

# 5th Sunday of Lent - Year B 20th - 21st March 2021

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 31:31-34

*The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.*

See, the days are coming - it is the Lord who speaks - when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive - it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, 'Learn to know the Lord!' No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest - it is the Lord who speaks - since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The Word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

R/ Create a clean heart in me, O God.

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 5:7-9

*He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.*

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The Word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Jn 12:26

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord; and where I am, my servant will also be.

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**Gospel:** John 12:20-33

*If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.*

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them: 'Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you, most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!' A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours. Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.' By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

## Project Compassion Lenten Prayer

**God of all peoples and nations, as you accompany us on our Lenten journey,  
May our fasting strengthen our commitment to live in solidarity, our almsgiving be an act of justice,  
and our prayers anchor us in love and compassion.  
Through living simply and loving generously, may we care for our global family  
and our common home, as we "Aspire not to have more, but to be more."  
We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**



## Sacred Heart Parish Preston

322 Bell St, Preston 3072

**Parish Contacts:** Phone: (03) 9480 3398 Or (03) 9484 2124  
Email: preston@cam.org.au Website: www.sacredheartpreston.com.au



## 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR B 20th - 21st March 2021

### Death is a Door to Life Eternal

One focus during Lent is to reflect on our own death and to see our way through it. We all must die, as much as we don't like the fact. We try to hide it, dodge it, and deny it. Yet we can't in fact escape it. Jesus came into the world, not so much to do away with death, but to teach us how to die by his example and then to assure us that death does not say the last word about life. When we walk into the valley of death we do not walk alone. Jesus is with us because He has been there before and knows what it is like. Moreover, he promises us that just as he rose from the dead, so will we. We will all be young again. We will all laugh again.

Once upon a time there was a young grandmother who totally adored her oldest grandson like most grandmothers do. He was a good young man too. Handsome, friendly, courteous, more mature than you could reasonably expect any teenager to be. He was also an excellent athlete at his school. Then, just a week before graduation, another teen (quite drunk) plowed into the car in which the young man was returning from a baseball game. He died three hours later in the hospital. Everyone in the family was devastated, as you can well imagine. The grandmother was furious. "Why do such terrible things happen?" she demanded. "Why did it have to happen to my grandson? What kind of God would permit this to happen to me? He must be a cruel and vicious God. Why should I believe in him? I don't believe in him. My grandson was so young; he had the rest of his life ahead of him. It's all right for old people to die, but not for someone who had a right to a long and happy life. I don't believe in heaven. I don't believe in anything."

She carried on like this for months, making the tragedy even harder for her family. She stopped going to Church and refused to talk to the priest who dropped by her house to talk to her. "I just hate God," she insisted. Then one night, maybe she was dreaming, maybe she was half away, her grandson, in his baseball uniform, came to visit her. "Cool it, Grams." he told her. "I'm happy. Life is much better where I am. You're not acting like my Grams any more. We all have to die sometime, young or old, but here we're all young and we're all laughing."

The grandmother began to let go of her grief and rage. She came back to her senses. She began to pray and go to the church again, as she usually did. She inspired many other people to put their trust in God and accept death as a part of our life on earth. **DEATH IS A DOOR TO ETERNAL LIFE.**



**Office Hours:**  
Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

**Parish Priest:**  
Fr Aloysius Nato, SVD  
Ph: 0428 715 282

**Italian Community Chaplain:**  
Fr Albano Da Costa, SVD  
Ph: 0478 963 248

**Parish Office:** Cristina Agius

**School Principal:** Mark Tierney  
**School Phone:** 9487 1001

**Sacrament Co-ordinator:**  
Ylenia Useli  
shpcatechists@gmail.com

**Child Safety Officers:**  
Kay Dufty: 0431 376 212  
Robert Dullard: 0433 401 958

**Child Safety Committee:**  
Robert Dullard (Chair)

**Parish Council Members:**  
Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),  
Kay Dufty (secretary),  
Tony Eley, Gerard Grant,  
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 Thursday of  
the month at 1.30pm

**Devotional Practices:**  
**Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament:** Wednesday after  
9.10am Mass

**Holy Rosary:** Thursday (English)

**Reconciliation:**  
Weekdays: 30 minutes before  
Mass or by appointment

**Baptisms & Weddings:**  
By appointment only



## Dates to Remember

**All Fridays during Lent:** Stations of the Cross - 7pm

**Saturday 27th March:** 11am - 12.30pm

Healing through Meditation on Jesus by Fr Gilbert  
at gilbertcarlo@gmail.com

## Easter Mass Schedule

**Sunday 28th March:** Regular Mass Times

Palm Sunday, beginning of Holy Week

**Monday 29th March:** 7.30pm

Lenten Penitential Service

**Thursday 1st April: Holy Thursday** - 7.30pm

The Lord's Supper

**Friday 2nd April: Good Friday**

Reflection followed by Stations of the Cross - 10am

Passion of the Lord - 3pm

**Saturday 3rd April: Easter Vigil**

Mass at 7.30pm

**Sunday 4th April: Easter Sunday**

Mass Times: 9am, 10.30am & 6pm



## Sacred Heart Primary School 2021 Enrolments

Enrolments for the 2021 school year are open as of Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March. For a school tour, please contact the school principal on 9487 1001 or via the school website <http://www.shpreston.catholic.edu.au>

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.

## Welcome!

This weekend through Baptism we welcome

**Lucia Gullone,  
Vivien Monroe Trentin and  
Raven Nora O'Day-Slavin**  
into our Parish family



## Last Week's Collection: 14/03/21

1st Collection for our Church: \$1012.00

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$500.00

Thank you for your kind generosity!



