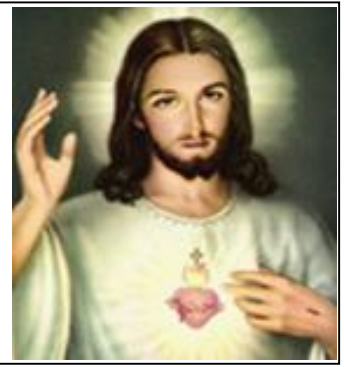




# Sacred Heart Parish Preston



322 Bell St, Preston 3072

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

Email: [preston@cam.org.au](mailto:preston@cam.org.au)

Website: [www.sacredheartpreston.com.au](http://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 Co-ordinator:** 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 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 16/12/2022



## Fourth Sunday of Advent (year A) Sunday 18 December 2022

### “Emmanuel – God with Us”

The hope of the Hebrew people has always been that God would forever be with them. In times of struggle, they longed for the day when they would experience their prayer for God’s presence and intervention answered.

Over the past weeks of Advent, the Church through our Liturgies has presented the prophet Isaiah’s visions of a new world, keeping alive in times of oppression and exile the faithful promise that God would be with them and through them would establish a kingdom of peace and justice that would eventually reach out to the ends of the earth. The Gospel readings of this year come from Matthew. Today’s reading concerning ‘how Jesus Christ came to be born’ expresses the community’s faith for which Matthew wrote. This community of Jewish Christians were anxious to persuade those with whom they shared the traditions of Israel that Jesus was the long awaited one – the fulfilment of the vision of the prophets. Joseph’s dream of an angelic herald announcing a child to be born to Mary his betrothed identifies the one to come as Emmanuel” – meaning “God with us’, Matthew invited his people to recognize that God’s promise, “I will be your God and you will be my people” embedded in the scriptures and personified by their forefathers Abraham, Jacob, Moses, David the humble shepherd King and voiced by the prophets through their times of trial, embedded faith and hope beyond all imagining.

God’s presence was not only with them but closer than they could imagine. It was in human life through its struggles, sufferings, hopes, joys and events- that God was to be sought, celebrated and shared with others.

Today we hear of God being present in the one called Jesus who was to be born to a woman called ‘Mary’, raised and nurtured by two humble but deeply faithful, trusting and compassionate human beings and who would, during His mission, identify with and proclaim God’s love for the poor, exiled and outcast, drawing all into the embrace and hospitality of God.

Whatever account of the birth of Jesus we read Matthew’s or Luke’s -the fundamental message is about “God with us” now.

As we reflect on this truth we might become more attentive to the ‘us’ and how we are with each other. This is the most precious gift about which Christmas reminds us. Like Joseph and Mary journeying to Bethlehem the home of Joseph’s ancestry, many of us will gather at a family home to recall our past, celebrate our present and share our hopes for the future. ‘Being with’ is about sharing life with each other, and being supported in a family, celebrating with our faith community, welcoming a new comer, attending to a person in need, supporting a refugee, inviting into our family one who lives alone, shedding an embittered ego or mending a broken relationship. It is about sharing in the hospitality of God

“If only one broken relationship could be mended,” sister Clare Condon SGS says, “our Christmas- our ‘God with us’ would be real for one other person.”



## 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>
17-Dec-22	Teresa Dang Terry Murphy	Charlotte Bainy
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>
18-Dec-22	Eileen Stevens Hannah Lopez	Tony Eley
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>
18-Dec-22	Michelle Totawatte Volunteer	Robert Dullard
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:

*Charlie Camilleri (RIP 10/12. Funeral Fri 23/12 at 11:45am)*

*Virginia Meddi (RIP 11/12. Funeral Mon 19/12 at 10:45am)*

*Fr Joseph Patrick Hynan PE (RIP 14/12)*

### We Commemorate:

*Giovanna Sassano (1 month Anniv.)*

*James Wesley Christoffelz*

*Giuseppe Cicutto (10th Anniv.)*

*O Lord may perpetual light shine upon them.*

*May they rest in peace. Amen.*



### Last Week's Collection: 11/12/22

1st Collection for our Church: \$936

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$705

Thank you for your kind generosity!



## 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.



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

*Wednesday 21 December St Peter Canisius, Priest,  
Doctor*

*Friday 23 December St John of Kęty, Priest*



### † 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

**Anna Tran, Harper Tran & Isabella Xu**

in preparation for their Baptisms today

and

**Matias Ferris,**

in preparation for his Baptism on

Friday 23 December.



### † Baptism Congratulations †

The community of Sacred Heart Parish congratulates

**Anna Tran, Harper Tran & Isabella Xu**

their Baptisms today, 19 December.



