

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

3rd - 4th November 2018

First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord with all your heart.

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your children and grandchildren. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow. 'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R.v.2

R/ I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal priesthood.

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him. To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia! All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

This is the first commandment, and the second is similar to it.

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

The Gospel of the Lord

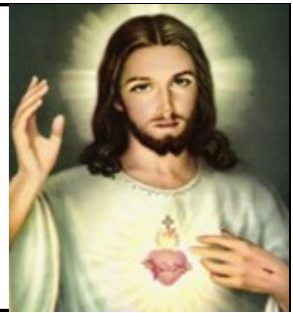
*We love God because He has loved us first.
We love our neighbour because we can't love the God we haven't seen
unless we love those made in His image and likeness, whom we have seen.*



Sacred Heart Parish Preston

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31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B 3rd - 4th November 2018

"God Is Love"

Jesus is noted for preaching and living what we call the Law of Love. In today's Gospel a devout and sincere scribe approaches him and asks, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus quickly responds in the words of the "Shema Yis'ra'il" from Deuteronomy 6, and what every devout Jew recites as a Creed daily... "Hear O Israel, that the Lord God is One and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strengthand, (Jesus adds)...your neighbour as yourself"

Jesus is affirming to the scribe that, certainly Love of God comes first. It derives from gratitude for God's communication of unconditional Love through the liberating actions in the lives of His people. But love of God is of its very nature relational and inspires reciprocal, communal and outreaching love for others. These two sides of the life of faith – love of God and neighbour cannot be separated. They sum up the whole biblical story and the Law given to Moses around which Communal life functioned.

The friendly scribe goes on to offer a lengthy commendation to Jesus repeating word for word Jesus' reply and adding that all this is "much more important than burnt offerings or sacrifices". Celebration of the love of God in Ritual and Communal gatherings is a fundamental expression of Religious faith systems, but remains detached unless it motivates observers to live the kind of life God wants from us.

Loving God then implies loving our neighbour. Not just the helpful neighbour, the Christian neighbour, the generous one, or one whose need provokes a sense of guilt in us. God's love is unconditional.

The originality of Jesus lies in two things: the personal testimony of God's love that compelled him to seek out and comfort the forgotten, abused and isolated and the revelation that in him the infinite love of God has taken flesh and dwelt amongst us. The Law of Love has compassion at its base. Compassion means identifying with the suffering of others and drawing them in to participate in God's love. Every day Jesus becomes present to us in different guises – not necessarily attractive to the eye, sometimes challenging but recognised by truly compassionate hearts.

Today once more, we gather as 'Church - the 'Body of Christ'' to share and hear the Word and celebrate God's love for us in the gift of the Eucharist. Let us focus on those vital words of Consecration... 'This is my body which will be given for you...this is my blood ...shed for you and for all.' Let us draw strength from the commitment of each other and go out and think about how we can live Jesus' concluding words: "Do this in memory of me!"



Office Hours:

Tues to Fri: 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

M: 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

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Pauline O'Day (President)

Ph: 9484 2445

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



Parish Stewardship Program Community Weekend

Welcome to week three of our Parish Stewardship Program.

This week celebrates the role of our parish as a community of faith – as an authentic community where people are welcomed, known and loved. It is a place of care, support and outreach – with a clear mission to live the values of the Gospel.

This means that we have a responsibility to use our gifts and talents for the benefit of others – making our time available to be involved in one of our many Groups and Ministries. We all have a contribution to make – so have a look at the “Groups & Ministries” form to see what best suits you.

Today we will hear from parishioners who will share with us the impact of faith and our parish on their lives and how important it is for us all to make our contribution to parish life. We thank them for doing so!

PARISH ‘OUR FUTURE’ FORUM

A final reminder about our special meetings coming up this week - **Parish Forum on Wednesday 7th November at either 10.00am or 7.00pm in the Church.** This is a great opportunity to get together, celebrate our achievements and discuss our plans for the future. Light refreshments will also be provided. If you have not already done so, please complete the RSVP cards available at all Masses over this weekend.

POPE FRANCIS SAYS

“A parish is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a centre of constant missionary outreach” – Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium 28

Welcome to Fr. Michael Morgan

Next weekend, we will welcome to our parish Fr. Michael Morgan. This is part of the Parish Stewardship Program where the fourth Sunday is celebrated by a priest from outside the parish. He will celebrate all masses on the weekend of 10th/11th November. Fr Morgan is not a stranger to our parish; years ago he grew up here. In turn, I will go to celebrate masses at St Anne’s in Sunbury.

Dates to Remember

3rd/4th November - 17th/18th November:

Parish Stewardship Program

Last Week’s Collection: 28/10/18

1st Collection for our Church: \$1284.85
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$665.50
Thank you for your kind generosity!



