

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

7th - 8th November 2020

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is found by those who look for it.

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 62:2-8. R. v.2

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

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Those who died as Christians, God will bring to life with Jesus.

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord forever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 24:42.44

Alleluia, alleluia! Be watchful and ready: you know not when the Son of Man is coming. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Look, the bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him.

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out". But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves". They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you". So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.

The Gospel of the Lord

How is Jesus inviting us to stay awake this day?

How is Wisdom inviting us to stay awake to ourselves and God in each moment; not for something or some time to come but to live a Christ filled, heaven on earth, life today.

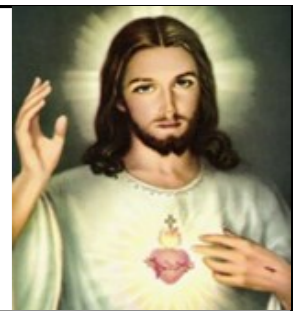


Sacred Heart Parish

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



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

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

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

7th - 8th November 2020

Be Vigilant

The Gospel parable of the ten virgins represents the "Chosen People of God" who were waiting for the Messiah to come. Some were prepared to welcome him even if he was late. Others were not. Are we prepared to meet him when he comes? How are we to remain ever prepared?

Watchful and wise Christians find Jesus in the most ordinary experiences of daily living — in the people they meet, the events that take place, and the situations in which they find themselves, and they carefully make their daily choices for God. Watchful and wise Christians are ready to put the commandment of love into practice by showing kindness, mercy and forgiveness. They are sure that their 'Lamps' are ready for the end of their lives: Spiritual readiness, preparation, and growth are the result of intended habits built into their life. They do not depend on a Sunday Mass only or morning prayer to provide all their spiritual needs. They do not depend on retreats or workshops only to provide them with spiritual development. The meeting of spiritual needs and spiritual development itself come through routine, everyday attention to the way they live their Christian lives — making sure they have enough oil or spiritual fuel: oil of compassion and mercy, oil of patience, sympathy, love and forgiveness.

We open ourselves to receive these graces by taking time for prayer and by being alone with God; by reading God's Word; by living a sacramental life; by offering acts of service to others; by moral faithfulness, by loving obedience, and by spending time with other Catholics for mutual prayer, study and encouragement. When we receive the graces we need, we thank God for his generous love. As taking these ways becomes habitual, they cease to be a struggle and begin to be a source of strength and blessing.

They make our lives powerful against the challenges of the post-modern world. Today's parable

warns us that there are certain things which cannot be obtained at the last minute: a good relationship with God, good character, merits from good deeds of sharing and forgiving love, and humble service done to others. The parable also warns us of certain foundations of Christian life cannot be borrowed: relationship with God, ideal character, faith.

St Ignatius of Loyola's famous prayer is the prayer of the follower of Jesus; 'Lord, teach me to know you more, love you more and serve you more faithfully in my life.' The "more" indicates that our earthly life is always in process, never a finished product: like love and friendship it grows in our lives. Jesus is never gone from us. Risen from the dead he is always alive, always new. Our reading of the Gospel, our sharing at Mass and the sacraments and our personal prayer keep this relationship always alive, always new.

Cf. Fr. Anthony Kadavil



Let's be a Welcoming Community

As we are slowly allowed to return to church, let us not just 'come back as before'. Let us become a Welcoming Community. We are no visitors or guests in our church. We are the Sacred Heart Family gathering at church to worship and celebrate. We are the 'household' and we must welcome one another as friends or family members coming together. We say 'hallo' to others and introduce ourselves to those whom we do not know yet. Let us make an effort to arrive at the church some minutes before the Mass starts and in the foyer of the church or in good weather outside the church spend a minute or two meeting other parishioners. Now the opportunity to become a Welcoming Parish is here. Let us not miss this chance!

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.

Sacred Heart Mass Times

Saturday: 6:00pm

Sunday: 9:00am (Italian), 10:30 am, 6:00 pm

Monday to Friday: 9.10am

Since only 10 people are permitted to attend Mass, registration is compulsory by calling Fr Jan on 0400469540 or Fr Aloisius on 0428715282

Church Safety and Hygiene Regulations

Dear Parishioners,
As restrictions have started to ease in Metropolitan Melbourne, we are now able to gather in limited numbers to celebrate the Eucharist in church. I want to assure you that all measures to keep us safe have been put in place. Everyone is to wear a face mask throughout the Mass or other celebrations. All hygiene and distancing regulations are to be observed at all times. I kindly ask for your understanding and cooperation. Please note that you must register for Sunday Masses by calling Fr Jan on 0400469540.