## Advent Candles:

**hope, peace, joy, love**

In this **final week of Advent**, our attention is on **love**

In The Gospel of Matthew Jesus says “‘You shall **love** the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall **love** your neighbour as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

*Three purple candles and one pink candle are lit.*

God, we have learned to **love** from being **loved** by you. And so today, let us enact that **love**. Let us live that **love**. We know that what the world needs now is more **love**. We need to remember how much you **love** each one of us and we must share that **love** with others. Amen.



**Please take the bulletin home**





## 2022 Christmas Mass times

### Saturday 24 December

#### Christmas Eve

7:00pm Family Mass  
9:30pm Carols before 10pm Mass  
10:00pm (in lieu of midnight) Mass

### Sunday 25 December

#### Christmas Day

9:00am Italian Mass  
10:30am Parish Mass  
6:00pm Sunday Evening Mass



### Christmas Eve Family Mass 7.00pm 24 December.

Families are very welcome to participate at this Mass. Children to come dressed as a gospel Nativity Character or to participate in some small ways. Please contact Pauline O'Day on 9484 2445 for information on how we will involve the children this year.



### THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



*Advent reminds us of a basic Christian attitude – vigilance. Let us wait for the Lord's coming by being attentive to our most vulnerable brothers and sisters who knock on the door of our hearts. Let us ask the Lord to keep us watchful in humility and availability.*



## **Sacred Heart Giving Tree**



Thank you to all for your support of our parish Giving Tree appeal. Today is the final day we can receive Christmas donations. Our St Vincent de Paul team will be delivering your gifts early this week. But should you still wish to continue to support our struggling neighbours over this holiday period, you are welcome to place a donation into the Vinnies boxes in the foyer of the church. May the peace and the Love of Christ be with you and your families.



### **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.



# *A Christmas Novena*



### **December 17:**

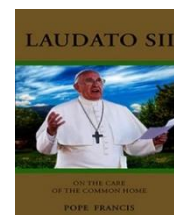
O Wisdom that comes out of the mouth of the Most High, that reaches from one end to another, and orders all things mightily and sweetly, come to teach us the way of prudence!

*Recite one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory be.*

### **December 18:**

O Adonai, and Ruler of the house of Israel, Who did appear unto Moses in the burning bush, and gave him the law in Sinai, come to redeem us with an outstretched arm!

*Recite one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and one Glory be.*



**During Advent Pope Francis invites us to prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ – the light of the world and all Creation.**

**The fourth Sunday of Advent is a time of LOVE.**

"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

REJOICE in the peace of God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECT on the experience of Mary, the Mother who cared for Jesus, and ask yourself: Like Mary, how can I care with maternal affection for a world "burdened and laid waste?" (LS 2)

Let us pray: *Each day, let us ponder their goodness as signs of your love. Let us be in solidarity with those in poverty and nurture a spirit of true generosity. May the light of Advent grow daily together with our love for your creation, redeemed by your Son whose coming we will celebrate soon.*



### Joke Corner

After a long life, and many years in office, a politician died and arrived at the Gates of Heaven, where he sees a huge wall of clocks behind him. He asked an angel, "What are all those clocks?" The angel answered, "Those are Lie-Clocks. Everyone on Earth has a Lie-Clock. Every time you lie the hands on your Clock will move." "Oh," said the politician, "whose clock is that?" "That's president Washington's clock. The hands have never moved, indicating that he never told a lie in his entire life." "Tremendous" said the politician. "And whose clock is that one?" The angel responded, "That's president Abraham Lincoln's clock. The hands have moved twice, telling us that Abe told only two lies in his entire life." "So, where's my clock?" asked the politician. "Oh your clock is in God's office. He's using it as a ceiling fan."

## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

## 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 7:10-14*

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.'

Then Isaiah said:

'Listen now, House of David:

are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men

without trying the patience of my God, too?

The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign.

It is this: the maiden is with child

and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel,

a name which means "God-is-with-us."

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Psalm 23(24):1-6**

**The Response Is:**

***Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.***

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples.

It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm.

***Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.***

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?

Who shall stand in his holy place?

The man with clean hands and pure heart,

who desires not worthless things.

***Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.***

He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him.

Such are the men who seek him, seek the face of the God of Jacob.

***Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.***

## SECOND READING

*Romans 1:1-7*

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures.

This news is about the Son of God who, according to the human nature he took was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

***Alleluia, alleluia!***

A virgin will give birth to a son;

His name will be Emmanuel: God is with us.

***Alleluia!***

## GOSPEL

*Matthew 1:18-24*

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son

and they will call him Emmanuel,

a name which means 'God-is-with-us.'

When Joseph woke up he did what the

angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

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

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son;

and his name will be called Emmanuel.

