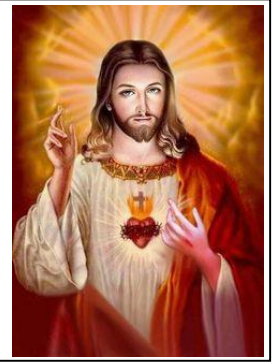




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



322 Bell St, Preston 3072

Phone (03) 9480 3398 or (03) 9484 2124

Website: www.sacredheartpreston.com.au

Office Hours:

Mon, Thurs & Fri: 10am -3pm

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 Officers:

Robert Dullard

Kay Dufty

Safeguarding Committee: Members:

Mary Harb

Teresa Dang

Pauline O'Day

Parish Council Members:

Gerard Grant (chairperson), Kay Dufty (secretary), Ophelia Swai, Anisasio (Pauline) Veamatahau, Mark Tierney, Ben Fortuna, Natalie Baran, Judeline Wadhvani and Joanne Verga

Parish Finance Committee:

Peter Constable (Chair)

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Stephen Costello (President)

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 4 November

Devotional Practices:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Thursday at 7:30pm for 1 hour. (Excluding last Thursday of the month - NO Adoration 31 August)



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

Reconciliation:

30 minutes before Mass or by appointment

Baptisms & Weddings: By appointment only

New Breakfast with Fr Aloysius

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

Monday 4 September in the presbytery after 9:10am Mass.

Bulletin printed 25/8/2023

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 27 August 2023 (Year A)

“Who Do You Say I Am?” – Understanding Our Mission

Archbishop Desmond Tutu described the early Church like this: *“People were attracted to it not so much by the preaching, but by the fact that they saw Christians as a community, living a new life. They saw a community of persons who, whether poor or rich, male or female, gentile or of high or low social standing, young or old – all were about protecting, caring for each other and learning from each other. Each was accepted for who they were. It was the lifestyle of the Christians that was doing the witnessing.”*

This is reminiscent of the comment in the Acts of the Apostles ascribed to ‘pagans’ about the early church: *“See how these Christians love one another!”* Acts later goes on to describe it as such, *“The whole community of believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed any of their possessions as their own; but rather shared all things in common”* (Acts 4)

Matthew’s Gospel was written at time when Judaism and Christianity were redefining themselves in an era of spasmodic persecution and varying styles of leadership. What is at the heart of his Gospel was not a rejection of his Jewish heritage but to proclaim to the world the “Good News” of “God with us” in and through the person and ministry of Jesus. This was the solid foundation upon which the church, presented as community would grow and, through its disciples aim to reach out and be proclaimed to all humanity, drawing all into the embrace of God.

Today’s Gospel contains Peter’s great statement of faith in Jesus as well as laying the foundation of the church. Jesus asks His disciples what people are saying about the identity of the “son of man” a messiah -like figure mentioned in the book of Daniel and a long awaited one who would be sent by God to relieve the suffering and oppression of His people.

The disciples indicate that most people believe that He is a prophet of Israel. Then Jesus asks His disciples who they believe that He -Jesus - is. Simon answers, identifying Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God.

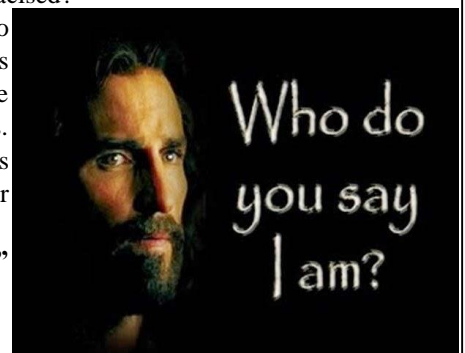
Jesus commends Simon for his reply, indicating that this insight has come from God. Jesus calls him the "rock"(Peter) upon which he will build the Church. Simon is then given special authority by Jesus- a metaphoric key to the Kingdom of Heaven.

Peter’s recognition of Jesus’ identity is credited as a revelation to him by God. This will contrast sharply with Jesus’ rebuke in next week’s Gospel. When Peter is unable to accept Jesus’ prediction of his passion and death, he is said at this time to be no longer attentive to the inspiration of God by accepting Jesus’ prediction but responds in human denial. Jesus will remind Peter though, “If anyone will follow me let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me”- (which Peter as future servant leader of the Church will do).

How, then, had Jesus demonstrate His mission as the anointed one of God? Wasn’t it by His faithful attention to God’s will for humanity? His message of God’s universal love and forgiveness, His selflessness and authoritative teaching based on compassion for all and particularly for those who were most ignored and vulnerable; His respect and adherence to all that in His Jewish prophetic tradition proclaimed God’s inclusiveness and universal care for all and his reaching out to sinners, the poor and ostracised?

During Vatican II a renewed and broader insight into the nature of Church was reaffirmed: The Church is the “People of God”, and at its core grounded in the Love of God flowing from the heart of Christ Jesus. We are part of the “Body of Christ” each of us is invited to share in Jesus’ ministry with particular insights and gifts to share.

