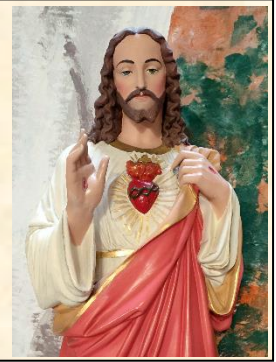




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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

Italian Community Chaplain:

Fr Albano Da Costa, SVD
0478 963 248

Parish Office: Rachel Costa

School Principal: Mark Tierney

School Phone: 9487 1001

Sacrament Coordinator: TBA

Safeguarding Committee:

Safeguarding Officers:

Robert Dullard

Safeguarding Committee: Members:

Mary Harb, Teresa Dang, Pauline O'Day

Parish Council Members:

Gerard Grant (chairperson), Ophelia Swai,
Anisasio (Pauline) Veamatahau, Mark
Tierney, Ben Fortuna, Natalie Baran,
Judeline Wadhvani and Joanne Verga

Parish Finance Committee:

Peter Constable (Chair)

St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Stephen Costello (President)

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 February,
May, August & November at 1:30pm

Next Healing Mass: Friday 3 May 2024

Devotional Practices:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Thursday at 7:30pm for 1 hour.
(Excluding last Thursday of the month)



Holy Rosary: Thursday (English) after the
9:10am Mass

Reconciliation:

Every Saturday at 5:15pm

Baptisms & Weddings: By appointment only

Breakfast with Fr Aloysius

1st Monday of the month, the next one is on
Monday 4 March in the presbytery after
9:10am Mass.

Bulletin printed: 23/2/2024

*Our Parish is committed to the safety,
wellbeing and dignity of all children
and vulnerable adults.*

2nd Sunday of Lent (Year B) Sunday 25 February 2024

“I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the Land of the living”

Last week, the wilderness was the place where Jesus came to terms with the limits of His humanity and looking beyond those limits, from the core of His heart placed His trust in the love of God to be with Him for His whole journey of life – whatever might unfold. This week, the focus is a mountain that Jesus ascends accompanied by three of His chosen disciples and experiences a Divine Presence.

In scripture mountains are places in which encounters and revelation from God occurred. Abraham, Moses and Elijah received commissioning from God to His people on mountain peaks – meeting places of heaven and earth.

The transfiguration of Jesus takes place on a mountain top. This occurs a time when Jesus has accepted His likely fate: if He continues to challenge oppression and injustice, He is certain to encounter opposition, even death. Jesus has already discussed this with His disciples which Peter could not understand or accept. “If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let them deny themselves, take up their cross and follow me....” (Mark 8:34)

So Jesus takes Peter, James and John up a mountain away from the everyday distractions of life to be alone for a while. There they experienced Him as they had never seen Him before and are in awe as Moses and Elijah appear before them in conversation with Jesus.

Peter, overcome by the experience wants to stay in the moment of glory and set up three tents for Moses, Elijah and Jesus. But that is not the way of discipleship. God speaks: ‘This is my Son the Beloved One. Listen to him!!!’ Following the path of Jesus will be nothing less than undertaking God’s mission to the whole of humanity- and not without cost.

Like Jesus and His companions, we too need occasional glimpses of glory when we become overwhelmed by challenges facing us as we strive to love and be faithful to the values that are important to us as followers of Jesus the Beloved Son. At such times we need a bit of time to draw apart to a quiet place - a mountain - to sense the reality of God’s presence in our lives. But we cannot stay on the mountain in devotional solitude forever. Sooner or later we must come down from our mountain and continue life in the way Jesus beckons us “I am among you as one who serves” (Luke 22). We are called to be in practical ways the image of God’s mercy in our families, our neighbourhoods and especially towards the suffering, poor, mistreated, abused and ignored amongst us. – in the words of today’s psalm ‘walking in the presence of the Lord in the Land of the living’.

*“The Recluse: 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.”
- Wisdom of the Sufi Salh*

I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living

Psalm 114



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
24-Feb-24	Celia Lemos Mary Harb	Charlotte Bains
02-Mar-24	Teresa Dang Terry Murphy	Mary Harb
09-Mar-24	Marlene Vergou Mary Harb	Terry Murphy

	Sunday 10:30AM Mass - Readers	Sunday 10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion
25-Feb-24	Joanne Verga Ophelia Swai	Giovanna D' Intino
03-Mar-24	Hannah Lopez Marilene Fortuna	Tony Eley
10-Mar-24	Jessica Suppiah Albert D'Souza	Eileen Stevens

	Sunday 6:00PM Mass - Readers	Sunday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion
25-Feb-24	Tim Rankin Michelle Totawatte	Damian Casamento
03-Mar-24	Natalie Baran Michelle Totawatte	Robert Dullard
10-Mar-24	Tim Rankin Natalie Baran	Damian Casamento

Attention Ministers of Communion and Readers

NEW ROSTERS and updated phone lists have been emailed. Please also 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.



WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Sandra Bishop, John Storrie, Joan Bonwick, Ampelio Cavallin
Our Sacred Heart School student Samantha Corsi
Our parishioners, family members and friends, that they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect.

Those who have died recently:

Carmela Sartori (RIP 30/1 in Italy)

Gianni Dal Ponte (RIP 07.02 in Thiene, Vicenza, Italy)

We Commemorate:

Giuseppe & Antonio Sartori

O Lord may perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen.



Last Week's Collection: 18.2.2024

1st Collection for our Church: \$915

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$898

Thank you for your kind generosity!



Sacrificial giving via QR code

To support our parish and priest, 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.

Kindly consider donating to both the Church and Presbytery accounts.

Many thanks for your continued generosity and support to Sacred Heart parish.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OUR TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

Sacred Heart Community Preston acknowledges the Wurundjeri People 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 27 February

St Gregory Narek, Abbot, Doctor

Friday 1 March

Autumn Ember Day – special day of prayer and penance



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



War is always a defeat. Wherever fighting occurs, people are exhausted. Let us Pray Together tirelessly, because prayer is effective. May we ask the Lord for the gift of minds and hearts dedicated concretely to Peace.-



Dates to Remember in Lent:

All Thursdays during Lent –
Lenten reflection and Adoration
7:30pm – in the Church

All Fridays during Lent –

Stations of the Cross – after 9:10am Mass in the Church



A Lenten Prayer inspired by Psalm 51

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;

in the greatness of your compassion

wipe out my offenses against the gift of your Creation.

Thoroughly wash me from my guilt

and cleanse me of my ecological sins.

For I acknowledge my offense against you, Creator God,
my ecological sins stand now before me:

In my broken relationship with your Earth and my fellow creatures,
against You and your divine will have I sinned.

Create a clean heart in me, O God, through your Creator Spirit,
and renew my Christian vocation to care for your Creation.

Help me hear and see your message of love in Creation,

and sustain in me a willing spirit of ecological conversion.

By the grace of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ,

Redeemer of the whole cosmos,

Amen.



SAFE PARKING PRACTICE AT SACRED HEART PARISH

All visitors and parishioners are reminded **not to park** vehicles in the driveways around the church building, including

1. The straight driveway leading to the rear car park.
2. The curved shaped driveway in front of the church entrance.

Parking in these driveways is a safety risk and restricts access for emergency services such as ambulances in the event of a medical emergency which could have serious consequences. Parking in these areas is also a safety risk for people, including children.

Thank you for being considerate and looking after each other in true Sacred Heart community spirit.



New Seminarians

The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne are delighted to accept eight men to the Seminary for Melbourne this year:

Chinh Tran, Rohan Prince, Luke Kennedy,

Luke Emslie, Tung Phan, Joseph Maae,

Patrick Harris and Mathews Noble.

Please pray for them!



LENT AND FLOWERS

Please, NO flowers in the church during Lent.
Flowers that are left in the church will be removed



Second Sunday of Lent – 24 & 25 February



After the birth of her children, 22-year-old Ronita was at risk of having to leave school permanently. But, with the support of Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines, she resumed her studies and secured a job at a call centre to support her family.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.



NEW LIFE IN GOD'S SPIRIT

An eight-week seminar every Wednesday

Commencing on the 7th of February 2024 with Mass

TIME: 1:30pm – 3:00pm

St. Raphael's Catholic Church

17 Hardy St. Preston West

For More Details Contact - Marijana 0422 340 675

The Living Gospel Prayer Group

7/2 – Mass and introduction

14/2 – session 1 – God's promise – you will receive power

21/2 – session 2 – The unconditional love of God

28/2 – session 3 - Jesus is Lord

6/3 – session 4 - The gift of God's Spirit

13/3 – session 5 - Forgiveness, healing and reconciliation

20/3 – session 6 - New life in God's Spirit

27/3 - sessions 7/8 - Growth and community in the Lord



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:

- Prayer
- Self Denial
- Helping Others

* Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday, 14 February 2024 and Trinity Sunday 26 May 2024 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.



GLORY OF EUROPE PILGRIMAGE:

We invite you on a 14 day remarkable journey to explore the Glory of Europe. Immerse yourself in the rich history and profound spirituality of this journey as we embark on a tour from Lisbon to Rome. Fr Simon Grainger will be the Chaplain of the tour.

The package cost is \$5,300 AUD exclusive of Airfare.

The tour commences on 21 September 2024.

For enquiries or booking, please phone 0459 726 360 or nativitytoursau@gmail.com.

See poster in church foyer for more details.

Save the date: 6 April 2024

Dinner dance

Sacred Heart Hall

85 David Street, Preston

\$50 per person

dinner, desert and soft drinks provided

BYO Alcohol

More information to come in due course



Second Sunday of Lent - B - A VOCATION VIEW:

If you need an example of a person responding to a vocational call, look at Abraham - called in old age to leave his country, father a child, then asked to sacrifice the child. What faith! Vocation is a risky response to a unique call from God.