## Weekly Catholic Radio Reflection:

Visit <https://bit.ly/3bWx5Jn>  
where you can listen anytime!

## A special year to bear witness to Family Love: 'Amoris Laetitia Family'

On 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021, the fifth anniversary of the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris laetitia*, on the joy and beauty of familial love, Pope Francis will inaugurate the Year "Amoris Laetitia Family," which will conclude on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at the World Meeting of Families in Rome.

In announcing the year, the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life said the pandemic experience has highlighted the central role of the family as the domestic Church, and illustrated the importance of community ties between families.

'Through the spiritual, pastoral, and cultural initiatives planned in the Year "Amoris Laetitia Family," Pope Francis intends to address all ecclesial communities throughout the world, exhorting each person to be a witness of family love,' the statement from the Dicastery said.

The Year "Amoris Laetitia Family" is intended to spread the message of *Amoris laetitia*, by encouraging the content of the exhortation to be shared more widely, to help people 'experience the Gospel of the family as a joy that fills hearts and lives' (*Amoris laetitia*, §200).

'A family that discovers and experiences both the joy of having a gift, and of being a gift for the Church and society, "can become a light in the darkness of the world"' (AL, §66).

During [this year's Patrick Oration](#), Archbishop Peter A Comensoli spoke on the importance of the family as the domestic church.

'Over these last twelve months we have suffered through the experience of our place of worship being locked to the visitor, and the person in need,' said Archbishop Comensoli. 'And yet, in our homes we rediscovered the living bread of God's love for each person, and the call to serve one another.'

Download the Year of 'Amoris Laetitia Family' resource book at <https://bit.ly/2P4G6qQ>

More information on the Year of 'Amoris Laetitia Family' at <https://bit.ly/3rXzMzY>

## National Consultation for Women

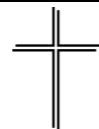
Catholic women are being invited to participate in a national consultation with two bishops later this month and to mark their diaries for a national gathering on 11<sup>th</sup> September. The national consultation, [which will take place on March 27](#) via Zoom, invites women to articulate and celebrate their contribution to and vision for the mission of the Catholic Church in Australia. Bishop Michael Morrissey, the Bishop Delegate for Women, said he is looking forward to hearing from Catholic women from across the country.

### Consultation Details:

Date: Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2pm-4pm AEDT via Zoom

Participants must register by 4pm, Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March.

[Register here](#)



## LITURGICAL GUIDELINES COVID-19

Implications for the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

Full guidelines can be found at: <https://bit.ly/2MMwYX1>

## 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.

## Update on Fr Aloysius and Fr Jan

Dear Parishioners,

Just a quick note to advise on Fr Aloysius' recovery and Fr Jan's current position.

Fr Aloysius is recovering well and we hope to see him back sooner than later. As usual, he's still smiling and making jokes! We pray for his ever speedy recovery.

Fr Jan has been doing well and looking after himself while on his leave. He has is currently in Bundoora, at St. Damien's church for a short period of time.

He is content but said he misses Sacred Heart and all our Parishioners!

## Are You available to participate in our Holy Week Ceremonies 1st to 3rd April?

Please leave your name and contact number if you can participate in various ministries, preparation and setting up tasks for:

✚ Holy Thursday evening,

✚ Good Friday morning Stations,

✚ 3pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion or the

✚ Easter Vigil.

## 2021 Creative Arts Exhibition Digital Gallery

This year's Catholic Education Week (15-21 March) is taking on a new format, with events and activities reimaged into a digital resource for schools to use locally. Visit <https://sites.google.com/cem.edu.au/creative-arts-exhibition-2021/home> to view the gallery of student's works.

## Roster for weekend of 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> March 2021

	Readers
<b>Saturday 6.00pm</b>	Mary Harb Johnny K
<b>Sunday 9.00am (Italian)</b>	Volunteers
<b>Sunday 10.30am</b>	Ivana Lo Bello Sonya Bading
<b>Sunday 6.00pm</b>	Ylenia Useli Anna Liggieri

## WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick  
*Anthony, Peter Bourke, John Plum  
Pasquale Curcio, Anthony Joseph,  
Ray Mc Veigh and Bronislawa Slobodzian*

Those who have died recently  
*Maureen Bedson*

We Commemorate

*Maria Crocco (6<sup>th</sup> month), Celio Pavan,  
Clelia Zanatta, Elia Zanatta,  
Adelice Zanatta and Ercole Zanatta*

O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.



## Online Masses - St. Patrick's Cathedral

Live Streaming at:

<https://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass> and

On Live TV on Channel 44 (31)

Monday- Friday: 1pm, Saturday: 8am, Sunday: 11am

## Holy Week 2021 at St Patrick's Cathedral

- Palm Sunday (28 March), 11am
- Holy Thursday (1 April), 7.30pm
- Good Friday (2 April), 3pm
- Easter Vigil (3 April), 7.30pm
- Easter Sunday (4 April), 11am



## Halima's Story

Halima is raising her two children in a refugee camp in Bangladesh while caring for her mother, who has a disability. Widowed at 21, Halima fled violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State and arrived at the camp with nothing.

Caritas Australia, through Caritas Bangladesh, helped Halima out with a shelter, cooking equipment, hygiene and sanitation training. She took on the role of community trainer herself, organising the cleaning of washrooms, wells and toilets.

Halima aspired to 'Be More'. She is proud that she is now able to earn a small income while maintaining the health of her family and the cleanliness of the camp community.

"My hope is that our children will be able to do a job, to live with pleasure, they will find their happiness - that will bring wellbeing for them," Halima says.

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

## Cleaning Roster: Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2021

*Anna and Lizzie*

Thank you for your help!

