

# Parish of the Lower Glenelg



St Stephen's



St James



St John's



**Profile**

## PROFILE FOR THE PARISH OF LOWER GLENELG

### **MISSION STATEMENT:**

Through our faith in God, reflecting his forgiving love, we serve as his Church in mission in our communities.

### **VISION STATEMENT:**

Mindful of our traditions, enabled and empowered by God's forgiving love and grace; embracing all generations to access God in a meaningful way

### **PARISH STRUCTURE:**

The Parish of Lower Glenelg consists of

- St Stephen's, Portland
- St John's, Heywood
- St James', Tyrendarra

### **THE PARISH:**

On March 18, 2018, the Parish officially became the Parish of Lower Glenelg having previously been known as the Mission District of Lower Glenelg. An Annual General Meeting was held on that date to elect a Parish Council of twelve (12). The Parish Council meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday evening of each month at 7.30pm alternatively at Portland and Heywood. The Parish is financially stable and viable with supplementary income coming from a leased farm property which is owned by the Parish, rental from Heywood Rectory and Craft Material Shop at Heywood and an Op-Shop at Dartmoor.

Other people who minister in the Parish are Brother Alan Ford, an honorary, non-stipendiary deacon, based in Portland with a long history of service to the Parishes; Deacon Brian Lineker, also a non-stipendiary deacon based in Portland and Ms. Judy MacPherson, a Lay Minister based in Heywood. Both Brother Alan and Deacon Brian take services in Nursing Homes as well as assist with regular services in Heywood and Tyrendarra and also with funerals.

Lay Ministry is strong within the Parish. Most notably Ms. Judy MacPherson from Heywood is seeking to join the Diaconate. There are a number of Lay licensed members in both Portland and Heywood

The Priest of the Parish of Lower Glenelg is usually a Board Member of Bayview Secondary College. The College has representatives from each Christian denomination on its Board.

## SERVICES:

St Stephen's, Portland	Sunday:	9.30am	Eucharist/Sunday School
	Wednesday	10.00am	Eucharist
St James', Tyrendarra	Sunday	11.15am	Eucharist
St John's, Heywood	Sunday	11.15am	Eucharist & Lay Led
			Matins once a month
			Sunday School weekly

The Eucharist is also celebrated on Mondays at 1.00pm at Harbourside Lodge Care Home, Fridays at BUPA Community Care Home for the Aged at 9.30am

Heywood Nursing Home Services are on a shared roster basis with other Denominations.

## PARISH GROUPS:

**St Stephen's, Anglican Women's Guild** – meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 1.00pm in the Choir Room. Meeting usually commences with Eucharist

**St Stephen's Craft Group** – meets weekly in the Choir Room at 12.30pm. Open to all for craft or for an afternoon of fellowship. Serves as an Outreach to the Community

**St Stephen's Women's Bible Study Group** – meets fortnightly in the Choir Room at 7.30pm for an in-depth look at the Holy Scriptures

**Men's Group Happy Hour** – meets at 5.00pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at the Royal Hotel, Portland for an hour of manly conversation and fellowship over food and drink with prayer

**St Stephen's Men's Bible Study Group** - meets 7.30pm at David Peddie's home on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month. Looks at the Holy Scriptures in depth

**Men's Breakfast** - a get together over breakfast every 3 months in the Hall at St Stephen's commencing at 8.00am with guest speakers. Serves as an outreach to the whole community

**St John's Women's Guild** – meets at 2.00pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month

**Coffee, Cake & Chat** – meets 10.00am at St John's Heywood on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month for a social get together. Open to all. Community outreach.

**Certificate of Theology & Ministry** – a mixed group has just completed six units, meeting on a Saturday morning at St Stephen's, Portland

## PARISH STATISTICS:

For the past few years the Parish has averaged the following:-

- 8-10 baptisms per year
- 18-20 funerals per year
- 2-4 weddings per year
- St Stephen's Portland average Sunday attendance – 40-50
- St John's, Heywood average Sunday attendance – 15-20
- St James', Tyrendarra average Sunday attendance – 5-7

## COMMUNICATION:

The Parish contributes to a column in the local paper, The Portland Observer, each week. Service times are also advertised in the paper together with any functions the Parish is holding.