Thank you, Fr Jan

Together in mission and hope New Archdiocesan Website

Earlier this year, the Archdiocese began a review of our overall online presence with a view to improving the Archdiocesan, agency and parish websites. Our websites have been running on aging and numerous platforms which have raised a multitude of issues, and limited our ability to provide ongoing support for parishes and agencies. COVID-19 has proven just how integral both physical and online connections are to our mission as Church.

Today, we are very pleased to formally present: www.melbournecatholic.org

This project has been an opportunity for us - together - to create a new and more intentional digital footprint into the future.

Please be encouraged to take up this invitation. ENJOY!

First Holy Communion

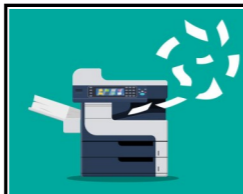


As churches have been reopened and we can have 20 worshippers present at Mass from Monday onwards, plans to celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion have been

made as follow: Reconciliation weekday evening before the end of the month of November, First Holy Communion in two groups: Sundays 29 November and 6 December at 12 noon. At this stage, only family of children receiving Holy Communion and their teachers will attend these Masses.



Parish Newsletter in Colour



With the purchase of a colour photocopier we plan to print our parish newsletter in colour. Obviously, the cost of printing will increase. For this reason we may be placing some business or services advertisements that will sponsor the extra printing cost.

With the new Italian Community chaplain, Fr Albano Costa, SVD, we decided to print a parish newsletter in Italian. This will enable us to reach out and keep in touch with our senior Italian parishioners who are no longer able to attend Mass at our church.

Catholic Social Teaching and the Climate Crisis

Dr Celia Deane-Drummond (Laudato Si' Institute, Oxford) and Fr Peter Smith (Archdiocese of Sydney), discuss the successes, challenges, and

possibilities of Catholic responses to the climate crisis.

Date: Wednesday 11 November 2020

Time: 5.00pm — 6.00pm

Register: please register by emailing: ies@nd.edu.au



Sacred Heart Christmas Gift Appeal 2020

For some years thanks to the generous assistance of parishioners, our Sacred Heart Community has collected Christmas food items and delivered hampers to families and individuals who members of our St Vincent de Paul team have visited throughout the year and who continue to struggle with living costs.

Due to the current restrictions we will need to adopt a different approach from previous years. This year parishioners are invited to:

* Donate a gift card of \$10 or more (Coles or Woolworths - for a family to purchase Christmas food items or a Kmart, Toys R Us or other Card as a gift for a family member) or

* Give a cash donation.

Please place your card or donation in an envelope labelled "Christmas Gift Appeal" with contact details of the donor if you require a receipt. You may either:

* Deliver your gift to the Presbytery or

* Contact Moira McMahon 0439 619 623 or Pauline O'Day 9484 2445 to arrange collection of your donation.

News from St Vincent de Paul



1. The St Vincent de Paul Society Preston Conference has a new President. Pauline O'Day has finished her term of office. On behalf of the parish we thank Pauline for her dedication and commitment in her leadership role and service to the needy persons and families in our parish and beyond. Stephen Costello has been elected the new president. Congratulations and good wishes to Stephen. As we will always have the poor among us we pledge our continued support and prayers for the members and work of the Vinnies.

2. Vinnies Shops are now opened. If you have goods you wish to donate, it is recommended that you contact the store before you present goods as there are presently limitations on the types of goods that can be received and the times that they can be accepted.

Vinnies Wood Street Shop, Phone: 9478 6845

Lord Jesus Christ, watch over your missionaries – priests, religious, and lay people – who leave everything to give testimony to your word and your love.

In difficult moments, sustain their energies, comfort their hearts, and crown their work with spiritual achievements.

Let the adorable image of you crucified on the Cross, which accompanies them throughout life, speak to them of heroism, generosity, love and peace. Amen

WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Dhea Abenir, Anthony, Lopisoni Amato, Peter Bourke, Pasquale Curcio, Anthony Joseph, Ray Mc Veigh, John Plum & Bronislawa Slobodzian

Those who have died recently

Francesco Bonarrigo

O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon him.

May he rest in peace. Amen.

At the heart of who we are not all the buildings but the person of Jesus Christ, who enters into our lives and who we then share with others.

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli

Working with Children Check Cards

To all Lay Ministers and Volunteers: Please check your WWC card. If it has expired, please renew it as soon as possible. Those who have no valid card will not be allowed to serve at celebrations and gatherings. If you need any assistance in applying for a card, please see Fr Jan or call the Parish Office on 9480 3398.

Thank you for your understanding and complying with government and Church requirements.

Online Masses

St. Patrick's Cathedral - Live Streaming at:

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

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

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

Collections

1st Collection: \$1209.90.00

Direct Debit for October: \$1725.00

2nd Collection: \$773.20

Thank you for your kind generosity!

