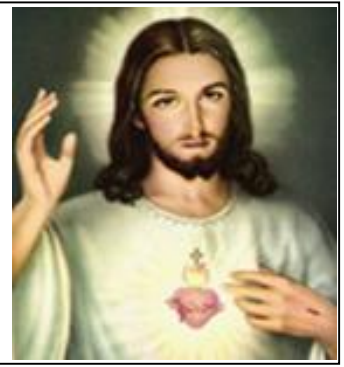




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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 3/3/2023

2nd Sunday of Lent (Year A)

Sunday 5 March 2023

Just as we always hear the story of Jesus' testing in the Wilderness on the first Sunday of Lent, so we hear of His Transfiguration on the second. All three of the synoptic Gospels link the Transfiguration with the warning of Jesus to His disciples that He was destined to suffer in Jerusalem, and that those who would be His disciples must 'take up their cross and follow Him.'

In the wilderness Jesus came to terms with the limits of His humanity and committed His trust in the Loving presence of God to be with Him for all of His life's journey- whatever this might entail. This week a mountain is the setting for the continuing journey into discipleship. Through salvation history the mountains were places of sacred encounters with God.

Jesus brings Peter, James and John up a mountain to be alone in prayer. In that prayerful moment between Himself and His Father, He is transfigured. His appearance is dramatically altered as was Moses' appearance when he received the commandments from God. Elijah and Moses - key figures of salvation history representing the Law and the Prophets- appear and enter into dialogue with Jesus, the One sent to bring God's Promise to His people to fulfilment.

The disciples are embraced in that experience of relationship, love and peace. The voice of God reaffirms for them the identity of Jesus and calls for a response from them -to open their hearts and "Listen to Him!" as they continue their journey with Jesus. Peter, enraptured by the experience wanted to remain on the mountain of glory but that was not the point of the experience nor the way of discipleship. Jesus directs them down from the mountain because He knows that He, with them, still has His Father's work to complete: to bring the Good News to all people.

Like Jesus and His companions, we too need the occasional glimpses of glory. Perhaps for us this happens through perceiving the love of God shining through the kindness and trustful love of another; it might come in quiet times away in prayer, reflection and stillness when we experience Gods presence within us and in the beauty of creation around us. But we can't stay on the "mountain" in devotional solitude forever.

We can't love God unless we love our neighbour. Sooner or later we must come down from the mountain and continue the Way of Jesus: sharing the joys as well as the challenges of life and reflecting God's love for all in practical ways in families, neighbours and those who challenge us; those who are abandoned, suffering, poor and overlooked in our world.

If we were discouraged by the challenge of last Sunday's wilderness Gospel, then we might be reassured by the vision of Jesus' glory in today's.

And so we continue as disciples encouraged and mindful that, in reality, God also is not confined to mountains and shrines but travels with us and never leaves us.

"He has established Himself upon a mountain so he has no work to do.

One should be in the market place while still working with true Reality."

(Sahl)



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
25-Feb-23	Celia Lemos Marlene Vergou	Terry Murphy
04-Mar-23	Mary Harb Terry Murphy	Charlotte Bainy
11-Mar-23	Marlene Vergou Teresa Dang	Mary Harb

	Sunday 10:30AM Mass - Readers	Sunday 10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion
26-Feb-23	Ivana Lo Bello Jessy Thambiraj	Eileen Stevens
05-Mar-23	Jessica Suppiah Marilene Fortuna	Tony Eley
12-Mar-23	Eileen Stevens Ophelia Swai	Ivana Lo Bello

	Sunday 6:00PM Mass - Readers	Sunday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion
26-Feb-23	Michelle Totawatte Rachel Vorlander	Damian Casamento
05-Mar-23	Albert D'Souza Tim Rankin	Robert Dullard
12-Mar-23	Michelle Totawatte Rachel Vorlander	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
Our parishioners, family members and friends, that they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect.

Those who have died recently:

Sheila Kenny (RIP 12/2-Funeral Mon 6/3 at 1pm)

We Commemorate:

Michael Bradshaw (7th Anniv.)

Settimo Crocco (34th Anniv.)

O Lord may perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen.

Last Week's Collection: 26/2/23

1st Collection for our Church: \$790

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$692

Thank you for your kind generosity!



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](#)

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 pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.



† Solemnities / Feasts / Memorials of the Week †

Tuesday 7th March *Sts Felicity & Perpetua, Martyrs*

Wednesday 8th March *St John of God, Religious*

Thursday 9th March *St Frances of Rome, Religious*



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



Lent is the "favourable time" to return to what is essential, to divest ourselves of all that weighs us down, to be reconciled with God, and to rekindle the fire of the Holy Spirit hidden beneath the ashes of our frail humanity.



