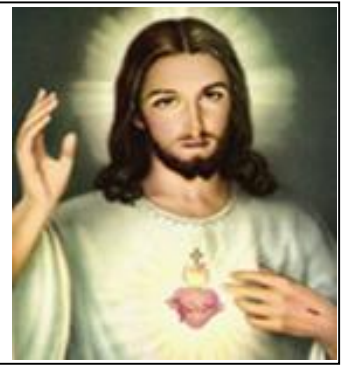




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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: 10am -3pm

Parish Priest

Fr Aloysius Nato, SVD

Ph: 0428 715 282

Italian Community Chaplain:

Fr Albano Da Costa, SVD

Ph: 0478 963 248

Parish Office: Rachel Costa

School Principal: Mark Tierney

School Phone: 9487 1001

Sacrament Coordinator: TBA

Safeguarding Committee:

Safeguarding Officers:

Robert Dullard: 0433 401 958

Kay Duffy: 0431 376 212

Safeguarding Committee: Members:

Mary Harb: 0422 891 324

Teresa Dang : 0434 583 911

Pauline O'Day: 0497 935 593

Parish Council Members:

Gerard Grant (chairperson), Kay Duffy

(secretary), Ophelia Swai, Anisasio (Pauline)

Veamatahau, Mark Tierney, Ben Fortuna and

Natalie Baran

Parish Finance Committee:

Peter Constable (Chair)

Ph: 0425 779 831

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Stephen Costello (President)

Ph: 0432 405 417

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 the month
at 1:30pm

Please note: No healing Mass in April.

Next Healing Mass:

Friday 5 May

Devotional Practices:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Thursday at 7:30pm for 1 hour



Holy Rosary: Thursday (English) after the
9:10am Mass

Reconciliation:

30 minutes before Mass or by appointment

Baptisms & Weddings: By appointment only

Bulletin printed 24/3/2023

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year A) Sunday 26 March 2023

“I Shall Put My Spirit in You and You Shall Live.” Ezekiel 37

Are we fully alive or are we dwelling amongst the dead? That’s the question posed by the word of God today- to which we might give an immediate reply: “Of course we’re alive!” Today we are challenged to think twice before responding with such certainty. Some of our patterns of thinking, feeling and behaving may not be life-giving or life-sharing at all though this fact may escape us, particularly when we feel weighed down by the day to day pressures of life. Without realizing it day after day, and for better or for worse, we can take up the values and assumptions of our culture to the extent that these persuade us to become bound up in our own self-interest. We can put our energies into material security and social status at the expense of genuine sharing God’s mercy with those who share this planet with us. So we are not really ‘dwelling among the living’ nor are we being life affirming.’ But if we have the courage to look more deeply into our lives and discover how imprisoned we may have become in our cocoons of comfort or habit, we will be thrilled today to hear Ezekiel and Jesus commanding us to come forth from our graves. We will rejoice when Jesus declares: “Unbind him, and let him go free!”. The priest and prophet Ezekiel who with his people lived through the terrible hell of exile, separation and statelessness never ceased to acclaim hope in God’s Spirit for Restoration of his people and Return to their homeland of Israel.

The readings from Ezekiel, St Paul and the Gospel which tells of the raising of Lazarus all converge on the theme of coming to life and that sums up our whole faith journey as disciples of Jesus. Like the Israelites of old, there may be times of grief, loss and despair when we might be tempted to say: ‘Our hope is gone, our bones are dried up.’ And yet it is precisely at such a time that God breaks through to us again through the power of the Spirit within. All this is possible through the resurrection of Jesus, for in that transforming event the Spirit of God is made available to us all.

Lent has been challenging yet enriching. We have been urged to stand back from values and securities that we may have held as certainties – sometimes at another’s or our community’s expense – to arrive at a broader perception of life lived in God. The story of Lazarus, placed as it is at this point on our journey towards Easter reveals through Jesus that God who is immersed in and shares our humanity is our life source within those tragedies and fears that would threaten to bind and stifle us as human beings. As Lent draws to a close, let us be mindful of the promise of God being offered to us: “*I shall put my Spirit in you and you shall live!*” and let us ask for the grace of the Spirit to be alive to God and to our brothers and sisters in need.



