



# Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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## 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 Co-ordinator:** TBA

### Safeguarding Committee:

#### Safeguarding Officers:

Robert Dullard: 0433 401 958

Kay Dufty: 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 Dufty (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

Please note: there will be **no** Mass on **Tuesday 27/12** and **Wednesday 28/12**

**Healing Mass: 1st Friday** of the month at 1:30pm

Please note new day.


**No healing Mass in January**

**Next Healing Mass:**

**Friday 3 February**

#### 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 23/12/2022



## The Nativity of the Lord 25 December 2022



Christmas is a very special time to gather together as a family. We celebrate again the coming of the Saviour and Redeemer foretold by the prophets - Jesus - Emmanuel born into the family of Mary and Joseph, and through them into the family of all humankind. We gather together to celebrate God's presence in our midst in the love and care shared within our families, in the companionship, kindness, care and compassion we have received and channel to others who are much less fortunate than ourselves.

In a family we do not choose one another. It is in a family that we learn what love is about. Love is giving, respecting and sharing. We accept and we get to love each other. Our Sacred Heart Family is a very special one, made up of brothers and sisters, old and young, coming from different lands and nations. In such a family we come to know, accept, love one another respecting each other's differences and needs. We do it because God has loved us first and taught us through the mission of Jesus that love, justice and the dignity of each human person is at the very heart of the Gospel by which we strive to live.

At Sacred Heart it is our shared mission to be an active, inclusive and respectful community. We strive to love and care for all, especially those in need. We like to be a family that welcomes everyone and celebrates together and, as we continue our journey we will strive to make our family an even better and safer one for all, especially our children, young people vulnerable persons in our midst or who live in fear or isolation.

But our commitment does not rest there.

Celebrating the presence of our Saviour and Lord, we gaze upon a newborn infant in an animal's feeding box in a makeshift animal shelter. Exposed to the elements he is protected only by two caring parents forced to quickly move from their home for a government census. The woman, suffering in full term of her pregnancy during the journey, the man desperate to find a safe and comfortable place for her to rest. – In their case a family without the protection and support of a family. It is not uncommon. *“So as we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, let us remember that he came on a mission of love for all of us but especially for the lost and broken. Those who have lost family and been forced to flee, through war, discrimination or violence. Like Mary and Joseph who contemplated Christ born homeless and rejected, we can learn to recognise the same Christ who does not find welcome and hospitality on our shores, the same Christ who does not find a room in people's hearts. We cannot worship the Christ child in truth without embracing the most vulnerable.”* Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen.

May this Christmas bring us all comfort, joy and peace, and inspire us all to be the love of Jesus to every person. And what better time could there be for us to renew our commitment to uphold the safety and dignity of each child, young or vulnerable person that they might thrive in a caring and supportive environment in our church community.



## 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.*

	<b>Saturday 6:00PM Mass - Readers</b>	<b>Saturday 6:00PM Mass - Ministers of Communion</b>
24-Dec-22	Celia Lemos Mary Harb	Terry Murphy
31-Dec-22	Marlene Vergou Rohan Lemos	Mary Harb
	<b>Sunday 10:30AM Mass - Readers</b>	<b>Sunday 10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion</b>
25-Dec-22	Ivana Lo Bello Marilene Fortuna	Giovanna D' Intino
01-Jan-23	Jessy Thambiraj Ophelia Swai	Eileen Stevens
	<b>Sunday 6:00PM Mass - Readers</b>	<b>Sunday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion</b>
25-Dec-22	Carolina Constable Peter Constable	Robert Dullard
01-Jan-23	Albert D'Souza Volunteer	Robert Dullard

### Cleaning Roster:

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



### WE PRAY FOR:

#### The elderly and the sick

*Shu-Fen Wu, Peter Bourke, Kay Dufty*  
Our parishioners, family members and friends, that they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect.

#### Those who have died recently:

*Mary Gangi (RIP 16/12. Funeral Thur 29/12 at 11am)*

#### We Commemorate:

*Frank Mendolicchio (15th Anniv)*

O Lord may perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen.