**If Jesus asked me today: “Who do you say I am?”
What would my life’s witness compel me to say?**



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
26-Aug-23	Celia Lemos Natalie Baran	Terry Murphy
02-Sep-23	Mary Harb Teresa Dang	Charlotte Bains
09-Sep-23	Marlene Vergou Terry Murphy	Mary Harb

	Sunday 10:30AM Mass - Readers	Sunday 10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion
27-Aug-23	Hannah Lopez Marilene Fortuna	Eileen Stevens
03-Sep-23	Jessy Thambiraj Ophelia Swai	Giovanna D' Intino
10-Sep-23	Jessica Suppiah Marilene Fortuna	Eileen Stevens

	Sunday 6:00PM Mass - Readers	Sunday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion
27-Aug-23	Albert D'Souza Michelle Totawatte	Robert Dullard
03-Sep-23	Marijana Jurjevic Tim Rankin	Robert Dullard
10-Sep-23	Michelle Totawatte Tim Rankin	Robert Dullard

Readers, if you are unable to attend on your rostered day, kindly contact another reader to organise a swap or advise your co-reader that he/she may need to prepare all allocated readings.

A heartfelt 
Thanks
To our volunteers!

Ministers of Communion, if you are unable to attend on your rostered day kindly contact another minister to organise a swap.
Thank you



WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Sandra Bishop, John Storrie, Ylenia Useli,
Our parishioners, family members and friends, that they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect.

Those who have died recently:

Lucia Casalis (RIP 17/8. Funeral Mon 28/8 at 12pm)
Maria Di Giambattista (RIP 22/8. Funeral Tues 29/8 at 11am)
Laudy Al Assmar

We Commemorate:

Amelia & Domenica Sassini
O Lord may perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.



Last Week's Collection: 20/8/23

1st Collection for our Church: \$970
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$632
CatholicCare: \$371
Thank you for your kind generosity!



† † † Piety Shop

The piety shop stocks small gifts and cards for **all Sacraments** as well as various religious items at reasonable prices. Please take the time to have a look after any of the weekend Masses. Thank you

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 28 August *St Augustine, Bishop, Doctor*
Tuesday 29 August *The beheading of Saint John the Baptist*
Friday 1 September *World Day of Prayer for Creation*



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



I renew my appeal to stop using religions to incite hatred, violence, extremism and blind fanaticism, and to refrain from using the name of God to justify acts of murder, exile, terrorism and oppression.



† 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

Ivy King

in preparation for her Baptism on 9 September.



† Baptism Congratulations †

The community of Sacred Heart Parish congratulates
Leon Ferella & Theodore Napoli
for their Baptisms on 27 August.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament **Every Thursday at 7:30pm for 1 hour.**

(Excluding last Thursday of the month)

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

"Stay with Me, remain here with Me... Watch and pray..."



Father's Day Appeal

Next weekend there will be a collection after all Masses for the Priests Retirement Foundation who cares for our Retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Melbourne. You may use the envelopes at the back of the church or electronically by logging on to:

www.melbournecatholic.org.au/foundation
and make your donation through PayPal.

Thank you for your generous support of the Retired Priests



Sacrificial giving via QR code

To support our parish and priest, 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.

Kindly consider donating to both the Church and Presbytery accounts. Many thanks for your continued generosity and support to Sacred Heart parish.





Being a compassionate community

"The true measure of any society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members." - Mahatma Gandhi

Social justice isn't just a buzzword; it's a commitment to stand up for fairness and to look out for those who might need a helping hand. It's about seeing that spark of humanity in everyone and making sure that even those who often feel forgotten know that they matter. We don't have to move mountains to make a difference. Maybe it starts with understanding the struggles of others, offering a listening ear, or volunteering some time. Small actions can have a big impact, creating waves of change that reach far and wide.

The beautiful thing about working toward social justice is that it doesn't rest on the shoulders of a few. It's a shared effort, a collective push towards a world where no one is left behind. Together, we can create a society that embraces everyone with respect and empathy.

We all have a part to play, so let's be inspired to do good and to stand up for what's right. It might not always be easy, but it's undoubtedly worthwhile.

Let's conclude with a prayer:

"Dear Lord, guide us in our daily actions to reach out with compassion and strive for justice. Help us see those in need and empower us to make a difference. May we build a community of hope, love, and fairness where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. In Your name, we pray. Amen."

Sourced from www.majellan.media



Parish Men's Meal @ Darebin RSL –Tuesday 29 August

Join Catholic men from our local parishes for a relaxed catch-up at the Darebin RSL.

Date: Tuesday, 29 August

Time: 6:30pm

Address: 402 Bell Street, Preston

Parking at rear off St Georges Rd or Arthur St

RSVP: Tim Rebbechi - 0412 799 845

Looking forward to seeing you there!



