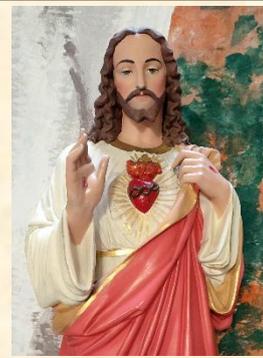




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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 8 April in the presbytery after

9:10am Mass.

Bulletin printed: 5/4/2024

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

2nd Sunday of Easter (Year B)

Divine Mercy Sunday

Sunday 7 April 2024

“As the Father has sent me, so I’m sending you.”

“Holy Week, culminating in our Easter celebration has once again come and gone. Participating in the liturgy has probably been a deeply moving and inspiring experience for many. The words of an Easter Preface, “the joy of the resurrection renews the whole world’ mightn’t seem to ring true as we hear of ongoing acts of war, ecological destruction, violence and discrimination still occurring in our time. But, we should not let a mood of despair or helplessness overwhelm us. Gospel means “Good News” in other words “Hope” overcomes despair.

Today we hear of two appearances of Jesus following His death and burial. In the first appearance, the risen Lord brings “Shalom” – peace of heart and mind to a group of disciples who had locked themselves away in fear and shame since the horrific death of their leader. What a dramatic life changing situation it must have been when the One they had to abandon at His most vulnerable time, became present to them without a word of reproach. “Shalom” – “Peace be with you” and breathed into them the Holy Spirit. Their faith restored, they are animated to accept Jesus’ commissioning to share what they had received with others.

Today’s liturgy celebrates Resurrection faith, derived from a shared experience of God’s merciful and undying love in the midst of human tragedy and death.

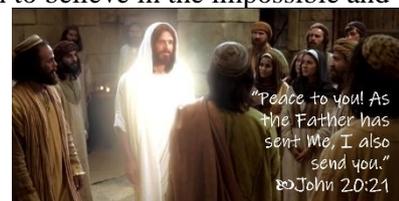
Resurrection faith awakens a sense of commitment to share the “Jesus mission” to liberate, heal and restore friendship with God, each other and the world at large.

We recall the appearance of Jesus to Thomas. We could drift through these Easter weeks repeating abstractly, “Happy are they who have not seen yet believed’ or we might learn from Thomas traditionally dubbed a doubter, but in essence a forthright and honest person. To be able to recognize and touch the wounds of his beloved master was all he needed to awaken him to the power of the resurrection to transform human lives by sharing the mission of Jesus.

Our faith is grounded in the witness of the apostles. This witness had its origins in an overwhelming experience: a meeting, against all their expectations, with the final achievement in God’s work of creation, the Risen One who through His trust in his eternal and merciful God overcame agonizing persecution, abandonment by His trusted disciples and death to welcome them back into the Divine Mercy of their ever faithful God. The first reading presents a snapshot of the early Christian community in Jerusalem. The whole community remained faithful to the teaching and leadership: the apostles through prayer, breaking bread together, sharing their peace, material possessions and support according to what each brother or sister or newcomer needed according to the way of Jesus in giving His life for them.

Like Thomas, we should wish to see and BE bearers of Jesus’ healing power: recognizing Jesus in the wounds of our brothers and sisters; undoing violence and discrimination through the bearing of peace, forgiveness, compassionate respect and inclusion; bringing back into life in practical ways those alienated by poverty, illness, loneliness, despair and abuse. Thomas’ recognition of his Lord and God in Jesus’ wounds of suffering and death gives us every reason to believe in the impossible and to take up the challenge Jesus sets before us:

“As the Father has sent me so I’m sending you!”



