

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A, 8th - 9th February 2020

First Reading: Isaiah 58:7-10

Your light will shine like the dawn.

Thus says the Lord: Share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor; clothe the man you see to be naked and turn not from your own kin. Then will your light shine like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Your integrity will go before you and the glory of the Lord behind you. Cry, and the Lord will answer; call, and he will say, 'I am here.' If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word, if you give your bread to the hungry, and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness, and your shadows become like noon.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4

R/ A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

Second Reading: Corinthians 2:1-5

I came to you to proclaim Christ crucified.

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: Jn 8:12

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; the man who follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16

You are the light of the world.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men. 'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Jesus invites us to be the 'salt of the earth' – to be people whose lives are centred on helping others and making the places around us places of kindness, compassion, hope, fun and life. We don't say 'You're salt of the earth', if someone just receives communion. We are the salt of the earth if we live out our communion.

The bread of Jesus is salted with the goodness of men and women, young and old, everywhere.



Sacred Heart Parish Preston

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



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A, 8th - 9th February 2020

You Are the Light of the World... Let your light shine!

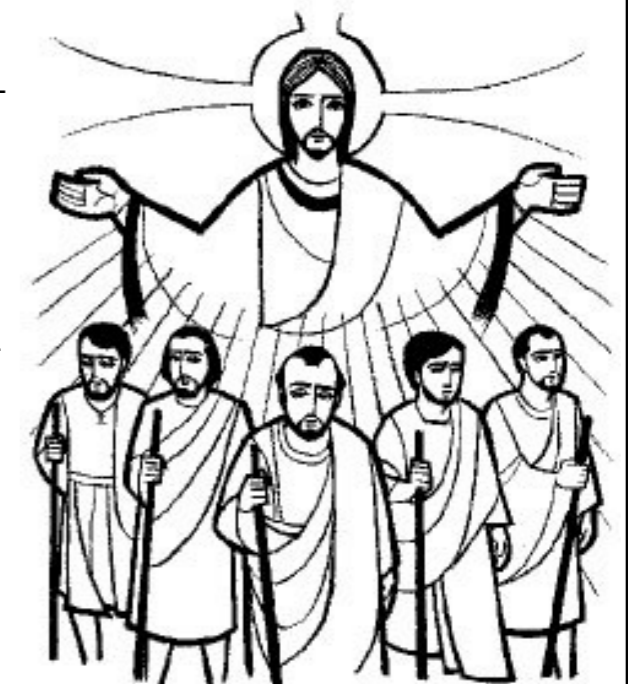
There is a very close connection between the words of the Gospel and the reading from Isaiah today. The message is that there is no true religion without justice and a genuine concern for the poor. The instructions given by the prophet: 'share your bread with the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked...' stress that if we want to come close to God, then we must first seek to care for those around us - for God is Love. By doing this, our self-centredness that distances ourselves from God and neighbour are healed and we will become a source of light and hope for those around us. The reading concludes: "If you give your bread to the hungry and relief to the oppressed, your light will rise in the darkness."

Throughout his ministry and teaching, Jesus made it very clear that identifying with the poor, the abandoned and caring for their needs in such a way as to restore their sense of worth, is essential to being one of his followers. In the short reading from Matthew today, Jesus relies on the images of salt and light – such common elements of our world that we take them for granted, not thinking of their vital roles in life.

Salt was an element never used on its own. As an additive or preservative in the appropriate proportion, it brought out the best flavours and qualities of food and mixed with water, could be a healing and purifying solution. In using this image, Jesus was saying to his disciples that their calling is not for themselves. They are disciples for the sake of the world - to live like himself as sons and daughters of One caring, loving and merciful Father who longs to draw all into His embrace.

The second image of light is a universal one used in many religious traditions and has been employed in each gospel over the past weeks...In the infancy story, the wise men followed a bright star which led to Jesus and when he called his disciples, Jesus was likened to a light shining on people who had been in darkness. Now the image is transferred to his disciples. By means of their lives, they will bring people to the awareness of God's love and goodness and the nature of the kingdom proclaimed and lived by Jesus.

