in his care. He is also the "gate of the sheepfold," as it is through him the sheep are sure of finding pasture and safety. So it is through Christ that the people of God, called by name and responding to his voice, enter into the pasture of eternal life.

Anthony Tran CSsR © Majellan Media 2023

New report reveals makeup of Australian Catholic population

A new National Centre for Pastoral Research report provides a comprehensive snapshot of the millions of people who identified as Catholic in the 2021 Australia Census.

"Knowing the people who make up the Catholic population helps dioceses, parishes and other Catholic ministries better understand and serve their communities," said Australian Catholic Bishops Conference president Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB.

"We are fortunate to have such valuable information at our fingertips and we are grateful to the National Centre for Pastoral Research for its high-quality reports."

Some key religious affiliation statistics were released last year. They included the number of Catholics, which fell from around 5.3 million in 2016 to under 5.1 million in 2021. Catholics made up 22.6 per cent of the population in 2016; they represented 20 per cent of the population in 2021.

"We have seen a broad shift away from religious identification in Australian society, so those figures were not a surprise, although they were disappointing," Archbishop Costelloe said.

"The statistics in this report confirm what we are seeing in our parish communities – that they are becoming more and more culturally and linguistically diverse.

"But it also uncovers some information that is less obvious, like the increasing percentage of Catholics attending Catholic schools, the rising educational attainment levels of Catholics and the changing composition of Catholic households."

Archbishop Costelloe said knowing, for example, that 21 per cent of those who identify as Catholic were born in a non-English-speaking country – and learning which countries they come from – helps to reach people in their native language.

Read more at the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Media Blog <https://mediablog.catholic.org.au/new-report-reveals-makeup-of-australian-catholic-population/#more-9486> or www.ncpr.catholic.org.au