

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

15th September - 16th September 2018

First Reading: Isaiah 50:5-9

I gave my body to those who struck me.

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 114:1-6,8-9

R/ I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

Second Reading: James 2:14-18

Faith without good works is dead.

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead. This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds - now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Gal 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

You are the Christ ... The Son of Man was destined to suffer much.

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him. And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

The Gospel of the Lord.



Sacred Heart Parish

Preston

322 Bell St, Preston 3072

Parish Contacts: Phone: (03) 9480 3398 Or (03) 9484 2124

Email: preston@cam.org.au Website: www.sacredheartpreston.com.au



Office Hours:

Tuesday to Friday
10.00am - 12.30pm

Parish Priest:

Fr Jan Szweda, SVD

Priests in Residence:

Fr Ennio Mantovani SVD

Fr Phuong Vu SVD, La Trobe
University Chaplain

Parish Office: Cristina Agius

School Principal: Mark Tierney

School Phone: 9484 3514

Sacrament Co-ordinator:

Judeline Wadhvani

Child Safety Officer:

Judeline Wadhvani

Contact: 0490660787

judeline.wadhvani@gmail.com

Parish Council Members:

Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),

Kay Dufty (secretary), Gerard

Grant, Ophelia Swai, Anisasio

(Pauline) Veamatahau, Mark

Tierney, Timothy Nolan,

Fr Jan Szweda SVD

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 Thursday of
the month at 1.30pm

DEVOTIONAL PRACTICES:

Adoration of the Blessed

Sacrament: Wednesday after
9.10am Mass

Holy Rosary: Thursday

(English) & Friday (Italian) after
9.10am Mass

Legion of Mary: Thursday

7.30pm, in the Presbytery

Reconciliation:

Weekdays: 30 minutes before
Mass or by appointment

Baptisms & Weddings:

By appointment only

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

15th September - 16th September 2018

“And You, Who do You Say that I Am?”

Today we come to the centre of Mark's Gospel; the moment of declaration by the disciples about who they believed Jesus really is. He has come, not as a conquering liberator or ruler. He is one who “dwelt among us.” Up to this point in the gospel of Mark, Jesus has been healer and teacher. He has taught random crowds attracted by his healings. He has identified with the poor, the unclean, the sinner and the vulnerable. Like a child places all his/her trust in a loving parent, so Jesus has continued his mission with complete trust in a loving compassionate God. So the question is raised, who is this Jesus of Nazareth? When Jesus asks his disciples what people are saying about him they reply that he is seen as a teacher like one of the prophets who went before him.

The gospel now confronts us with a double dare – as it would have confronted the early Christians threatened with exclusion in some places, betrayal or even persecution.

The first comes from Jesus' second question to the disciples: “Who do you (not other people) say that I am? Peter professes that He is the long awaited ‘anointed one’ – the Christ. But he doesn't as yet get what Jesus' mission will imply. The second part of the dare comes from Jesus' insistence that to follow him is to walk the way of the cross and that to find life we must first put our life on the line. Together these two challenges dare us to arrive at core convictions that will direct what we make of our lives.

It is not enough to declare with Peter that Jesus is the Christ. Clearly the gospels witness that Jesus came to bring life. We must let this faith, as James tells us in today's second reading, flower into good works. Dare we? James states, “If good works do not go with it, is quite dead.”

When Mother Teresa was suffering poor health and receiving medical treatment in 1983, she asked for a pen and wrote the following meditation – her reply to the question, “Who do you say Jesus is?”

Who is Jesus to me? The Word made flesh: The bread of life. The victim offered at the Holy Mass for the sins of the world and mine...The way to be walked. The joy to be shared. The peace to be given. The leper-to wash his wounds. The beggar – to give him a smile. The drunkard – to listen to him. The mentally ill person – to protect him...the little one - to embrace him; the crippled - to walk with him. The drug addict – to befriend him... ”

If Jesus was to ask me today: “**Who do you say that I am?**”
From my heart, what would be my reply?





Your Child's First Holy Communion IS a big deal!

As Catholics, we know that the Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith: it is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Pope Francis has called it the "Sacrament of Love":

"The Eucharist is at the heart of 'Christian initiation', together with Baptism and Confirmation, and it constitutes the source of the Church's life itself. From this Sacrament of love, in fact, flows every authentic journey of faith, of communion, and of witness."

For children who are preparing to receive their First Holy Communion, this is a big deal. And for all of us, no matter how many times we have received Our Lord in the Holy Eucharist; it should always be a big deal. What makes it so special the first time is the same thing that makes it special every time!

Jesus comes to us in a unique way in the Eucharist. When He comes, we receive Him into our body and our soul. This is very beautiful, personal, and intimate. We should not take it for granted!

This is why the first time a family member makes their Holy Communion, it is an exciting event for the whole family. The boy or girl preparing for this sacrament is going to be profoundly united with Jesus in a way that they never have before!

Unfortunately, for many of us Catholics, First Holy Communion has become simply a rite of passage. The essence of the celebration is lost among the parties and gifts. "Parties and gifts are fine, as long as the focus never strays from what the celebration is truly about." St. Mother Teresa has words for you and your family: "Jesus has made Himself the Bread of Life to give us life. Night and day, He is there. If you really want to grow in love, come back to the Eucharist..."