St John's, Heywood has a page in the monthly Heywood Newsletter advising of Church times and events at St John's and the Parish

The Parish also has a Facebook page – <https://www.facebook.com/portlandanglicans>

## CENTRES:

### **St Stephen's, 57 Julia Street, Portland. Victoria. 3305**

St Stephen's is a beautiful blue stone church built in 1855, and is listed on the Victoria Heritage Register. It is one of the oldest buildings still in use in Portland. The first services were held in Portland in 1834 with the current Church being opened in 1856 and is historically significant for its longest continual religious observance in Victoria in the catholic tradition.

The interior is well appointed and provides for a variety of services. A contemporary audio/visual system is installed for services and hymns.

A good sized Narthex was erected in later years when the lean-to porch at the back of the building was removed. All the labour was supplied by the men of the Parish. This provides the Parish with a good sized meeting area, Priest's vestry, choir robing room/kitchen area where we are able to make tea/coffee so that people are encouraged to stay and enjoy fellowship following services.

Toilet facilities and a baby changing room have been added to the building recently.

There is also an area set aside in the Church proper for a children's corner.

The Lady Chapel has been renovated and is used for smaller mid-week services.

The interior of the Church needs some work and the roof needs to be replaced. Funds are in hand to undertake the roof replacement and work will commence later in 2018.

A good sized hall is located 20 metres from the Church building and is used for Sunday School and catering for funerals and Parish functions such as our Pancake Day Lunch.

The Parish holds a Christmas Delights Fair in early December and a stall at the Shire's Easter Fair.

The extensive grounds of the Church are well maintained. Grass mowing and garden maintenance is undertaken by a great band of Parishioners

St Stephen's is also fortunate to have the services of two organists.

The Rectory is a two storey 1960 house, located beside St Stephen's with three bedrooms with built in robes, small study and bathroom upstairs. Downstairs consists of a bedroom, bathroom, study, updated kitchen/meals area, separate dining and lounge room. An enclosed yard and double garage completes the living quarters.

**City of Portland, Shire of Glenelg – [www.glenelg.vic.gov.au](http://www.glenelg.vic.gov.au)**

**Location:** Portland is the base for the Shire of Glenelg, situated in south west Victoria, located at the western-most point of the coastland of Victoria. It is 3 hours from Ballarat, 1 hour approximately from Hamilton, Warrnambool and Mount Gambier, South Australia.

Portland is surrounded by three bays, Portland Bay, Bridgewater Bay and Discovery Bay. Edward Henty first settled here and Portland was the first permanent settlement in the State of Victoria. It was made a City on October 28, 1985 and has a population of 12,000.

It has a magnificent deepwater port and a constant turnover of shipping at our wharves. It is a very busy harbour exporting grain, woodchips, logs, livestock and aluminium ingots and importing alumina for the aluminium smelter. There is a large fishing fleet, a number of engineering works servicing the smelter and components for wind farms, a grain receiving and handling facility and a varied farming community outlying the business area. Products from this area include cattle and sheep, apples, strawberries, wines, timber and fish. From being from industry based we are now looking more to tourism for jobs and local prosperity. The introduction of cruise ship visits is enhancing this.

The town is blessed with many lovely beaches both on our foreshores and around the Bays together with beautiful rugged cliffs. Our hinterland has rivers and very good farming land. There is a wealth of natural beauty close to the town, lots of walking trails which includes the Great South West Walk which is 250 kms. in length. "The Walk" is accessible for day walkers as well as those who wish to cover the distance and camp along the way. There are many areas to camp and these are great for picnics.

A number of historic homes and buildings have been maintained or renovated, providing places of interest for visitors taking a walk around the city.

A Maritime Museum houses a lifeboat used for a sea rescue last century and a reconstructed whale skeleton as well as many other interesting of history.

A rebuilt tram and lines provide visitors and locals with a tram ride stopping at a number of interesting places along the way, including Vintage Car Museum. Botanical Gardens and War World 11 Museum converted from an old water tower.

There are two lighthouses, one in town and the other at Cape Nelson, approximately 10 kilometres away by road, where you can undertake a guided tour of the light.

Accommodation is plentiful. There are five caravan parks, eight motels, four hotels, a number of B&B's and holiday flats .

The weather is mild ranging from 8 - 15°C on winter days to 12-23°C during summer with an average rainfall of 857 mm.

A very good swimming complex with indoor (warm water) and outdoor pools, gym and exercise and health classes open all year round.

