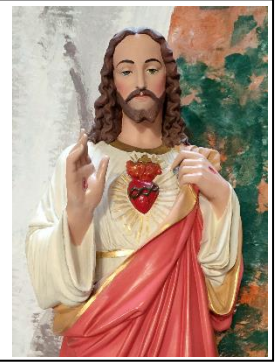




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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

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

Safeguarding Committee: Members:

Mary Harb, Teresa Dang, Pauline O'Day

Parish Council Members:

Gerard Grant (chairperson), 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 2 February 2024

Devotional Practices:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Thursday at 7:30pm for 1 hour.
(Excluding last Thursday of the month)



NO adoration on Thursday 28 December

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

Reconciliation:

30 minutes before Mass or by appointment

Baptisms & Weddings: By appointment only

Breakfast with Fr Aloysius

1st Monday of the month, the next one is on **Monday 5 February** in the presbytery after 9:10am Mass.

Bulletin printed 15/12/2023

Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.



Third Sunday of Advent (year B) Gaudete/Rejoice Sunday Sunday 17 December 2022

“Rejoice in the Lord always: again, I say, Rejoice! The Lord is near.”

On this third Sunday of Advent – traditionally called ‘Gaudete’ in Latin, the theme is one of joy. In the midst of a season that was traditionally sombre and penitential, people needed to be reminded of what they were preparing for: the commemoration of the very joyful occasion of the birth of Jesus the Saviour of the world who would give his life for us. So why should we be rejoicing? Because we are soon to remember the Good News that Jesus proclaimed to humanity: that God is with us and for us and waiting to be ‘born anew in us’ if we can but open our hearts to receive Him.

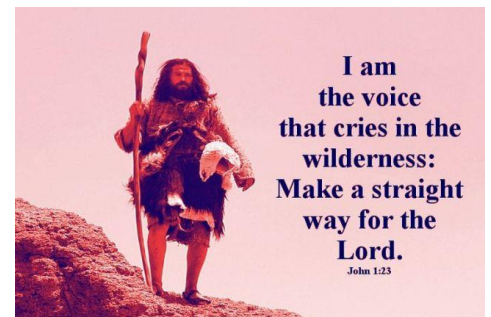
The first reading from Isaiah is a text which Jesus, in Luke’s gospel, will apply to himself - and consequently – to his disciples: ‘The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring Good News to the poor, to heal the broken, to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those imprisoned’; to proclaim a year of the Lord’s favour - a Jubilee year - during which debts are cancelled the burdens of the poor and the needy lifted. The references to the poor, the broken, and the imprisoned bring us back to the real world we live in.

They underline the challenge of Christmas to spread hope, joy, light and peace to a broken world in which poverty, isolation, imprisonment and despair has many forms.

In our neighbourhoods as in our church and families there are many silently suffering the poverty of loneliness, rejection, marginalization and irreparable effects of abuse, who deeply long to experience the comfort of God’s faithful and enduring Love in a tangible way through the support of other compassionate and caring human beings.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas and the coming of God into our lives through Jesus let’s remind ourselves that as disciples, we have been called to be the means of bringing the compassion and love of God into other’s lives. To celebrate the God who comes to free the oppressed and has freed us, means to commit ourselves to be like John the Baptizer pointing the way to making rough and dangerous ways straight and safe. This will be evident in our joyfulness, genuine concern and commitment to justice, the safety and well-being of all, particularly the most vulnerable.

This season reminds us that the model by which God chose to reveal His presence amongst humanity was in the person of a tiny helpless vulnerable child born into poor circumstances but who’s innocent and integrity would be our guided to joyfully bring healing to a broken world.



