

## 5th Sunday of Lent - Year C 6th - 7th April 2019

**First Reading:** Isaiah 43:16-21

*I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.*

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 125. R. v.3

R/ The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

**Second Reading:** Philippians 3:8-14

*Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.*

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for is the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation:** Joel 2:12-13

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!** With all your heart turn to me, for I am tender and compassionate. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

**Gospel:** John 8:1-11

*Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.*

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her'. Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

The Gospel of the Lord



## Sacred Heart Parish Preston

322 Bell St, Preston 3072

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### 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C 6th - 7th April 2019

#### “Blessed are those whose Offence is Forgiven”

The gospel today continues to offer lessons about God's mercy and forgiveness. Last week we heard the parable of the Prodigal Son. Jesus revealed through story and interactions with other human beings, God's limitless all-embracing Love for all without exception. Today we hear from John's Gospel of an encounter among Jesus, the scribes and Pharisees, and a woman caught in adultery.

We are told nothing of the precise circumstances of the woman. The man involved is at least as guilty of the act as the woman. But only the woman is brought to Jesus in the public arena, before the assembled crowd. The 'law-abiding' ones have little interest in the woman or her fate. Their interest is in Jesus. In other words Jesus is the one on trial: the woman is no more to them than a dispensable piece of bate. Her life is of no concern to her accusers.

They want to test Jesus and catch him out on his attitude to observing the Mosaic law when they say, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. According to the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. Jesus begins writing with his finger on the ground saying, "If there is one of you who has not sinned let him be the first to throw a stone." He has not taken the bate. They then move off one by one leaving the woman alive – in his presence. In a way he has invited them to be healed of their judgemental spirit. Alone with the woman, he neither condemns nor condones her. He simply takes her as she is, offering her a chance for real life and restoration of her dignity in a way that her accusers would never have dreamed possible. They wanted to take away her physical life – life was given to her by a loving God. Jesus' offer to her is God's unfailing love in a call to repentance. "Has no-one condemned you?" "No one Lord", she says. "Go then and sin no more."



The forgiveness of Jesus gives her the opportunity to live her life anew, as God longs for her to do. Not only has Jesus saved her physical life but he also refuses to let her be defined by the guilt of past sin and directs her toward a life of freedom in relationship to God.

The Lesson: God sent His Son into the world not to "condemn" but that the world might be "saved". (Jn3:17) He wants us to be freed from the past and to experience God's transforming grace.

“Blessed are those whose offence is forgiven” Psalm 32

**Office Hours:**

Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

**Parish Priest:**

Fr Jan Szweda, SVD

**Priests in Residence:**

Fr Ennio Mantovani SVD

Fr Phuong Vu SVD, La Trobe

University Chaplain

**Parish Office:** Cristina Agius

**School Principal:** Mark Tierney

**School Phone:** 9484 3514

**Sacrament Co-ordinator:**

Judeline Wadhvani

**Child Safety Officer:**

Judeline Wadhvani

M: 0490660787

judeline.wadhvani@gmail.com

**Parish Council Members:**

Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),

Kay Dufty (secretary), Gerard

Grant, Ophelia Swai, Anisasio

(Pauline) Veamatahau, Mark

Tierney, Fr Jan Szweda SVD

**St. Vincent de Paul Society:**

Pauline O'Day (President)

Ph: 9484 2445

#### 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) & Friday (Italian) after

9.10am Mass

**Legion of Mary:** Thursday

7.30pm, in the Presbytery

**Reconciliation:**

Weekdays: 30 minutes before

Mass or by appointment

**Baptisms & Weddings:**

By appointment only

**Celebration of the Sacrament of Penance**

The Sacrament of Penance is an excellent way to conclude the penitential season of Lent. Our Lenten Reconciliation Service with the opportunity of individual confessions will be held next week, **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> of April at 7.30 pm**. There will be no special confession time during Holy Week, except for the usual confession times: Thursday, Friday and Monday to Wednesday in Holy Week from 8.30-9.00 am. **Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday - NO CONFESSIONS.**

**Palm Sunday**

Next Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> April, we commemorate the Lord's entry into Jerusalem. It begins the Holy Week which embraces the last days of Lent (until Thursday) and the Easter Triduum. We will gather in front of the church for the blessing of palm or olive branches and process into the church. During Masses, the Passion of the Lord will be read. Throughout Holy Week, we will continue to reflect on the events of Jesus' passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God's Son and brought to fulfilment the Kingdom of God.



**Dates to Remember**

- All Fridays during Lent:** 7.30pm  
Stations of the Cross
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April:** 7.30pm  
Lenten Penitential Service
- Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April:**  
Palm Sunday, beginning of Holy Week
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April:** 11.00am  
St. Patrick's Cathedral: Mass of Oils
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April: Holy Thursday - 7.30pm**  
The Lord's Supper
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April: Good Friday**  
Stations of the Cross - 10.00am (English), 5pm (Italian)  
Passion of the Lord - 3.00pm
- Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Vigil**  
Mass at 7.30pm
- Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April: Easter Sunday**  
Mass Times: 9.00am, 10.30am & 6.00pm

**Last Week's Collection: 31/03/19**

1st Collection for our Church: \$1396.20  
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$1695.60  
*Thank you for your kind generosity!*



**Sacred Heart Primary School Enrolments**

Enrolments for the 2020 school year are open. For a school tour, contact the school principal on 9487 1001 or via the school website: <http://www.shpreston.catholic.edu.au>

**Lenten Program - The Person of Jesus**

**5th March - 9th April 2019**

Presenter: *Fr. Phuong Vu, SVD*  
Venue: Sacred Heart Preston  
Time: 7.00pm - 8.30pm