The two images that Jesus uses are stating our mission as Church and as Christians. Faith and good deeds, belief and action cannot be separated. The quality of true Christian lives can change the world.



Office Hours:

Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

Parish Priest:

Fr Jan Szweda, SVD

Priest in Residence:

Fr Ennio Mantovani SVD

Parish Office: Cristina Agius

School Principal: Mark Tierney

School Phone: 9487 1001

Sacrament Co-ordinator:

Vacant

Child Safety Officer:

Kay Dufty: 0431 376 212

Child Safety Committee:

Teresa Dang, Kay Dufty, Robert Dullard (Chair), Mary Harb, Sharron Kotz, Pauline O'Day, Fr Jan Szweda

Parish Council Members:

Catherine Zanatta (chairperson), Kay Dufty (secretary), Tony Eley, Gerard Grant, Ophelia Swai, Anisasio (Pauline) Veamatahau, Mark Tierney, Ben Fortuna, Solomon Konchakara, Natalie Baran

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)

Legion of Mary: Thursday
7.30pm, in the Presbytery

Reconciliation:

Weekdays: 30 minutes before
Mass or by appointment

Baptisms & Weddings:

By appointment only

You are the Salt of the Earth ...

Salt is no great mystery. Salt is salt, as basic as it is common. Salt does one thing: it adds flavour. Taste almost any food and you know right away: it needs more, has too much, or is just right.

The job of Christians is to be salt for the world. Our lives should make a difference. The Church's witness is our commitment to living according to kingdom values and not worldly ones. The time, money, and talent in our control should be used to maintain a simple lifestyle, so the surplus can be used to care for those in need. Sprinkled into the world, this kingdom witness flavours the generations. The worst we can do is to be sprinkled into the world and change nothing. If no one around you would guess you're a Christian, this is a problem.

Weekly Parables for Catholic Parishes

Welcome!



This Sunday we welcome visiting priests from Fr Jan's home parish in Poland: Fr Marian Saska, the parish priest of St Anthony's Parish in Zdzieszowice and his assistant priest, Fr Tomasz Maintok. They are accompanied by Mr Rafal, their interpreter. We welcome them and wish them a good stay in Melbourne.

While Fr Jan will be away this week and next weekend, our former parish priest, Fr Bill Burt will serve in our parish.

Welcome back, Bill!

Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation Courses



'Spirituality of Human Life Stages', 'Discernment', 'The Human Experience of God' and other seminars and reflection days are soon to begin at Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation at its new premises in Malvern.

For more information and bookings visit:

www.heartoflife.melbourne or

email: info@heartoflife.melbourne or telephone 9890 1101

Dates to Remember

Sunday 9th February: Children's Liturgy - 10.30am

Tuesday 11th February: 7pm

St. Vincent de Paul Conference meeting

Sunday 23rd February: 10.30am

School Year Opening Mass

Last Week's Collection: 02/02/20

1st Collection for our Parish: \$1331.80

Direct Debit for January 2020: \$1950.00

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$763.10

Thank you for your kind generosity!



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.



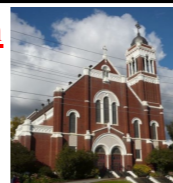
Sacred Heart Parish is now on Facebook!

'Sacred Heart Parish Facebook' page is now up and running...

'Like us' at:

<https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartChurchPreston/>

and tell us what you would like to see on our Parish Page!



Registration for Sacramental Program for 2020

Children of our parish who attend other than Catholic schools and wish to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Year 3), First Holy Communion (Year 4) or Confirmation (Year 5-6), will have to enrol for preparation classes conducted in our parish.

Enrolment forms are available in the foyer of our church throughout the month of February 2020.

Tentative Dates for the Sacraments:

Reconciliation: Commitment Mass – 15th March
Celebration of the Sacrament – 26th May

Holy Communion: Commitment Mass – 26th July

First Holy Communion – 13th September

Confirmation – 9th August



Effective Safeguarding Committee Training

We have two sessions of the Effective Safeguarding Committee Training coming up. These sessions, facilitated by staff of the Professional Standards Unit of the Archdiocese, are designed to assist anyone who is involved in the implementation of child safety policies and procedures within a Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne parish, agency or entity. The sessions will be most useful for: Parish Priests, Agency or entity leaders, Safeguarding Committee members, Pastoral Associates, Parish Secretaries, and Youth Ministers or Leaders.