Stewardship Program Prayer

Lord, we thank you for calling us to be your Church. Through our Baptism we are called to service and to witness. In the Eucharist we sustain and strengthen that call. By serving others we follow your example and proclaim our beliefs. By our Christian generosity we demonstrate our love and care. Lord, help us always to worship you as you deserve, to grow in faith and service and to give without counting the cost. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



Bible Study: Gospel of Mark, The Person of Jesus

When: 6th November - 11th December (Tuesdays for 6 weeks)
Where: Sacred Heart Church, Preston
Time: 7.30pm - 9.00pm
By: Fr. Phuong Vu, SVD



Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser.
Volunteers Needed!!!
The Parish Social Group
Is organising another
Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser.



When: Saturday, 17th November, from 9 am to 5 pm
Where: Woolworths Preston
We ask for volunteers to help raise funds towards our church building renovation. For more information please see Ophelia or Fr. Jan after masses.



The **St. Vincent de Paul** conference meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Presbytery. If anyone is interested in becoming a member or to assist in the managing of the Piety Stall, please contact Pauline O’Day on 9484 2445.

“The knowledge of social wellbeing is learned in climbing the stairs of the poor man’s garret, sitting by his bedside, feeling the cold that pierces him and sharing the secrets of his lonely heart and mind.”

Frederick Ozanam-
Founder of St Vincent de Paul Society

Next weekend 10th & 11th November, there will be a special collection for:

CATHOLIC DEAF

Taizé Evening Prayer

Friday 9th November, 6.30pm
Trinity College Chapel, 100 Royal Parade, Parkville

Come and share a meal and prayer while Br Matthew from Taizé is visiting Melbourne. A Taizé prayer service will be held at 8pm at the Trinity College Chapel, with singing practice at 7.30pm. All welcome to attend. Access via the 19 tram line, along Royal Parade.

Cost: dinner \$5 per person
More information: taize.melbourne@gmail.com

Taizé All Day Retreat

Saturday 10th November, 10am
Merc Hub, 67 Nicholson Street, Carlton North

The day will consist of three prayer services (just like at Taizé), song practice, shared meals, small-group discussions and silent reflection. Brother Matthew will be visiting from Taizé. For ages 18-35 (All ages welcome for evening prayer).

Yarra Theological Union Information Night

Tuesday 13th November, 7.30–8.30pm
YTU Study Centre, 34 Bedford Street, Box Hill
Study Theology as an undergraduate or postgraduate student for credit or choose to enrol for your own interest, without completing essays for credit. All are welcome to come along and find out more. Feel free to bring a friend. No booking required. FEE HELP available.

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 **PLENARY COUNCIL 2020:**
WHAT IS GOD ASKING
OF US IN
AUSTRALIA AT THIS TIME?
Have your say by Wednesday 6th March, 2019
Details: <http://www.cam.org.au/plenary/>

WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Margaret Doyle, Joan McNamara, Irene Navascues, Veronica Parkes, Rosie Potter & Yvonne Tierney



Our loved one who died recently
Theresa Bittar

Those recommended to our prayers

Helen Dahdah, James Dahdah, Antonio Sammartino, Nicola Sammartino, Teresa Sammartino, Giovanni Scapin, Vincent Shannon, Mario Trentin, Rosina Vita and all deceased members of the Cali, Corso, D’Alberto, D’Aversa, De Fanis, Di Carlo, Facciolo, Francesco Ferrieri, Francescina Fuscald, Gagliano, Iacobucci, Salvatore Ielo, Loffo, Loria, Meuli, Assunta Mirabelli, Montagnese, Paiano, Panarello, Quattrone, Reale, Rotundo, Russo, Scarpino, Siciliano & Vernni families.

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

End of Year Ball: Fundraiser for Young Catholic’s Men’s & Women’s Movement

Saturday 10th November, 7pm, St Brigid’s Parish Hall, 378 Nicholson Street, Fitzroy North
All proceeds will go towards the ministries of YMG North (young men’s movement) and Blessed Is She (young women’s movement).
This is an 18+ event. ID is required.
Bookings: www.trybooking.com/YAIE

Cleaning Roster: Saturday 10th November 2018



Anna/Volunteer

Thank you for your help!

Roster for weekend of 10th - 11th November

	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6.00pm	Peter Hudson Renato Tonini	Marlene Vergou Barbara Fitzgerald
Sun 9.00am (Italian)	Fattori A. Bozzella C.	Mancini M. Recchia I.
Sun 10.30am	Moira O’Brien Catherine Zanatta	Eileen Stevens Ivana Lo Bello
Sun 6.00pm	Carolina Constable Peter Constable	Damien Casamento