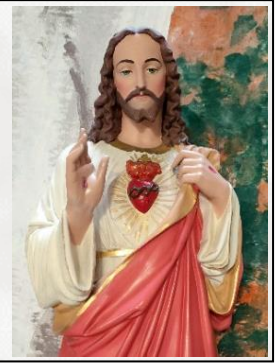




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



322 Bell St, Preston 3072
Phone (03) 9480 3398 or (03) 9484 2124
Email: preston@cam.org.au
Website: www.sacredheartpreston.com.au

Office Hours:

Mon, Thurs & Fri: 10:30am -4pm

Parish Priest: Fr Aloysius Nato, SVD

Italian Community Chaplain:

Fr Albano Da Costa, SVD 0478 963 248

Parish Office: Rachel Costa

School Principal: Mark Tierney

School Phone: 9487 1001

Sacrament Coordinator: TBA

Safeguarding Committee:

Safeguarding Officer: Robert Dullard

Safeguarding Committee: Members:

Mary Harb, Teresa Dang, Pauline O'Day

Parish Council Members, Mark Tierney,

Natalie Baran, Judeline Wadhvani

Liturgy Committee:

Chair – Judeline Wadhvani

Coordinators:

Lectors and Audio Visual – Jessy Thambiraj

Music – Carolina Constable

Safeguarding – Pauline O'Day

Hospitality, Altar & Environment – Marilène Fortuna

Parish Finance Committee:

Peter Constable (Chair)

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Xavier Ndour (President) 0402 173 236

Parish Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses:

Saturday: 6:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am (*Italian*), 10:30 am, 6:00 pm

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Friday: 9:10am

Healing Mass: 1st Friday of February,

May, August & November at 1:30pm

Next Healing Mass: Friday 2 May 2025

Devotional Practices:

NEW TIME for Adoration of the

Blessed Sacrament:

Every Wednesday Morning after the
9:10am Mass for 30 minutes.

Commencing 26 February.

(NO Adoration Thursday 20 February)

Holy Rosary: Thurs after the 9:10am Mass

Reconciliation: Every Saturday at 5:15pm

Baptisms & Weddings: By appointment only

Cuppa with Fr Aloysius

1st Monday of the month, the next one is on

Monday 3 March in the presbytery after

9:10am Mass. All welcome

Bulletin printed: 14/2/2025

*Our Parish is committed to the safety,
wellbeing and dignity of all children
and vulnerable adults.*



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

Sunday 16 February 2025

Happy Are The Poor?

We are unlikely to consider ourselves blessed or happy when we cannot pay our bills or put food on the table. We are likewise slow to count our blessings, much less dance for joy, when we find ourselves in tears or when we are excluded, rejected, and treated with contempt. We are more likely to consider ourselves blessed when we do not have to be constantly worried about money or food and when others treat us with respect.

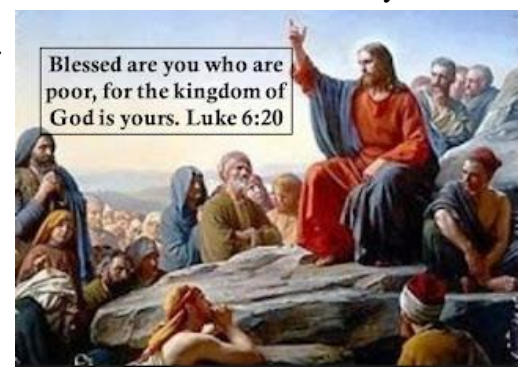
So why does Luke's Jesus declare the poor and suffering happy or blessed? And why does He seem to be so hard on those who enjoy economic security and the respect of others? What does the gospel say to those of us who are somewhere between the destitute who are declared blessed and the wealthy who are told to watch out? What does this gospel offer to those who attract neither praise nor blame? There are no easy answers to any of this, beyond the clear evidence that Luke's Sermon on the Plain engages the theme of reversal that permeates this gospel and it's about Jesus' being letting us know that God is immersed with us in the realities and contradictions of our lives and our world.