KYNETON: Friday 28th February 2020 11am – 1.30pm, at Our Lady of the Rosary, Kyneton – register using this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/91964721959>

ESSENDON: Wednesday 4th March 10.30am -1pm, at St Therese's, Essendon – register using this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/93183685913>

We invited persons who would like to join the Parish Safeguarding Committee to attend one of the above sessions. Please contact Fr Jan.

2020 Strength in Weakness Conference

Saturday 15th February, 9am – 6:30pm | Planetshakers Centre, 400 City Road, Southbank

A day of prayer and renewal for all Christians to come together and be strengthened and encouraged in their faith. Encouraged by Pope Francis' message that we are all called to be saints, the underlying theme of the conference is to rely solely on God's grace and strength – especially in times when your faith could be questioned and challenged. Guest speakers will include Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, Archbishop Christopher Prowse, Fr Augustine Vallooran V.C, Lenyce Willason, Fr Ken Barker MGL & Lilith Perera. We invite everyone to this free event.

Registrations and more information:

www.strengthinweakness.com.au

Philip New Life Course

Presented by the Melbourne Catholic School of Evangelisation

Commencing 18th February, 8pm – 9.30pm.

Six Tuesday evenings | Loyola College (Youth Ministry Lounge), Watsonia

This course offers participants an opportunity to deepen their relationship with God and a desire to share that with others.

Cost: \$30.00 (for 6 sessions), \$25.00 Concession.

Further details and registrations: Sr Nelia Llanto, sjbp on 0411 361 081 or llanton@loyola.vic.edu.au

Children's Religious Formation Sessions

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a weekly religious formation program for 3-6 year old children. "The Atrium" is a unique hands-on environment filled with sensorially rich materials for the children's faith formation. The materials are focused on scripture and liturgy and based on the Montessori Method of Education. Sessions run on Thursday mornings at St Pius X in Heidelberg West. Contact Julie 0404 658701

Cleaning Roster: Saturday 15th February 2020

Neschelle/Volunteer

Thank you for your help!



Roster for weekend of 15th - 16th February 2020

	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6.00pm	John Plum Terry Murphy	Barbara Fitzgerald Marlene Vergou
Sun 9.00am (Italian)	Capobianco A	Ilardi L. Roda G.
Sun 10.30am	Ophelia Swai Eileen Stevens	George McBrien Ivana Lo Bello
Sun 6.00pm	Jessica Suppiah Marijana Jurjevic	Damian Casamento Margaret Rankin

WE PRAY FOR:
The elderly and the sick
Lopisoni Amato & Alan Castles

We Commemorate
Vince Capobianco,
Giuseppina Cicutto (4th Anni.),
Rita Grant and Pio Vigo (2nd Anni.)

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



Fr Bill Edebohls & Harvest Invite You: Life in Bethlehem

Sunday 23rd February, 6pm | The Cunningham Centre, 53 Stanley St, Ivanhoe (opposite St. Bernadette's School)

Come and hear Brother Peter Bray, Vice Chancellor and CEO of Bethlehem University speak about life in Bethlehem. "The challenges and opportunities in education around the globe are certainly great – and in Bethlehem likewise. A land

steeped in spirituality and made holy by the very birth and life of Jesus Christ it is all too often ravaged by injustice, war, violence and political instability"

Further details and registrations:

Telephone: (03) 9499 1515

Email: ivanhoe@cam.org.au

Northern Region Youth Group Gathering

This year, we are re-launching our northern central young adult group: "True North".

When: Sunday February 16th

Where: St Ambrose Community Centre, 259 Sydney Rd, Brunswick

Time: 6:30pm-8:00pm, Age: 18 to 35 year olds

Food and drinks provided

Event: bit.ly/TNLaunchParty; Click [here](#) for flyer

Vocation News

Interested in vocation and seminary news?
Please click [here](#) for a flyer or

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Vocations Office on Facebook at:

facebook.com/vocationsmelbourne

PLEASE TAKE THE BULLETIN HOME