WANTED:

Sacred Heart - Parish Master Planning Group

In light of the changing circumstances in which we live Father Aloysius, and the Parish Pastoral Council are inviting members of our Parish Community to join a **Parish Master Planning Group (PMPG)**. The goal of this group will be to reflect and respond to the question of 'What kind of Parish do we want Sacred Heart to be by 2030 and beyond?'

Sacred Heart Parish is your Parish, we invite you to participate in continuing to build a faith filled, vibrant, thriving, energetic and sustainable Parish for us and our future communities.

Some of the important issues this group will consider include:

- Reviewing the current and future vision and mission of the Parish
- Strengthening Parish life including faith formation
 - **Communion** - community life, worship and discipleship
 - **Participation** - leadership and inclusion of the parish community
 - **Mission** - how we as members of the Sacred Heart community give witness of our faith to the broader community.
- Making recommendations regarding upgrading Parish facilities including our properties in light of the Parish Vision and Mission.

We are looking for up to 10 volunteers with a range of skills and experience.

The group will put forward recommendations to Father Aloysius and the Parish Council.

If you would like to be involved or learn more about the Sacred Heart Parish Master Planning Group, please speak to Father Aloysius or a member of the Parish Pastoral Council (Parish Council members are listed in the left hand column of the Parish Newsletter) or email preston@cam.org.au

If you are unable to join this group, please consider getting involved in other ways.

We look forward to your involvement in our Parish community.

Thank you.



Sacred Heart Primary School 2024 Enrolments

Enrolments for the 2024 school year Foundation classes are still available.

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

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



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

A little old woman who is devout Catholic lives next door to a loud-mouthed atheist. Every morning the lady goes to her front porch and shouts, "Praise the Lord."

Every day the atheist neighbour can't help himself and shouts back, "There is no God!"

The lady begins to experience financial hardship with cost-of-living rises and buying her weekly groceries becomes more difficult. However, every morning she continues to go out on her front porch and asks God for help with her groceries and shouts, "Praise the Lord!"

One morning she discovers three bags of groceries on her porch and immediately yells. "Praise the Lord!"

At that moment the atheist jumps out from behind some bushes and says, "Ha, got you. There's no God. I bought those groceries for you."

The lady looks at him and smiles. Then she shouts even louder.

"Praise the Lord! Not only did you provide for me, Lord, you also made Satan pay for the groceries!"

Fiddler on the Roof Auditions

August 27
6:00 pm
St Gabriel's
Parish Hall
Viola St
Reservoir

St Gabriel's Theatre Group, your local community theatre group is 56 years young and holding auditions. All welcome and family groups are a perfect fit.

Anyone who walks through the door is automatically in the show, regardless of experience!

Queries to
Judy O'Meara
0488 580 145
stgabrielstheatre@gmail.com

Please take the bulletin home

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;
save the servant who trusts in you, my
God.

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to
you all the day long.

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

Isaiah 22:19-23

Thus says the Lord of Hosts to Shebna,
the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant
Eliakim son of Hilkiah.

I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father
to the inhabitants of Jerusalem
and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David
on his shoulder;
should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.

I drive him like a peg
into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory
for his father's house.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 137(138):1-3,6,8

The Response Is:

***Lord, your love is eternal; do not
forsake the work of your hands.***

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart:
you have heard the words of my mouth.
In the presence of the angels I will bless
you.

I will adore before your holy temple.

***Lord, your love is eternal; do not
forsake the work of your hands.***

I thank you for your faithfulness and
love,
which excel all we ever knew of you.

On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul.

***Lord, your love is eternal; do not
forsake the work of your hands.***

The Lord is high yet he looks on the
lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands.

***Lord, your love is eternal; do not
forsake the work of your hands.***

SECOND READING

Romans 11:33-36

How rich are the depths of God – how
deep his wisdom and knowledge – and
how impossible to penetrate his motives
or understand his methods! Who could
ever know the mind of the Lord? Who
could ever be his counsellor? Who could
ever give him anything or lend him
anything? All that exists comes from
him; all is by him and for him. To him be
glory for ever! Amen.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel

Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

You are Peter, the rock on which I will
build my Church; the gates of hell will
not hold out against it.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

When Jesus came to the region of
Caesarea Philippi he put this question to
his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son
of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he
is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and
others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.'
'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?'
Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the
Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living
God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah,
you are a happy man! Because it was not
flesh and blood that revealed this to you
but my Father in heaven. So I now say to
you: You are Peter and on this rock I will
build my Church. And the gates of the
underworld can never hold out against it.
I will give you the keys of the kingdom
of heaven: whatever you bind on earth
shall be considered bound in heaven;

whatever you loose on earth shall be
considered loosed in heaven.' Then he
gave the disciples strict orders not to tell
anyone that he was the Christ.

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 earth is replete with the fruits of your
work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from
the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