The poor are told that the reign of God is theirs. In other words, it is a present rather than a future reality. The poor can at least know that they are acceptable to God in ways that may be incomprehensible to the wealthy who, in their turn, are challenged to share their wealth and also look down on the poor and the struggling – as if it was their fault. It is not much consolation for the hungry or those who weep to know that their “reward will be great in heaven” if heaven is a place enjoyed only in the afterlife.

“Heaven” is better understood as a way of talking about God's empire of justice and compassion. Reversal is expected in this life rather than the next. Weeping is usually connected in the prophetic literature with the disasters that flow from “ungodly” decisions. In our times, there are many weeping over “ungodly” decisions in relation to asylum seekers and carbon emissions. Laughter seems a remote possibility for many displaced people of our world. We are reminded today of the gospel imperative to work and pray that war-torn and climate affected countries will once again resonate with the sound of happy laughter.

Finally, our experience makes us wary of those who flatter us or put us on pedestals. It is generally only a matter of time before we fall from favour and find ourselves on the receiving end of criticism or even attack. It is ultimately better to be misunderstood and to be at peace with one's conscience in the pursuit of compassion and justice than to be the object of adulation and praise. I suspect it is only in handling life's challenges with dignity, grace, and single-minded focus on the gospel that we find blessing or happiness.

(Sr. Veronica Lawson RSM)



Sacred Heart Parish Prayer

Loving God, we honour the heart of Jesus, your beloved Son. We remember how he opened his heart in love to all people. Open our own heart to receive the gifts that continue to flow so richly from the heart of Christ, who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

Sat 6pm Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion	Altar Servers
08-Feb-	Marlene Vergou Mary Harb	Terry Murphy	
15-Feb-	Terry Murphy	Charlotte Bainy	
22-Feb-	Marlene Vergou Terry Murphy	Mary Harb	

Sun 10:30am Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion	Slide Projection	Altar Servers
09-Feb-	Judeline Wadhvani Jessica Suppiah	Gerard Grant	Judeline	
16-Feb-	Judeline Wadhvani Marilène Fortuna	Eileen Stevens	Judeline	
23-Feb-	Jessica Suppiah Ophelia Swai	Mia Grant	Judeline	

Sun 6pm Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion
09-Feb-	Snehita Antony Susan Bakani	Damian Casamento
16-Feb-	John Gaffney Jenifer Cahapay	Natalie Baran
23-Feb-	John Gaffney Shanthi Antony	Damian Casamento

A Heartfelt Thanks to All Our Volunteers Attention Ministers of Communion and Lectors

Liturgical Ministers Roster

The current Liturgical Ministers roster will conclude on 23 February and the next roster (1/2 March to 28/29 June) will be prepared in the next few weeks. Kindly advise your availability as Lector or Minister of Communion by contacting Rachel by 4pm Monday 17/2- preston@cam.org.au or 9480 3398 Thank you.



WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Charlene Apollos, Sandra Bishop, John Storrie, Joan Bonwick, Oliver and James Mendis
Our parishioners, family members and friends, that they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect.

Those who have died recently:

Yannick Vergou, RIP 9/2

We Commemorate:

Ted Murphy – Sat 15/2 at 6pm
Rocco Pennella – 25th Anniv. – Sun 16/2 at 9am
Pasquale, Rosaria, Caterina, Giovanni Butera,
Nicola, Bruno Nicolazzo, Dino & Nunziata Dintino. – all Sun 16/2 at 9am
Stefano Raco 1st Anniv. - Sun 16/2 at 10:30am
*O Lord may perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.*



Last week's Collection: 9.2.2025

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,075
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$613
Thank you for your kind generosity!



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OUR TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

Sacred Heart Community Preston acknowledges the Wurundjeri People of the Kulin Nation, the traditional custodians of this Sacred land on which our Church stands. We acknowledge their unique wisdom and ability to care for Country and their deep spiritual connection to it. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.