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.

	Saturday 6:00PM Mass - Readers	Saturday 6:00PM Mass - Ministers of Communion
18-Mar-23	Celia Lemos Mary Harb	Terry Murphy
25-Mar-23	Rohan Lemos Terry Murphy	Charlotte Bainy
01-Apr-23	Marlene Vergou Teresa Dang	Mary Harb

	Sunday 10:30AM Mass - Readers	Sunday 10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion
19-Mar-23	Hannah Lopez Judeline Wadhvani	Giovanna D' Intino
26-Mar-23	Jessy Thambiraj Ivana Lo Bello	Eileen Stevens
02-Apr-23	Jessica Suppiah Marilene Fortuna	Tony Eley

	Sunday 6:00PM Mass - Readers	Sunday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion
19-Mar-23	Carolina Constable Peter Constable	Robert Dullard
26-Mar-23	Albert D'Souza Tim Rankin	Damian Casamento
02-Apr-23	Carolina Constable Peter Constable	Robert Dullard

*A Heartfelt Thank You
TO ALL OF OUR
AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!*
We couldn't do it without you!

Volunteers
*To all our Volunteers
Thank you for your hard work*



WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Sandra Bishop, John Plum

Our parishioners, family members and friends, that they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect.

Those who have died recently:

Joseph Tran (RIP 20/3. Funeral Thur 30/3 at 11am)

We Commemorate:

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



Last Week's Collection: 19/3/23

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,073

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$770

Thank you for your kind generosity!



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.



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.



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



Every human person is sacred and inviolable. To ensure that a society has a future, it is necessary that a sense of respect be matured for the dignity of every person, no matter in what condition they find themselves.



Dates to Remember

All Thursdays during Lent –

Lenten reflection – “The Seven Last Words of Christ” and Adoration – 7:30pm – in the Church

All Fridays during Lent –

Stations of the Cross – 6:30pm – in the church



Welcome before Baptism

Dear Parents, as you prepare for your child's Baptism, the people of Sacred Heart rejoice that you have chosen to baptize your child and we pray that in the coming years you and your family will continue to know and grow in the love of God, that is everlasting.

The Parish introduces to the Sacred Heart community

Ma Emma Ramona Subedi,

in preparation for her Baptism on 29 March



Baptism Congratulations

The community of Sacred Heart Parish congratulates

Victoria Matthews

for her Baptism

on 26 March.



Holy Week Program 2023

Sun 2 April

Palm Sunday – normal weekend Masses

Thurs 6 April

Mass of the Last Supper at 7:30pm

Fri 7 April

Good Friday

10:00am - “The Seven Last Words of Christ”

followed by Stations of the Cross

3:00pm - Commemoration of the Passion & Death of Our Lord

Sat 8 April

Easter Vigil Mass at 7:30pm

Sun 9 April

Easter Sunday - normal Sunday Masses

Please Note:

There will be no morning Masses on

Holy Thursday 6/4, Good Friday 7/4 and Holy Saturday 8/4



****IMPORTANT: End of daylight saving****

Daylight Saving Time ends next Sunday 2 April

2023, when clocks will go backwards one hour at 3am. So don't forget to change your clocks before you go to bed on Saturday night (1 April).



Volunteers Needed

Are you available to participate in our Holy Week Ceremonies 2nd to 9th April?