The shopping area is growing. The community is well provided for with food, homewares, cars, Post Office, banks, Centrelink, Medicare, Vic Roads, fuel and clothing. There is a diverse of range of eateries from cheap eats to cafes, pub meals, multicultural and fine dining

Public transport is available daily to Warrnambool, Hamilton and Mount Gambier – all approximately one hour from Portland. There is also a local bus service and a taxi service.

An air service currently flies daily to Melbourne from the Portland Airport.

### **Healthcare:**

Portland District Health is a public hospital with acute, nursing home and general health beds which attracts the services of visiting specialists as well as local GPs and surgeons. It also provides support facilities such as radiology, pathology, physiotherapy, rehabilitation and ancillary services.

Aged Care – Portland has three facilities - Seaview House, Supported Residential Service; BUPA – high and low care and Harbourside Lodge – high care.

### **Education:**

Portland is well provided educationally with four kindergartens, two Christian Primary Schools, four State Primary Schools a State Secondary College and a Christian Secondary College together with a Special Development School and a TAFE Tertiary College. There are further opportunities for Secondary students with three Christian Colleges in Hamilton to which buses travel daily. Further Tertiary education is available at RMIT University in Hamilton and Federation University Campus at Warrnambool.

### **Sport:**

There are a large number of sports to participate in namely cricket, football, soccer, netball, horse riding, tennis, squash, badminton, bowls, golf, and croquet. The facilities for these sports are good.

### **Arts, Culture & Major Events:**

Portland has a vibrant cultural diversity. The Portland Art Centre, on the corner of Glenelg & Bentinck Streets incorporates a gallery and theatre where local and visiting art and performances are regularly shown and staged. The same venue also is a cinema three days per week showing the latest releases.

The Arts Company is located in the heritage precinct of Portland in refurbished old buildings in Julia Street. Along with community workshops and studios, local artists' work is also for sale

The Library is well resourced and has an excellent IT facility. It has good school holiday programs

Portland hosts special events such as the Three Bays Marathon for runners and walkers, yachting regattas, fishing competitions and the Rose and Dahlia Show annually.

There are also dance classes and Calisthenics.

**Indigenous Culture** – The Glenelg Shire has a diverse indigenous culture. There is a site, Budj Bim, in the area which has been nominated for World Heritage Status. Lake Condah Mission is another area and was the original site of St. Mary's Anglican Church. It provides tours and accommodation.

### **Outreach:**

Portland has a Mission to Seafarers station located at the Port of Portland supporting and assisting incoming seafarers. Website – [www.mtd.org/portland/](http://www.mtd.org/portland/)

Both scout and guides are present in the town together with naval cadets at T.S.Henty.

Lions and Rotary Service clubs together with three Probus Clubs meet regularly.

Coffee, Cake and Chat at St John's, Heywood is an outreach to the Community

**St John's, 29 Lindsay Street, Heywood, Victoria. 3304**

St John's is a modern renovated church building with a small Narthex and kitchen and a hall adjoining. It is full of light and liturgically comfortable.

The Rectory beside the Church is currently being leased

The grounds around the Church are maintained by Parishioners.

Heywood is located 20 minutes north from Portland on the Henty Highway towards Hamilton. It is a small township with a population of approximately 1500 with both a primary and secondary school and a kindergarten. The town also has a hospital, nursing home and hostel and is a stop for the V-line bus service to Warrnambool and Mount Gambier. It hosts the Wood, Wine and Roses Festival each February attracting a large number of visitors to the area. The Glenelg Shire has an office and there is a library depot as well. There is an

IGA supermarket and a number of shops, bakery, hardware store, garage, nursery, motel and an hotel. The town has great sporting facilities with cricket, tennis, football and netball teams

**St James', 7155 Princes Highway, Tyrendarra, Victoria. 3205**

St James is an older style building, recently renovated and repainted by Parish volunteers. There is small hall on the Church property. The congregation is passionate in retaining its services.

Tyrendarra is about 20 minutes east from Portland on the Princes Highway towards Warrnambool. It is primarily a farming community. The Community stage an Annual Show attracting many visitors to the town. The V-line bus also stops here. The town has very good sporting facilities with football, netball, tennis and cricket teams. There is also an Aboriginal site in the area which has been nominated for World Heritage Status.