**Topic**  
**9th April - Jesus is the Redeemer**

**The Lenten Pilgrim Podcast**

Week 5: The Woman Caught in Adultery  
Listen now or download for later: <https://soundcloud.com/user-842576877/lent-week-5-the-woman-caught-in-adultery>

This week, Fr Anthony McSweeney SSS reflects on the "paschal mindset" that Lent calls us to. He says, "What John wants to emphasise is not the suffering but rather the 'totality' of what is at play. This is a story of victory, not defeat... Jesus is opening a pathway from cruel suffering to a fullness of life. And he is eager to share that victory with us, and he urges us to follow him. ... Our Lenten time is a time of training and developing a "Paschal mindset". That means learning how to see our own negative experiences as events of seed-sowing, whether it is pain or disappointment, failure or shame, worry or fear. That's hard. Spontaneously we resist. We seek to evade such things. We cling to what we feel our life should be. But doing so, Jesus tells us, means losing something precious."

**Good Friday Collection 2019**

The Good Friday annual collection for the support of the Church in the Holy Land promotes her missionary work by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres throughout the Holy Land also rely on assistance from the Good Friday collection. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Last year the Australian Catholics donated \$1.4 million to this cause. The collection will be taken up on Good Friday. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the Christians of the Holy Land.

**Project Compassion**

Please return your envelopes or boxes with your donations by next Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you for your generosity.



**Empowering the Family**



If you seek happiness and a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ, please come to inspirational talks about living Christian life. It is offered by Couples for Christ Australia. Activities for children and afternoon tea included. When: 7 Sundays, starting today, 7<sup>th</sup> April, from 1pm to 4pm  
Where: Our parish hall, Sacred Heart Hall, 85 David St, Preston.

**Did You Know?**

At the present time, there are fifty students in our seminary at Carlton, Corpus Christi College. There are currently thirty-five students for the Archdiocese of Melbourne - thirty in Corpus Christi College and five studying in Rome. Please keep these men in your prayers, and pray that many more will join them to minister in our Archdiocese. Your prayer today might make the difference to a young person.

**Friday Night Movie**



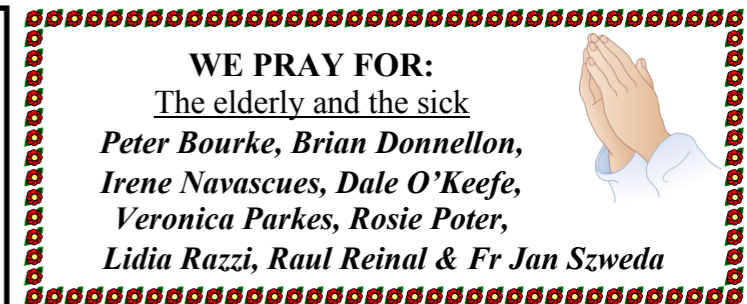
This is an open invitation to all to come to the presbytery on **Friday night 12<sup>th</sup> April**, for a movie presentation. The 54 min film, entitled "Divine Mercy - In the name of Miracles", is a documentary about the miracle that led to Sr Faustina's canonisation. The presentation starts after the Stations of the Cross at about 8.15pm. Some refreshments and drinks will be served. Welcome!!

**'Coming Home' Concert**

Fr Rob Galea and his band of professional musicians will be giving a full-production 'Coming Home' concert in Melbourne in July. Catholic music as you have not heard before in a quality and uplifting presentation of Christian music with outstanding lighting, visual and sound production. Fr Rob's music brings a positive message in a modern style appealing to all ages. More information at [www.frgministry.com/tickets](http://www.frgministry.com/tickets)

**Pastoral Council Meeting**

During the Pastoral Council meeting on March 19th, the Pastoral Council members discussed the Parish Picnic, held on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March. We looked at what worked really well and what we can do to improve future parish events. A report was received on the progress of the Child Safety group in relation to their progress on the new Child Safety standards. This report showed how much work this group is doing to ensure the safety of all children in our parish.



**In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop 25th Anniversary National Pilgrimage**

The Sisters of St Joseph invite you to join the 25th anniversary National Pilgrimage, giving you the opportunity to journey to places in Australia made holy by St Mary MacKillop. The Pilgrimage commences in Melbourne 22<sup>nd</sup> October, visiting Penola, Adelaide and other significant places, and concludes in Sydney 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2019. Cost \$3,575 - \$4,390 (twin share) depending on capital city of departure (Australia or New Zealand). Single supplement for all areas \$685 pp. For a brochure, application form or further information please email: [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au) or call Sr Therese Leydon rsj on 0417 683 123, or Sr Annie Bond rsj on (02) 8912 4818.

**Thank you - Holy Week Ceremonies 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April**

Thanks to all who have signed up participate in the Holy Week Ceremonies. Some are still needed: Parish Ministers of Eucharist and Readers; Holy Thursday: Washing of the feet - volunteers welcome and other roles...singers? Please sign up today and you will be contacted next week.

**Cleaning Roster: Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

**Pauline/Cory**  
Thank you for your help!



**Roster for weekend of 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

	Readers	Ministers	Projector
<b>Sat 6.00pm</b>	Mary Harb Terry Murphy	Marlene Vergou Barbara Fitzgerald	Rohan Lemos
<b>Sun 9.00am (Italian)</b>	Bozzella C.	Gugliotti A. Ilardi L.	O'Neill A.
<b>Sun 10.30am</b>	Catherine Zanatta Sonya Bading	Teresa Bernardini Ivana Lo Bello	Jessy Thambiraj
<b>Sun 6.00pm</b>	Anna Liggieri Ylenia Useli	Sharon Kotz	Jessica Suppiah