Readers, Ministers of Communion, Altar servers, leaders of music, projectionists, those who clean and prepare the church, collectors are all needed for:

Palm Sunday Masses

Holy Thursday Evening

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross

3pm Celebration of the Lords Passion

Easter Vigil Mass

If you can assist, please put your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet in the church foyer or email Rachel at:

preston@cam.org.au or phone 9480 3398. Thank you

More Volunteers Needed

Volunteers – male or female, any age -are needed for washing of feet for the Holy Thursday Mass. Those who are interested please put your name on the sign-up sheets in the church foyer or email Rachel at: preston@cam.org.au or phone 9480 3398. Thank you

Project Compassion Fifth Sunday of Lent



Project Compassion brings together Australian schools, parishes and supporters to raise funds for people in vulnerable communities across the world. This year, we introduced you to the story of four inspiring people whose lives have been transformed with your generous support: Laxmi, Tereesa, Priscilla and Thu. Today, they are creating a better world for their families, their communities and for all future generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.



You can donate through [Project Compassion](#) donation boxes and envelopes available in the Church foyer, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



Free Public Lecture in Melbourne

Wednesday the 29 March at 6pm there is a free public lecture, **'Works that Made the West: The Letters of St Paul.'** It is held at The Athanaeum Club, Melbourne CBD. For a free ticket to the evening follow this link; [Free Ticket to Public Lecture](#)



5th Sunday of Lent

Today's Gospel begins with an urgent message: "Lord, the one you love is ill." This message is also true for our world today, made ill by a human-led environmental crisis. Jesus' miraculous resurrection of Lazarus gives us hope that much can be done to restore the health of our beloved mother earth.

Let us pray:

O God who makes all things new, help us hold on to our faith, hope and love when we feel overwhelmed and discouraged by the daunting challenge of the environmental crisis. Deepen our courage and use us as instruments of the reconciliation and peace that you desire for all your creation. Amen".



Walk With Mary Sunday 26 March

2.00 pm St Patrick's Cathedral

Prayers and Holy Mass with
Bishop Columba Macbeth Green

Followed by Street Procession All welcome



Türkiye-Syria Earthquake Disaster

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake has unleashed devastation on Türkiye and Syria. Over 50,000 people have been killed, with many more injured and left homeless. After 12 years of war, Syria is at breaking point and desperately needs assistance.

We must act NOW

and help those affected by this catastrophe.

Your generous donation means our partners in Türkiye and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy.

Visit: www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey

or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.



Left: The destroyed Cathedral of Iskenderun. Photo: Caritas network. Right: Earthquake response by Caritas network. Photo Caritas network.



Sacred Heart Primary School 2024 Enrolments

Enrolments for the 2024 school year Foundation classes, open on Monday 6th March. For a school tour, please contact the school principal on 9487 1001 or via the school website

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

Our school was ranked in the top 7% of primary schools across Victoria for NAPLAN in 2022.

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.



Joke Corner

Some jokes about lightbulbs to remind us about Earth Hour:

How many psychiatrists does it take to change a lightbulb?

Only one, but the bulb has got to really want to change.

How many programmers does it take to screw in a lightbulb?

None. That's a hardware problem.

How many chiropractors does it take to change a lightbulb?

One, but it takes six visits.

How many jazz musicians does it take to replace a lightbulb?

A-one, a-two, a one-two-three-four!

How many paranoids does it take to change a lightbulb?

WHO WANTS TO KNOW?

How many politicians does it take to change a lightbulb?

One to change it, and another one to change it back again.

How many televangelists does it take to change a lightbulb?

But for the message of light to continue, send in your donation today.

Please take the bulletin home

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

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.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 129(130)

The Response Is:

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord, Lord, hear my voice!

O let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my pleading. **Response**

If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,

Lord, who would survive?

But with you is found forgiveness:

for this we revere you. **Response**

My soul is waiting for the Lord.

I count on his word.

My soul is longing for the Lord

more than watchman for daybreak.

(Let the watchman count on daybreak

and Israel on the Lord.) **Response**

Because with the Lord there is mercy

and fullness of redemption,

Israel indeed he will redeem

from all its iniquity. **Response**

SECOND READING

Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are

not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel

Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will not die for ever.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

John 11:3-7,17,20-27,33-45

Mary and Martha sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live,

and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and

the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me, but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me,

so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!'

The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