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 Lectors(Readers)	Saturday 6:00pm Mass - Ministers of Communion
06-Apr-24	Rohan Lemos Teresa Dang	Charlotte Bains
13-Apr-24	Marlene Vergou Terry Murphy	Mary Harb
20-Apr-24	Mary Harb Celia Lemos	Terry Murphy

	Sunday 10:30am Mass Lectors(Readers)	Sunday 10:30am Mass Ministers of Communion
07-Apr-24	Jessica Suppiah Ophelia Swai	Giovanna D' Intino
14-Apr-24	Jessy Thambiraj Hannah Lopez	Tony Eley
21-Apr-24	Judeline Wadhvani Albert D'Souza	Eileen Stevens

	Sunday 6:00pm Mass Lectors(Readers)	Sunday 6:00pm Mass Ministers of Communion
07-Apr-24	Tim Rankin Michelle Totawatte	Robert Dullard
14-Apr-24	Natalie Baran Michelle Totawatte	Damian Casamento
21-Apr-24	Tim Rankin Natalie Baran	Damian Casamento



WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Charlene Apollos, 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:

Ivana Iannessa RIP 28/3 (Funeral Tues 9/4 at 11am)

We Commemorate:

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



Last Week's Collection: 31.3.2024

1st Collection for our Church: \$2,178
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$ 1,520
Holy Land: \$982
Thank you for your kind generosity!



Breakfast with Fr Aloysius

Please join Father for breakfast on,
Monday 8 April in the presbytery



Sacrificial giving via QR code

To support our parish, 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. 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 ✠

Monday 8 April The Annunciation of the Lord
Thursday 11 April Saint Stanislaus, Bishop, Martyr
Saturday 13 April Saint Martin 1, Pope, Martyr



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS

The righteous person is honest, simple, and straightforward. They do not wear masks, but present themselves for what they are. "Thank you" is a word they use frequently, knowing that no matter how generous we strive to be, we always remain indebted to our neighbour.



REFLECTION AFTER EASTER

"Hope is the virtue of a heart that does not close itself in darkness or remain locked in the past but looks towards the future."
– Pope Benedict XVI

Let's keep Easter's message simple: Renewal and Hope.

Carry it with you every day.

Grow, be kind, connect, stay optimistic and resilient.

Remember to forgive and love.

Let Easter inspire a life of meaning and purpose.

Take time for reflection and prayer all year round.

It can help you stay grounded, connected to your values and focused on personal growth.

Cultivate a gratitude practice to help maintain a positive outlook and appreciate the blessings in your life every day.

Be guided by the timeless wisdom of Easter.

"Heavenly Father, renew our spirits with hope. Illuminate our paths with Your light, guiding us through darkness. May Your love rejuvenate our souls, filling us with courage and resilience. Grant us the grace to face each day with faith and optimism. Amen."



🕯 Welcome before Baptism 🕯

Dear Parents, as you prepare for your child's Baptism, the people of Sacred Heart rejoice that you have chosen to baptize your child and we pray that in the coming years you and your family will continue to know and grow in the love of God, that is everlasting.

The Parish introduces to the Sacred Heart community

Olivia Gipp,

in preparation for her Baptism on 14 April.



****IMPORTANT: End of daylight saving****

Daylight Saving Time ends **Sunday 7 April 2024**, when clocks will go **backwards** one hour at 3am.

So don't forget to change your clocks before you go to bed on Saturday night (6 April)





Thank You!

Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion 2024. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion and donate online.

Your generosity will empower the world's most vulnerable communities to grow stronger and lift themselves out of poverty.

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.



Sacred Heart Primary School 2025 Enrolments



Enrolments for the 2025 school year Foundation classes, have opened. For a school tour, please contact the school principal on 9487 1001 or via the school website <http://www.shpreston.catholic.edu.au>

At Sacred Heart School, our students are at the heart of every decision we make. Every day is Open Day and prospective students and their families are warmly invited to tour our school.



Alpha is Coming!!

The next Alpha Course will run in Term 2, 2024, starting on 11 April.

Explore questions of life and faith and make new friendships at Alpha! Alpha is an exciting refresher Course in the Christian faith. The Alpha Course in 2024 will start on Thursday, 11th April, and run for ten Thursdays, to be held in St Francis Hall, Mill Park. Alpha will start at 7.00 pm - 9.30 pm. Enquiries: 9407 6700 [HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CPYNW](https://www.trybooking.com/cpynw)



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.