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
16-Dec-23	Mary Harb Marlene Vergou	Terry Murphy
23-Dec-23	Terry Murphy Mary Harb	Charlotte Bainy
30-Dec-23	Marlene Vergou Mary Harb	Terry Murphy

	Sunday 10:30AM Mass - Readers	Sunday 10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion
17-Dec-23	Judeline Wadhvani Albert D'Souza	Tony Eley
24-Dec-23	Hannah Lopez Marilene Fortuna	Giovanna D' Intino
31-Dec-23	Jessica Suppiah Ophelia Swai	Eileen Stevens

	Sunday 6:00PM Mass - Readers	Sunday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion
17-Dec-23	Tim Rankin	Damian Casamento
24-Dec-23	Christmas roster	Christmas roster
31-Dec-23	Volunteer	Damian Casamento

WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Sandra Bishop, John Storrie
Our Sacred Heart School student Samantha Corsi
Our parishioners, family members and friends, that they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect.

Those who have died recently:

*Ylenia Useli (RIP 30/11. Rosary - Wed 20/12 at 7pm.
Funeral - Thus 21/12 at 11am)*

We Commemorate:

*Enzo Favrin
Anh Tran (2nd Anniv)
James Christoffelsz (11th Anniv.)
Fidela Quesada & Enrique Perdomo
Giuseppe Caputo
John Pizzato & family
Rosario & Maria Talarico
Isabella & Tomaso Cardamone
O Lord may perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.*

Last Week's Collection: 10/12/23

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,108
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$801
Thank you for your kind generosity!



Thanksgiving Envelopes

The next batch of thanksgiving envelopes are in the foyer ready for collection.

Please commence using these envelopes on the weekend of 16 & 17 December 2023.

Thank you for your continued support to our 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.



✠ Solemnities / Feasts / Memorials of the Week ✠

Thursday 21 December St Peter Canisius, Priest, Doctor
Saturday 23 December St John of Kęty, Priest



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



Love makes us happy not only in heaven but also here on earth. If we want to be truly happy, then let us learn to transform everything into love, offering to others our work and our time, speaking kindly words and doing good deeds. We can all do it!



Advent Program (Thursdays) 7:30 – 8:30 pm

You are warmly invited to enter into the spirit of Advent when we prepare for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Weekly Advent-themed reflections will include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:



- Thursday 30 November Stay Awake
- Thursday 7 December Make Straight the Path of the Lord
- Thursday 14 December There Stands among you the One who is coming after me.
- Thursday 21 December You will conceive and bear a Son.
- **Tuesday 19 December** 7.00 to 8.30 pm Penitential Service



Advent Candles:

hope, peace, joy, love

During the **third week in Advent**, we spend time thinking about **joy**.



“But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for **joy**.”

Two purple candles and one pink candle are lit.

Too often, we think **joy** is something big, O God. Just as easily and far more often, we can feel **joy** in a hug or the squeeze of hand, we can see **joy** in a smile or hear it in laughter. Help us to not overlook the simple **joys** that peak into our lives daily. This week in our Advent journey, open our eyes to the **joy** that surrounds us. Amen.



Bambinelli Sunday - 17 December

You may bring the Baby Jesus statues from your Nativity sets for a special blessing at the 10:30am Mass on Sunday 17 December. This tradition was started by Pope St John Paul II and is celebrated on Gaudete Sunday, third Sunday of Advent.



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.



Please take the bulletin home



Wedding Congratulations



We congratulate
Isabella & Luke



for their Wedding
to be celebrated here at Sacred Heart Church
on Saturday 16 December

May God grant a happy and prosperous life to you both as you
embark on your journey together as husband and wife.



**2023 Christmas Mass times
at Sacred Heart Church**

**Sunday 24 December
Christmas Eve**

6:00pm Family Mass
9:00pm Carols before 10pm Mass
10:00pm (in lieu of midnight) Mass

**Monday 25 December
Christmas Day**

9:00am Italian Mass - Nativity
10:30am Parish Mass – Nativity



Christmas Family Mass: Christmas Eve Sunday 24th December at 6pm

Children are welcome to come dressed as crib characters
and will be involved in various ways.

As in past years, currently listed Parish Readers or Ministers
of Eucharist are welcome to sign up -as also are
parents for their children-on the volunteer sign-up sheets in
the Church Foyer. Please include a contact number.



Sacred Heart Giving Tree



Our sincere thanks to Sacred Heart Parishioners, teachers,
students and parents, and visitors for your generous support of
this year's Giving Tree.

