

# 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 29th - 30th August 2020

**First Reading:** Jer 20:7-9

*The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.*

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

The Word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 62:2-6. 8-9. R. v.2

R/ My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

**Second Reading:** Romans 11:33-36

*May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.*

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

The Word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:** See Eph 1:17-18

**Alleluia, alleluia!** May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called. **Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Matthew 16:21-27

*Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.*

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?'

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**"Take up your cross and follow me."**

**What is the cross in your life? What hurdles do you face?**

**The cross, when embraced with love and trust that God knows what he's doing, changes us...**

**and through us, can touch the hearts and open the minds of others as well.**



## Sacred Heart Parish Preston

322 Bell St, Preston 3072

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Email: preston@cam.org.au Website: www.sacredheartpreston.com.au



## 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 29th - 30th August 2020 Social Justice Sunday

### The Cost of Following Jesus and its Blessings

Scripture readings for this Sunday call upon us to embrace the discipleship of Jesus not as a religion of devotion and self-satisfaction, but a discipleship of commitment and self-sacrifice. The more Jeremiah condemned corruption, shifting alliances and oppression, the more he was attacked. In the end he remained faithful to his mission, showing what it meant to live as a person of integrity, to have the moral courage to walk the long road of fidelity.

Jesus also expects such courage and commitment of the disciples. "If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me."

Christian discipleship consists of walking the path of "the Son of Man who came not to be served, but to serve and to give his life for others." And surely this was the path Jesus walked, putting his own comfort and security aside to identify with the suffering of others, listening and comforting the sorrowful and the fearful, embracing those considered unclean and outcast, healing the afflicted and personally witnessing to God's all-embracing mercy, that nothing can separate them from the love of God.

This does not mean that suffering is something followers should actively seek for its own sake. As his grief in Gethsemane made clear, suffering was the price he and his followers would pay for acting justly, loving tenderly and walking humbly with our God. Addressing openly, harsh and unjust practices in the world that exclude and oppress to reframe an alternative vision of hope, love, solidarity and service in union with Jesus for the benefit of others.

On this Social Justice Sunday, the readings call us to a deeper understanding of discipleship. It is not about seeking out hardship. Faithfulness to the Gospel and to the Christian mission will bring enough challenge on their own. Within this, all are invited to put on the mind of God. We are invited to enter into the paschal mystery with Jesus where suffering is not the end, and power and authority are not markers of success. Authentic discipleship shares the daily joys and sorrows of people, especially those most in need. People who suffer mental ill-health and those who walk with them are assured that God is not absent, but is present in the loving words and actions in people's lives when times are hardest. Nothing can take away their inherent dignity and worth in the eyes of God, their Loving Father.

Happy are they who hunger and thirst after justice; the kingdom of heaven is theirs.



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

**Parish Priest:**  
Fr Jan Szweda, SVD

**Assistant Priest:**  
Fr Aloysius Nato, SVD

**Italian Community Chaplain:**  
Fr Albano Da Costa, SVD

**Deacon:**  
Yosef Meda, SVD

**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)  
0425 779 831

**St. Vincent de Paul Society:**  
Pauline O'Day (President)  
Ph: 9484 2445

### Parish Mass Schedule

#### Zoom Live Stream Masses

Monday – Friday at 9.10 am

Sunday at 10.30 am

Please call Fr Jan for  
Zoom ID on: 0400469540

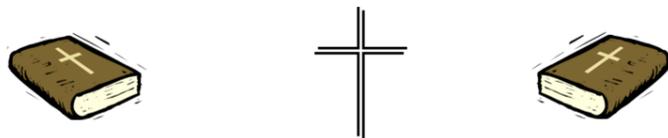
**For other  
Online Mass  
Schedule  
see next page**

### Thank You for Your Support

My sincere gratitude to all parishioners who in this challenging time of lockdown since March have been supporting our Parish through Thanksgiving envelopes or cash donations, as well as direct bank donations. With your generous support we have been able to pay all our running expenses, help those who turn up at the Presbytery door asking for help and help some needy families. I am aware that many of you have faced difficulties in managing your family finances at this time or helping others who are in less fortunate situations than yourself. Therefore, your support for our Parish is more appreciated and valued. Once again, I humbly thank you for looking after your Parish and your clergy. Fr Jan

### Keeping in Touch

Peter Constable, the chairman of our Parish Finance Committee, has successfully applied to the Darebin City Council for supporting a Parish project to help keep in touch with our parishioners, especially Seniors, during and after the coronavirus lockdown. We received a grant of \$5,000. With this amount we will purchase a colour printer to produce weekly newsletters in English and Italian. Many of our senior parishioners do not have internet or Wi-Fi connections and are not able to access our newsletter on the website or Facebook. We hope that through the printed word we can re-connect with them and keep in touch as one Family.



### Dates to Remember

- Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September:** Father's Day
- Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September:** National Child Protection Week
- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September:** Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September:** Child Protection Sunday

### Online Masses

**St. Patrick's Cathedral - Live Streaming at:**

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

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

Recorded masses can also be viewed at:

[www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass](http://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass)

Or: <http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>

### TV Masses

**Channel 44 (31):** Live telecast from St. Patrick's Cathedral, Sunday at 11am

**Channel 10:** Mass for you at home, Sunday at 6am.

**RAI:** Italian Mass from the Vatican, Sunday at 8:30am

### 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.**

### Social Justice Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2020



The Bishops' Annual Social Justice Statement, "To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today", encourages faith communities, governments and individuals to make mental health a priority.