Whitney Hetzel, The Catholic Company

Today's Reflection

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." MARK 8:34

When we truly believe that all we have is a gift from God, then we must be willing to give up some things so that we can share our blessings as God intended. Living a stewardship lifestyle means not only being responsible for our own life, but the lives of others as well.

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference Social Justice Statement 2018-2019

Each year the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference issues a Social Justice Statement to coincide with Social Justice Sunday (30 September 2018). This year the Statement is titled A PLACE TO CALL HOME – Making a Home for Everyone in our Land. The Statement discusses Homeless and Housing.

In order to give this Statement as much publicity as possible, we intend to hold a public event:

WALK OF WITNESS


Led by Bishop Mark Edwards, OMI
Tuesday 18th September 2018.
The Walk of Witness will commence in Federation Square at 12.30pm with the Parable of The Good Samaritan. At 1.00 the Walk will proceed from Federation Square to St. Patrick's Cathedral, with a stop on the Steps of the Victorian Parliament (approx. 1.45pm), arriving at St. Patrick's Cathedral at 2.00pm, where Bishop Mark will officially launch the Statement for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. [Total distance 1.5kms]
This Walk of Witness is an action of solidarity with the thousands of people who are homeless and for the many others for whom dignified housing is becoming an unrealised dream.
All are welcome to participate, and to bring school/parish/organisation banners, as we proceed through the streets of one of the world's most liveable cities.

JESUIT COLLEGE OF SPIRITUALITY: OPEN DAY

Thursday 27th September, 3pm-5.30pm
Jesuit College of Spirituality, 175 Royal Parade, Parkville

We welcome and encourage prospective students to attend our Open Day. It will be an opportunity to meet the JCS Staff, faculty and existing students and to see the college and ask questions.

Details: <http://jcs.edu.au/events/open-day/>



WORLD ROSARY DAY

Sunday 7th October 2018

Countries around the world are joining to hold Rosary Rallies to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. Together we are calling upon God through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of the Rosary. The World Rosary started on 15 August (Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary) with a '54-day Novena' that will continue until the feast of the Holy Rosary on 7th October. Each nation has been asked to pray for its own intentions on the day. The Australian intentions are family, rekindling of faith and continued Godly protection.

Details: Jane from OzRosary on 0476 535 59 or <http://holyleagueofnations.com>

MUSCLE FOR MARRIAGE

Wednesdays 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st October, 7pm - 9pm
Cardinal Knox Centre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne

Marriage can be tough but like anything worth having, it's worth working for! How do we build the strength and endurance to go the distance? Classical wisdom tells us that character and virtues are the key. Run over four Wednesday evenings in October, Muscle for Marriage will help you build the discipline, courage and wisdom needed to run the race.

Register: www.trybooking.com/WNRN

Cost: \$50 a couple for all four sessions or \$15 a couple for one session (Includes materials and a light wine and cheese supper)

FEAST OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Sunday 14th October, 10.30am
St Francis of Assisi Parish, 290 Childs Road, Mill Park

We will begin the celebrations of the Feast of St Francis of Assisi with the Solemn Mass of St Francis of Assisi, followed by a family lunch in the school courtyard, with musical entertainment and a jumping castle from 12pm and a blessing of the animals at 2pm. Prize for the most exotic pet. All are welcome.

Details: 9407 6700 or www.cam.org.au/millpark





WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick
Emelda Griffin & Bautista Family

Our loved ones who died recently
Pasqua Trentin

Those recommended to our prayers
Alberto Fattori (9th Anni.) & Santa Steccanella

O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

CHURCH RENOVATIONS

Renovation of our church building is now scheduled to begin at the end of this month. All metal parts of the church roof and all gutters will be replaced.

Thank you for your generous donations towards this work.


Ministers of the Eucharist & Readers required

The next ministers and readers roster is being prepared. New Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist are very welcome. Ministers and readers, please advise if you are unable to continue or advise of dates when you will be unavailable. Ring Pauline on 9484 2445 or the Parish Office on 9480 3398 this week please!

Cleaning Roster: Saturday 22nd September 2018

Rebecca/Belinda

Thank you for your time!



Roster for weekend of 22nd - 23rd September

	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6.00pm	Terry Murphy Renato Tonini	Mary Harb Charlotte Bainy
Sun 9.00am (Italian)	Ilardi L. Capobianco A.	Recchia I. Roda G.
Sun 10.30am	Judeline Wadhvani Sonya Bading	Giovanna D'Intino George Mc Brien
Sun 6.00pm	Cameron Dunn Tim Rankin	Margaret Rankin

DATES TO REMEMBER


Sunday 30th September:
ACBC - Social Justice Sunday

Sunday 20th October - 18th November:
Parish Stewardship Program

Last Week's Collection: 09/09/18

1st Collection for our Church: \$1472.30
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$488.70

Thank you for your kind generosity!



Dear Sacred Heart Parishioners, Sacred Heart Mission Op Shop opened with a bang last Friday. To thank the parish for its support in sourcing volunteers and stock, we would like to provide a 25% discount on your next purchase.

Simply bring your copy of the newsletter to receive 25% off. Valid until 30th September 2018.

Jacob (Store Coordinator)