### Last Week's Collection: 18/12/22

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,220

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$1,140

Thank you for your kind generosity!



### ✠ Solemnities / Feasts / Memorials of the Week ✠

<i>Monday 26 Dec.</i>	<i>St Stephen, the First Christian Martyr</i>
<i>Tuesday 27 Dec.</i>	<i>St John, Apostle and Evangelist</i>
<i>Wednesday 28 Dec.</i>	<i>Feast of The Holy Innocents</i>
<i>Thursday 29 Dec .</i>	<i>St Thomas Becket, Bishop, Martyr</i>
<i>Friday 30 Dec.</i>	<i>Feast of the Holy Family</i>
<i>Saturday 31 Dec.</i>	<i>St Sylvester</i>



### Advent Candles:

### Christmas

Today is the day we have been preparing for throughout Advent. **Jesus is born.**

*All five candles are lit.*

We have been waiting for this day, Loving God. We have prepared ourselves for this special day. On this Christmas Day, let us live as those who let hope, peace, joy, and love reign in our lives. As the candles burn brightly and light our path, let us live as those who have the Christ's light burning inside us today and every day. Amen.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OUR TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

Sacred Heart Community Preston acknowledges the Wurundjeri Peo ple 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 pa y our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.



*The Sacred Heart Laudato Si' Circle wishes you, and your families, a very blessed Christmas.*

### **5 Rules for giving Christmas gifts in the spirit of Laudato Si'**

#### 1. AVOID OVER-CONSUMPTION:

Pope Francis "ensure that Christmas is never a celebration of commercial consumerism, but that it is a celebration of joyfully welcoming the Lord into the crib and into the heart."

2. **CHOOSE TO OFFER AN ACTIVITY OR A SERVICE:** We often think of material gifts, but immaterial ones can be just as pleasing.

#### 3. FAVOR LOCAL PRODUCTS:

The choice of local products not only supports local businesses, but also and above all respects nature by limiting the carbon footprint.

#### 4. RESPECT CREATION:

Pope Francis calls for the respect of Creation. This respect can be achieved by choosing to buy ecologically friendly products.

#### 5. ADOPT ECO-FRIENDLY PACKAGING:

Laudato Si' lists many simple things we can do, including "avoiding the use of plastic and paper" (No. 211).



### A Christmas Message from Archbishop Comensoli

14 December 2022

Friends, I recently heard an Advent prayer that has a striking line in it, describing Jesus' birth. It said:

[Jesus], when the soles of your feet touch the ground,

... you become one of us, to be at one with us.

The image of God's bare feet touching the earth is such an evocative one. Especially at this time of year, we know only too well what it feels like to do the 'great Aussie dance' across a hot beach or prickly lawn!

But of course, this image is far more than a physical reminder.

For Christmas is the divinity of God born into our humanity.

Through the Incarnation, God comes to us, withholding nothing of himself from us.

Barefooted—taking on our flesh, our human condition—in order to touch, and to be touched, in the particularities of our lives: this is Emmanuel—God with us.

Christmas is God placing an exclamation mark on his words, 'I am with you!'

Our God, whose name is Jesus, has walked with us through the tough years of the pandemic and is touching the ground now where healing and renewal is needed.

The Son of God is walking through the streets of Ukraine and Myanmar, Ethiopia and Lebanon, with feet bloodied from war, conflict and repression, yet still taking the steps needed towards peace and liberation. He has seen and felt both the joy of our existence and the suffering of those who are lost or vulnerable. He has awakened us to an attentiveness for our global humanity, and a care for our common home.

So I wonder if, this Christmas and for the year ahead, it is time to remove the 'shoes' that keep us from standing barefoot with Jesus—to feel the sacred ground of our lives with God?

Might we come before him 'barefoot' in our frailties, yet alive in the wonder of our humanity—made in his image—ready and willing to live as the people of God he has created us to be—fraternally, lovingly, caringly; generous, forgiving and hopeful.