Bishop Terry Brady, Bishop Delegate for Social Justice, has called on all Catholics to take up the message and challenges of the Statement. "This is a timely message in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic is affecting many members of our parishes, schools and communities," Bishop Brady said.

"The personal feelings of anxiety and despair we all share at this time provide an opportunity to become more aware and active in fostering the mental health of all. Understanding mental health will help us to be aware of those who most need our support."

The Statement encourages parishes and local communities to be places of welcome and inclusion, overcoming the barriers and stigma often faced by people experiencing mental ill-health. It demands the commitment of governments and policy-makers to prevent so many people falling through the cracks of the mental health system. It also calls for the nation's commitment to address those policies that exacerbate the already precarious circumstances of First Australians and refugees and asylum-seekers.

"Our society tends to push away or draw away from those who confront us with our frailties and limitations. This is not the way of Jesus," Bishop Brady said.

"Let us follow him in drawing near to those who are experiencing mental ill-health and acknowledge that they are members of the Body of Christ - 'they' are part of 'us'. Only then can we say 'we are all in this together'. Only then can we 'live life to the full'."

The 2020-2021 Social Justice Statement, 'To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today', can be downloaded from the Office for Social Justice website: [http://bit.ly/SocialJustice\\_2020](http://bit.ly/SocialJustice_2020)

### Next Sunday - Special collection for the:

[Priest's Retirement Foundation](#)

### Collections

1st Collection: \$575.00

2nd Collection: \$215.00

Thank you for your kind generosity!



### The Hour of the Domestic Church Is Now

From an article by Teresa Pirola,  
Office of Evangelisation and Faith Formation in Broken Bay Diocese, April 2020

Think about it: we are living through a moment in history when, in every parish and diocese around the world, the domestic space is the only place where most Catholics can be fully present to one another in celebrating their Catholic traditions. In fact, the terrible necessity of enforced home isolation has opened up an extraordinary opportunity: to call the faithful, family units of every kind and configuration, to rediscover their power to 'be' church, each within their unique domestic context.

It is time to move beyond the initial crisis management period (focused on online Masses), to intentional lay empowerment. Our conversations can be less about the pros and cons of 'virtual' Mass attendance, and more on filled with talk of 'home-based spirituality'.

The resounding message from the ecclesial leadership, surely, has to be: Now is the time for the lay faithful to step up. Your home is a holy place, you are 'priest' in your own home; your meal table is your 'altar', your family is the church in miniature, the domestic church.

### 10 Principals of Catholic Social Teaching

The human person is the clearest reflection of God's presence in the world.

Catholic social teaching is designed to protect and promote the dignity of every person.

Here are the 10 Principles of Catholic Social Teaching

1. The Principle of Respect for Human Dignity
2. The Principle of Respect for Human Life
3. The Principle of Association
4. The Principle of Participation
5. The Principle of Preferential Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
6. The Principle of Solidarity
7. The Principle of Stewardship
8. The Principle of Subsidiarity
9. The Principle of Human Equality
10. The Principle of Common Good

For more information see: [http://www.meetingpoint.org.au/assets/mp\\_sl7\\_tpcst.pdf](http://www.meetingpoint.org.au/assets/mp_sl7_tpcst.pdf)

### Grace in the Pandemic Situation

Fr Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM Cap, the preacher to the papal household, says: "I believe there is a grace in the current pandemic situation: that of the Eucharist being removed from its worst enemy, which is being turned into just a routine habit, into something we take for granted, or reduce to no more than a pious practice. (The Tablet, 30 May 2020)

### Resources for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Please share these online resources with your families.

The first resource contains the [Sunday readings](#) and is for families to share.

The [family resource](#) is designed for families with young children.

### WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick  
*Anthony, Lopisoni Amato,  
Peter Bourke, Maria Crocco,  
Nicola D'Orazio, Charlie Fragiaco,  
Anthony Joseph, Stephen Meese, Kim Maguire,  
Kevin Sievers & Bronislawa Slobodzin*

Those who have died recently  
*Walter De Stefani*

O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon him.  
May he rest in peace. Amen.



### A Prayer to St Joseph

You were receptive to God working in your life. Help us by your prayers at this time of trial.

You kept Jesus and Mary under your watchful care: may your prayers assist our local Church to respond to those in need.

You taught the Christ Child your trade and prayers: help us to follow his example of love.

You were part of God's plan for all humanity: assist us to be vigilant and responsible this day.

You spent your life in service: May we be mindful of others, particularly the elderly and vulnerable, caring for them in these difficult days.

You trusted in the clear primacy of God over all history and every situation: help us grow in faith and pray to the Father, *thy will be done.*

Amen



 *Students are at the heart of everything we do.*

### Sacred Heart School Enrolments 2021

Dear Parishioners,  
We still have a couple of positions for students commencing school in Year Prep 2021 and some positions in other classes, for parishioners who have moved into our area. If you would like some information about our school, please ring the school on 9487 1001 or contact the principal at: [mtierney@shpreston.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mtierney@shpreston.catholic.edu.au)

### Sacred Heart Bulletin

The Sacred Heart Bulletin is available online and if you would like to have a copy emailed to you, please send an email to: [sacredheart3072@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheart3072@gmail.com) or call the office on 94803398 to be added to the email list.