† Solemnities / Feasts / Memorials of the Week †

Monday 17 February *The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order*
Tuesday 18 February *Blessed Fra Angelico*
Friday 21 February *St Peter Damian, Bishop, Doctor*
Saturday 22 February *The Chair of St Peter, Apostle*



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



Let us ask the Lord to make our hearts humble and receptive to hear His Word and the cry of our brothers and sisters. May we recognise His presence in the weaknesses and wounds of our world.



SACRED HEART PARISH

URGENTLY NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEERS

- Slide Projection (All Masses)
- Ministers of Communion (6:00 pm Saturdays)
- Lectors (6:00 pm Saturdays)

Please consider giving some of your time to serve in Our Lord's vineyard here at Sacred Heart Parish.

The more volunteers we have, the fewer times you will be rostered. Thanking all parishioners in anticipation of your generosity. Contact Rachel Costa, Parish Secretary at 9480 3398.

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Australian Catholic University is offering an excellent short online training course for current and prospective volunteers interested in this ministry. The parish will be happy to support volunteers by paying for the cost of the course. Please visit www.acu.edu.au/centreforliturgy/pastoral-training to get course details. Please speak to Rachel Costa, Parish Secretary at 9480 3398 about arranging payment for your attendance.



NEW TIME for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Commencing Wednesday 26 February, Adoration will be every Wednesday after the 9:10am morning Mass for 30 Minutes.



All are welcome to spend a holy time with our Lord Jesus in adoration.

"Stay with Me, remain here with Me... Watch and pray..."
(Please note: NO Adoration Thursday 20 February)



Sacrificial giving via QR code

To support our parish, you can make a donation by scanning this QR code which is unique to Sacred Heart Church, Preston. It will give you direct access to the CDF pay webpage by following a few easy steps. The QR code is also displayed in the Church foyer. Many thanks for your continued generosity and support to Sacred Heart parish



Characteristics of the Jubilee Opening of the Holy Doors

The Holy Door has a special symbolic significance: it is the most powerful sign of the Jubilee, since the pilgrim ultimately aims to pass through it. The opening of the door by the Pope constitutes the official beginning of the Holy Year. Originally there was only one door at the Basilica of St John Lateran which is the cathedral of the Bishop of Rome. Later, to allow as many pilgrims as possible to take part in the Jubilee experience, the other Roman Basilicas also opened their own holy doors.

Pope Francis opened the following 5 Holy Doors in this Year of Jubilee:

1. 24 December 2024 – St Peter's Basilica, Rome
 2. 26 December 2024 – Doors at Rebibbia prison in Rome for the first time ever
 3. 29 December 2024 – St John Lateran (San Giovanni Laterano). On this day Most Reverend Peter Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne formally declared the Jubilee Year open in Melbourne, at the 11 am Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral
 4. 1 January 2025 – Papal Basilica of Saint Mary Major (Santa Maria Maggiore) on the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
 5. 5 January 2025 – Papal Basilica of Saint Paul Outside the Walls
- In crossing the threshold of the Holy Door, the pilgrim is reminded of the passage from Chapter 10 of the gospel according to St John: "I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture."



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,
may the *faith* you have given us
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,
and the flame of *charity* enkindled
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,
reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen



Sacred Heart Primary School 2026 Enrolments

Enrolments for 2026 school year Foundation classes open Monday 3rd March.

For a school tour, please contact the school principal on 9487 1001 or via the school website:

<http://www.shpreston.catholic.edu.au>

At Sacred Heart School, our students are at the heart of every decision we make. Every day is Open Day and prospective students and their families are warmly invited to tour our school.



Children's activity pages

Please find in the foyer of the Church activity pages and pencils for young children to use quietly during Mass.



Parish Dance

The Social Committee of Sacred Heart Parish church are pleased to present to you the Parish Dance party that will take place on 1st of March at the Sacred Heart Hall at 7:00pm. Registration will be open from 6:30pm onwards.

DJ Starlight will be ensuring that you are on your toes. Games will see that you are entertained. Tea and coffee will be provided. BYO food and drink. The kitchen is inaccessible so heating of food and washing of dishes will not be possible.