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: 13 April 2024

"Dance!! Dance!!

Wherever you maybe

I am the Lord of the dance said He..."



Saturday 13 April 2024

Sacred Heart Hall, 85 David Street Preston

Doors open at 6.30pm

Dinner at 7.00pm

Adults \$50, Children under 12yr \$35

Dinner, deserts and soft drinks provided

BYO Alcohol

Starlight DJ providing the music

Games and Prizes to be won

Dress code: Smart Elegant

Last chance for Tickets

Bookings: contact 0406 777 986



Laudato Si'

Caring for our common home



'In Christ's resurrection, the earth itself arose'

Theologian and Sister of St. Joseph, Elizabeth Johnson, wrote in her 2014 book **Ask the Beasts: Darwin and the God of Love**: *"It is as if Earth were undergoing its agony in the garden, about to be crucified, and we, the disciples of Jesus, are curled up fast asleep."*

On a global and systemic scale, that often feels true. However, when we look closely at local communities in specific places, examples of people rising to the occasion to address the impacts of climate change in meaningful and effective ways abound.

Like the faith-based Mother Earth Network in Kenya, founded by Fr. Herman Borg, working to restore the Maragoli Forest, or the work of Catholic Relief Services Zambia in supporting farmers to restore soil health and fertility in areas ravaged by climate change, or the Stafford Catholic Parish in Queensland which has converted to off-grid solar power.

"In Christ's resurrection, the earth itself arose," writes Johnson in her book, quoting Ambrose of Milan. May this Easter season be filled with such stories of rebirth.

Source: Catholic Earthcare Australia and EarthBeat Weekly (National Catholic Reporter)



😊 Joke Corner 😊

A couple in a small town want to have children but the wife is having trouble falling pregnant, so they go to see their local parish priest. The priest tells them their timing is spot on as his archbishop has ordered him to Rome for 10 years, and he's leaving tomorrow.

"As soon as I get there, I'll light a candle and say a prayer that you will be blessed with children," he promises.

After 10 years the priest returns to the little town. The first thing he does is visit the couple's home. The wife opens the door; three little children on her arms, a couple of them hiding under her skirt, and others playing near her. The priest counts as many as ten munchkins!

"This is a pleasant surprise," exclaims the priest, smiling. "It seems like God listened to my prayer. But where is your dear husband?"

"My husband travelled to Rome," says the wife with a tired look on her face.

"To Rome? Why on earth would he go to Rome?"

"To blow out that bloody candle you lit!"



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

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.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

FIRST READING

Acts 4:32-35

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common.

The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect.

None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 117(118):2-4,15-18,22-24

The Response Is:

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love is everlasting.

Let the sons of Israel say:

‘His love has no end.’

Let the sons of Aaron say:

‘His love has no end.’

Let those who fear the Lord say:

‘His love has no end.’ **Response**

The Lord’s right hand has triumphed;

his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live

and recount his deeds.

I was punished, I was punished by the Lord, but not doomed to die. **Response**

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad. **Response**

SECOND READING

1 John 5:1-6

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets.

We can be sure that we love God’s children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith.

Who can overcome the world?

Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God: Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; happy are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, ‘Peace be with you’, and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, ‘Peace be with you.

‘As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.’

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

‘Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.’

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, ‘We have seen the Lord’, he answered, ‘Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.’ Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. ‘Peace be with you’ he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here;

look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.’ Thomas replied, ‘My Lord and my God!’ Jesus said to him:

‘You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE NICENE CREED.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth,

of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the Only Begotten Son of God,

born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God, begotten, not

made, consubstantial with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(At the words that follow, up to and

including ‘and became man’, all bow.)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under

Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was

buried, and rose again on the third day in

accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at

the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the

living and the dead and his kingdom will

have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the

giver of life, who proceeds from the

Father and the Son, who with the Father

and the Son is adored and glorified, who

has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and

apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness

of sins and I look forward to the

resurrection of the dead and the life of the

world to come. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Bring your hand and feel the place of the

nails, and do not be unbelieving but

believing, alleluia.