Already we have delivered Greeting and Gift cards to a number of
families on your behalf which were received with great joy and
gratitude. This is the last weekend for Christmas donations as we
will be finishing our Christmas deliveries this week. However, any
late donations will still go towards assisting others in need in our
area as usual.

The St Vincent de Paul team.



Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal

An estimated 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with
immediate food, shelter, health, and psychosocial needs.

*'This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation
of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza
and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are
working with our partners on the ground to provide
comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families
affected by this devastating conflict.'*

Sally Thomas, Humanitarian Lead, Caritas Australia

With your support, we will be able to help our partners on the
ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current
conflict.

Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal.

You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

SAFE PARKING PRACTICE AT SACRED HEART PARISH

All visitors and parishioners are reminded **not to park** vehicles in
the driveways around the church building, including

1. The straight driveway leading to the rear car park.
 2. The curved shaped driveway in front of the church entrance.
- Parking in these driveways is a safety risk and restricts access for
emergency services such as ambulances in the event of a medical
emergency which could have serious consequences. Parking in
these areas is also a safety risk for people, including children.
Thank you for being considerate and looking after each other in true
Sacred Heart community spirit.



Advent Appeal for Ukraine

In response to the continued conflict in Ukraine, Archbishop
Peter A Comensoli is launching a special Advent appeal,
the proceeds of which will go towards providing aid and
practical assistance to those who have been displaced and
are without basic supplies, especially as winter
approaches.

A collection will take place after all Sunday
Masses on 9/10 Dec and 16/17 Dec or you may
wish to use the special cards and envelopes in
the Church foyer.

Please give generously.



Piety Shop

Columban calendars are now available in the Piety shop - \$10

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.



Christmas Craft Competition



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 rich and cranky old lawyer who had been diagnosed with a
terminal illness was determined to prove the old saying, You can't
take it with you, was a load of bollocks.

After much consideration, he figured out how to take at least some
of his money with him when he died. He instructed his wife to go
to the bank and withdraw enough money to fill two pillowcases. He
then directed her to take the bags of money to the attic and leave
them directly above his bed.

His plan: When he passed away, he would reach out and grab the
bags on his way to heaven. Several weeks after the funeral, the
deceased lawyer's wife was in the attic cleaning when she found
the two forgotten pillowcases stuffed with cash.

"Oh, that old fool," she exclaimed. "He should have asked me to
put the money in the basement."

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.

Indeed, the Lord is near.

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

Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me.

He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,

to bind up hearts that are broken;

to proclaim liberty to captives,

freedom to those in prison;

to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.

‘I exult for joy in the Lord,

my soul rejoices in my God,

for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity,

like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels.

‘For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise

spring up in the sight of the nations.’

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Luke 1:46-50,53-54

The Response Is:

My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.

He looks on his servant in her nothingness;

henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

My soul rejoices in my God.

The Almighty works marvels for me.

Holy his name!

His mercy is from age to age,

on those who fear him.

My soul rejoices in my God.

He fills the starving with good things,

sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servant,

remembering his mercy.

My soul rejoices in my God.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything – hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel

Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;

he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 1:6-8,19-28

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.

This is how John appeared as a witness.

When the Jews sent priests and Levites

from Jerusalem to ask him, ‘Who are

you?’ he not only declared, but he

declared quite openly, ‘I am not the

Christ.’ ‘Well then,’ they asked ‘are

you Elijah?’ ‘I am not’ he said. ‘Are

you the Prophet?’ He answered, ‘No.’

So they said to him, ‘Who are you? We

must take back an answer to those who

sent us. What have you to say about

yourself?’ So John said, ‘I am, as Isaiah

prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:

‘Make a straight way for the Lord.’

Now these men had been sent by the

Pharisees, and they put this further

question to him, ‘Why are you

baptising if you are not the Christ, and

not Elijah, and not the prophet?’ John

replied, ‘I baptise with water; but there

stands among you – unknown to you –

the one who is coming after me; and I

am not fit to undo his sandal-strap.’

This happened at Bethany, on the far

side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear.

Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