May Jesus, the barefooted child of the living God, fill you and your loved ones with abundant joy and peace.

**Happy Christmas!**



*Readings for the Vigil and Night  
Masses on Christmas Eve*

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

The Lord said to me: You are my Son.  
It is I who have begotten you this day.

**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**

See page 4

**FIRST READING**

*Isaiah 9:1-7*

The people that walked in darkness has  
seen a great light; on those who live in a  
land of deep shadow a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater,  
you have made their joy increase; they  
rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at  
harvest time, as men are happy when they  
are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,  
the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his  
oppressor, these you break as on the day of  
Midian.

For all the footgear of battle, every cloak  
rolled in blood, is burnt, and consumed by  
fire.

For there is a child born for us, a son given  
to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders;  
and this is the name they give him:  
Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God,  
Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.

Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no  
end, for the throne of David and for his  
royal power, which he establishes and  
makes secure in justice and integrity.

From this time onwards and for ever,  
the jealous love of the Lord of Hosts will  
do this.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Psalm 95(96):1-3,11-13**

**The Response Is:**

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the  
Lord.*

O sing a new song to the Lord,

sing to the Lord all the earth.

O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the  
Lord.*

Proclaim his help day by day,

tell among the nations his glory

and his wonders among all the peoples.

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the  
Lord.*

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,  
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,

let the land and all it bears rejoice, all the  
trees of the wood shout for joy at the  
presence of the Lord for he comes, he  
comes to rule the earth.

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the  
Lord.*

With justice he will rule the world,

he will judge the peoples with his truth.

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the  
Lord.*

**SECOND READING**

*Titus 2:11-14*

God's grace has been revealed, and it has  
made salvation possible for the whole  
human race and taught us that what we  
have to do is to give up everything that does  
not lead to God, and all our worldly  
ambitions; we must be self-restrained and  
live good and religious lives here in this  
present world, while we are waiting in hope  
for the blessing which will come with the  
Appearing of the glory of our great God  
and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed  
himself for us in order to set us free from  
all wickedness and to purify a people so  
that it could be his very own and would  
have no ambition except to do good.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

I bring you news of great joy:

today a saviour has been born to us, Christ  
the Lord.

*Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL**

*Luke 2:1-14*

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a  
census of the whole world to be taken. This  
census – the first – took place while  
Quirinius was governor of Syria, and  
everyone went to his own town to be  
registered. So Joseph set out from the town  
of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to  
Judaea, to the town of David called  
Bethlehem, since he was of David's House  
and line, in order to be registered together  
with Mary, his betrothed, who was with  
child. While they were there the time came  
for her to have her child, and she gave birth  
to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in  
swaddling clothes, and laid him in a  
manger because there was no room for  
them at the inn.

In the countryside close by there were  
shepherds who lived in the fields and took  
it in turns to watch their flocks during the  
night. The angel of the Lord appeared to  
them and the glory of the Lord shone round  
them. They were terrified, but the angel  
said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you  
news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the  
whole people. Today in the town of David  
a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ  
the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you  
will find a baby wrapped in swaddling  
clothes and lying in a manger.' And  
suddenly with the angel there was a great

throne of the heavenly host, praising God  
and singing:

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

*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**

The Word became flesh, and we have  
seen his glory.



**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

**PENITENTIAL ACT**

See page 3

**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**

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!'

Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion.

Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem.

The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 97(98):1-6

**The Response Is:**

*All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.*

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders.

His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **Response**

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations.

He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **Response**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, ring out your joy. **Response**

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp with the sound of music.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. **Response**

**SECOND READING**

Hebrews 1:1-6

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father; or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-Born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, worship the Lord, for today a great light has shone down upon the earth.

*Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL**

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was with God and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him.

All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him.

He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims:

'This is the one of whom I said:

He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.

No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

*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**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.



*May the joy of Christ's birth fill our hearts anew with peace and love and enliven within us a spirit of hope for the world.*

*Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas*