Tickets are priced at

- \$15 for adults
- \$10 for children below 12

Discounts for group bookings are available.

- \$5 discount for groups of 5
- \$15 discount for groups of 10

Get entered into a draw for an early bird prize if you book your tickets by 16th February.

We are going paperless this time, so for bookings please scan the QR code here or on the poster at the foyer or book your tickets on

<https://events.humanitix.com/sacred-heart-parish-dance>

Those interested to assist with preparation and other activities on the day, please contact the social committee to express your interest.



♥ A HEART FULL OF LOVE ♥

"Faith makes all things possible.... love makes all things easy."

~ Dwight L Moody ~

Love is gentle, love is kind,
A feeling that lifts the heart and mind.

In simple acts, it comes alive,
In every gesture, it helps us thrive.

It's not in words, but in the way,
We care for others every day.

A smile, a touch, a listening ear,
Love is present, always near.

So, let's be kind, let's give, let's share,
Let love surround us everywhere.

For in each moment, great or small,
Love is the greatest gift of all.

♥XOX♥XOX♥XOX♥

Dear God,

may love give us strength in times of doubt, gentleness in times of frustration and wisdom in times of uncertainty. Help us to choose love in every moment and reflect Your goodness in all we do.

Amen.

Sourced from www.majellan.media



😊 Joke Corner 😊

Bob was in trouble. He forgot his wedding anniversary and his wife was really angry. She told him "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in 6 seconds AND IT BETTER BE THERE!" The next morning, he got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up, she looked out the window and sure enough there was a box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway. Confused, the wife put on her robe and ran out to the driveway, brought the box back in the house. She opened it and found a brand-new bathroom scale. Bob has not been seen for a week.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

PENITENTIAL ACT

I confess to almighty **God** and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

And, striking their breast, they say:
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore, I ask blessed Mary Ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 17:5-8

The Lord says this:

‘A curse on the man who puts his trust in man, who relies on things of flesh, whose heart turns from the Lord.

He is like dry scrub in the wastelands: if good comes, he has no eyes for it, he settles in the parched places of the wilderness, a salt land, uninhabited.

‘A blessing on the man who puts his trust in the Lord, with the Lord for his hope.

He is like a tree by the waterside that thrusts its roots to the stream: when the heat comes it feels no alarm, its foliage stays green; it has no worries in a year of drought, and never ceases to bear fruit.’

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 1:1-4,6

The Response Is:

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked; nor lingers in the way of sinners

nor sits in the company of scorners, but whose delight is the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night.

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters, that yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade; and all that he does shall prosper.

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

Not so are the wicked, not so!

For they like winnowed chaff shall be driven away by the wind: for the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom.

Happy are they who hope in the Lord.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20

If Christ raised from the dead is what has been preached, how can some of you be saying that there is no resurrection of the dead? For if the dead are not raised, Christ has not been raised, and if Christ has not been raised, you are still in your sins. And what is more serious, all who have died in Christ have perished. If our hope in Christ has been for this life only, we are the most unfortunate of all people. But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Rejoice and be glad;
your reward is great in heaven.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 6:17,20-26

Jesus came down with the Twelve and stopped at a piece of level ground where there was a large gathering of his disciples with a great crowd of people from all parts of Judaea and from Jerusalem and from the coastal region of Tyre and Sidon. Then fixing his eyes on his disciples he said:

‘How happy are you who are poor: yours is the kingdom of God.

Happy you who are hungry now: you shall be satisfied.

Happy you who weep now: you shall laugh.

Happy are you when people hate you, drive you out, abuse you, denounce your name as criminal, on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven. This was the way their ancestors treated the prophets.

‘But alas for you who are rich: you are having your consolation now.

Alas for you who have your fill now: you shall go hungry.

Alas for you who laugh now: you shall mourn and weep.

‘Alas for you when the world speaks well of you! This was the way their ancestors treated the false prophets.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE NICENE CREED.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, *(At the words that follow, up to and including ‘and became man’, all bow.)* and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