† Baptism Congratulations †

The community of Sacred Heart Parish congratulates



Gia Lotesto
for her Baptism
on 5 March.



✠ Wedding Congratulations ✠



We congratulate

Stephanie & Daniel

for their Marriage



celebrated here at Sacred Heart Church
on Saturday 4 March

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



Dates to Remember

All Thursdays during Lent –

Lenten reflection – “Seven last words” and Adoration – 7:30pm – in the Church

All Fridays during Lent –

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



menALIVE Dinner

Founder of menALIVE Robert Falzon

will visit Melbourne in March.

Priests and Parish men are invited to dinner

with Robert at Reservoir RSL at

251 Spring Street Reservoir on

Tuesday 7 March at 7pm.

Robert will speak about menALIVE and what it offers Australian Catholic men. Brunswick-Moreland Mission will offer a menALIVE weekend in April.

Please advise your attendance at this special event to St

Gabriel's Parish office reservoir@cam.org.au

Please provide your name, mobile number and email. Thank you



Project Compassion Second Sunday of Lent

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

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



Praying the Ecological Examen

This [Ignatian Ecological Examen](#) is a tool for prayer, reflection and action to deepen our call to care for creation and the most vulnerable.

1. I give thanks to God for creation and for being wonderfully made.

Where did I feel God's presence in creation today?

2. I ask for the grace to see creation as God does – in all its splendour and suffering.

Do I see the beauty of creation and hear the cries of the earth and the poor?

3. I ask for the grace to look closely to see how my life choices impact creation and the poor and vulnerable.

What challenges or joys do I experience as I recall my care for creation?

How can I turn away from a throwaway culture and instead stand in solidarity with creation and the poor?

4. I ask for the grace of conversion towards ecological justice and reconciliation.

Where have I fallen short in caring for creation and my brothers and sisters? How do I ask for a conversion of heart?

5. I ask for the grace to reconcile my relationship with God, creation and humanity, and to stand in solidarity through my actions.

How can I repair my relationship with creation and make choices consistent with my desire for reconciliation with creation?

6. I offer a closing prayer for the earth and the vulnerable in our society.

Offer the prayer that's in your heart or perhaps pray Pope Francis' [Prayer for Our Earth](#)



A Prayer for Our Earth

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth. Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

Pope Francis, Laudato Si'

Lenten Regulations

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and abstinence from meat.

On all other Fridays, except solemnities, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

- (a) **Prayer:** e.g., Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary; or in other ways.
- (b) **Self Denial:** e.g., not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country or elsewhere; or in other ways. Project compassion is a major means of expressing our self-denial in Australia.
- (c) **Helping Others:** e.g., special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or over-burdened; or in other ways.
 - * All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 60th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain. (Canon 1252)
 - * The Season of Lent is a time of penance. During Lent the faithful are exhorted to devote themselves in a special manner to prayer, to engage in works of piety and charity, and to deny themselves.
 - * Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday, 22 February 2023 and Trinity Sunday 4 June 2023 unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year.
 - * The wonderful gift of the Lord's merciful love is offered in a special way in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Lent is a most appropriate time to receive this Sacrament. All faithful who have reached the age of discretion are bound faithfully to confess their grave sins at least once a year.



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.



Attention Ministers of Communion and Readers

NEW ROSTERS and updated phone lists have been emailed. Please check your junk mail folder if you haven't received yours in your inbox. For those who do not receive an email copy please check the Church foyer for your copy.

Thank you all for your faithful service to our Eucharistic Celebrations.

Joke Corner

A priest was selling olives at the local market to raise funds for his parish but business was slow. As a woman passed by he tried to sell her some olives. She shook her head and told him she didn't have any money on her.

"No problem," the priest replied. "You can pay me later."

The woman was still hesitant, so he offered her an olive to taste.

"Oh no, I can't, I'm fasting today for Lent," she responded.

"Fasting? But Lent was six months ago!"

"Well, yes, but I missed a day and I'm making up for it now. But I'll happily take a kilo of the black olives."

"Forget it!" said the priest. "If it took you 6 months to pay back a debt you owed God, who knows when you'll pay me back!"

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face.

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

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

Genesis 12:1-4

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:

I will curse those who slight you.

All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 32(33):4-5,18-20,22

The Response Is:

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted.

The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The Lord looks on those who revere him,

on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.

The Lord is our help and our shield.

May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:8-10

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

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!

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Matthew 17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this the disciples fell on their faces overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

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.

RESPONSE TO PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL: Lord, hear our prayer.

THE MEMORIAL

ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