'ASHES TO EASTER': LENTEN CONCERT-REFLECTION

with Peter Kearney. Friday 1st March, 7.00pm. St. Luke's Church, 1A David Street, LALOR. Donations welcome.

Hosted by St. Luke's Parish, Lalor. Enquiries: 03 9465 2180.

Peter Kearney is an Australian Catholic songwriter, singer and guitarist whose hymns and songs include 'Fill My House', 'The Beatitudes' and 'Where Is Your Song, my Lord?'

His 'Ashes to Easter' concert weaves songs and stories and reflections on Lenten themes and looks ahead to Holy Week and Easter. Mainly for adults though upper-primary and older students could also enjoy.

"A beautiful Lenten reflection ... prayerful and spiritual ... a worthwhile part of our Lenten journey".

Invite your friends; walk-ins welcome or book to save to your calendar. Book your free tickets online at www.trybooking.com/COXOR



Great Women of Faith: Portrait exhibition by Barbara Skorupa

This unique exhibition in St Patrick's Cathedral will feature 24 beautiful portraits of extraordinary women of faith by Cologne-based artist Barbara Skorupa. The portraits have been selected from the artist's collection of more than 100 paintings of extraordinary women from different cultures and eras, including Australians St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Dr Sr Mary Glowrey JMJ and Eileen O'Connor.

Friday 1 March – Sunday 10 March 2024, 9.00am - 4.00pm

Cost: free

Joke Corner

One morning one of the residents of a local nursing home didn't show up for breakfast so my wife and I went upstairs and knocked on his door to see if everything was okay. He said that he was running late and would be down shortly, so we went back to the dining area.

An hour later he still hadn't arrived, so my wife went back to his room but found him on the stairs. He was coming down the staircase but it was hard going for him. He had a death grip on the hand rail and seemed to have trouble getting his legs to work in unison. She told him she was going to call an ambulance but he told her no, he wasn't in any pain and just wanted to have his breakfast. So, she helped him down the stairs and he ate his breakfast. When he tried to return to his room, however, he was unable to get up the first step of the stairs, so an ambulance was called.

A couple of hours later we called the hospital to see how he was doing. The receptionist began to giggle but said he was fine. He simply had trouble walking because he had both of his legs in one side of his boxer shorts.



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 22:1-2,9-13,15-18

God put Abraham to the test.
'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I
am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God
said 'your only child Isaac, whom you
love, and go to the land of Moriah.
There you shall offer him as a burnt
offering, on a mountain I will point out
to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had
pointed out to him, Abraham built an
altar there, and arranged the wood.
Then he bound his son Isaac and put
him on the altar on top of the wood.
Abraham stretched out his hand and
seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him
from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he
said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not
raise your hand against the boy' the
angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now
I know you fear God. You have not
refused me your son, your only son.'
Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram
caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham
took the ram and offered it as a burnt-
offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham
a second time from heaven. 'I swear by
my own self – it is the Lord who
speaks – because you have done this,
because you have not refused me your
son, your only son, I will shower
blessings on you, I will make your
descendants as many as the stars of
heaven and the grains of sand on the
seashore. Your descendants shall gain
possession of the gates of their
enemies. All the nations of the earth
shall bless themselves by your
descendants, as a reward for your
obedience.'

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 115(116):10,15-19

The Response Is:

***I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.***

I trusted, even when I said:

'I am sorely afflicted,'

O precious in the eyes of the Lord

is the death of his faithful.

***I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.***

Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;
you have loosened my bonds.

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make;

I will call on the Lord's name.

***I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.***

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil

before all his people,

in the courts of the house of the Lord,

in your midst, O Jerusalem.

***I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living.***

SECOND READING

Romans 8:31-34

With God on our side who can be
against us? Since God did not spare his
own Son, but gave him up to benefit us
all, we may be certain, after such a gift,
that he will not refuse anything he can
give. Could anyone accuse those that
God has chosen? When God acquits,
could anyone condemn? Could Christ
Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he
rose from the dead, and there at God's
right hand he stands and pleads for us.

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

Mark 9:2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James
and John and led them up a high
mountain where they could be alone by
themselves. There in their presence he
was transfigured: his clothes became
dazzlingly white, whiter than any
earthly bleacher could make them.
Elijah appeared to them with Moses;
and they were talking with Jesus. Then

Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said
'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let
us make three tents, one for you, one
for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did
not know what to say; they were so
frightened. And a cloud came, covering
them in shadow; and there came a voice
from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the
Beloved. Listen to him.' Then
suddenly, when they looked round,
they saw no one with them any more
but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain
he warned them to tell no one what they
had seen, until after the Son of Man had
risen from the dead. They observed the
warning faithfully, though among
themselves they discussed what 'rising
from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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

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

