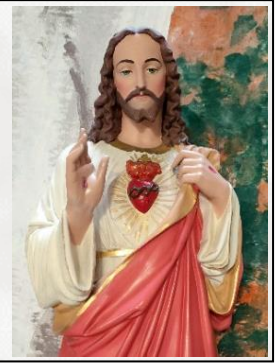




# Sacred Heart Parish Preston



322 Bell St, Preston 3072

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## 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 Officer:** Robert Dullard

**Safeguarding Committee: Members:**

Mary Harb, Teresa Dang, Pauline O'Day

**Parish Council Members:**

Gerard Grant (chairperson), Mark Tierney,

Ben Fortuna, Natalie Baran, Judeline

Wadhvani and Joanne Verga

**Liturgy Committee:**

Chair – Judeline Wadhvani

Secretary – (To Be Announced)

**Coordinators:**

Lectors and Audio Visual – Jessy Thambiraj

Music – Carolina Constable

Ministers of Communion– (To Be Announced)

Hospitality, Altar & Environment – (To Be Announced)

Safeguarding – Pauline O'Day

**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 7 Feb. 2025**

**Devotional Practices:**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:**

No more Adoration for 2024. Adoration will recommence in February 2025.



**Holy Rosary:** Thurs after the 9:10am Mass

**Reconciliation: Every Saturday at 5:15pm**

**Baptisms & Weddings:** By appointment only

**Breakfast with Fr Aloysius**

1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month, the next one is on

**Monday 3 February** in the presbytery after

9:10am Mass. All welcome

Bulletin printed: 27/12/2024

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

## *The Epiphany of the Lord (Year C)* *Sunday 5 January 2025*

### **Opening their treasures they offered Him gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh**

Through the Incarnation, the generosity and mercy of God have finally appeared among us - in the life of one who is the very expression of the Father's greatness. And so, from earliest times the Church's Christmas celebration has made reference the Epiphany, or 'Manifestation' of the Lord – symbolised in the story of today's gospel, but also realised in a special way in the Lord's baptism, and in the 'first sign' he worked at the marriage in Cana. It comes as no surprise, when we hear it read, to find that today's first reading from Isaiah has a very ancient association with this festival: 'Arise, shine out Jerusalem. The nations come to your light and kings to your brightness'. This passage – from the writings of the Isaian tradition from the period after the return from the exile – expresses a vision of Israel fulfilling its role as 'a light to the nations'. Sharing in the 'glory' (or incomparable greatness) of the Lord himself, the holy city will attract the wealth of the nations as the kings of the earth share in its rebuilding.

This Old Testament text and its parallels (see Ps 72:10) may have inspired the story recounted by Matthew in today's gospel. It is possible that an unusual astronomical event may also have contributed to its inspiration, calling to mind the prophecy of Balaam, 'a star is emerging from Jacob' (Num 24:17). As it stands, the story is filled with symbolic meaning. The Magi represent the nations of the earth finding the Saviour of the world – in contrast to the scribes of Israel, familiar with the scriptures but not recognising their fulfilment; the gifts of the Magi are symbolic of the world's confession of faith in Christ – gold for royalty, frankincense for priesthood, myrrh for the one who is to die; notoriously ruthless Herod reminds us of earthly powers that obstruct the designs of God. We should note, especially, the significance of the words, 'going in they saw the child with his mother, Mary'. While Luke's narrative of Christ's conception and birth has Mary as its central figure, Matthew's account of the virgin birth is centred on Joseph. The words we have quoted, however, reflect the importance already given to Mary in the community that gave us Matthew's gospel.

The second reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians continues the theme of 'manifestation', as it takes us into the depths of Paul's vision of faith in Christ. For Paul, of course, God's dealings with the human family have come to a magnificent climax in what God has done for the world in Christ. As we read in the opening lines of the letter to the Ephesians, Paul interprets Christ's saving work as the revelation of a great 'mystery' - the real purpose God has had in mind since the beginning of creation: 'He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, to bring everything together under Christ as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth'. Through his ministry, Paul has seen the realisation of what is symbolised in the story of the Magi – the whole human race is called with old Israel, to share 'the same inheritance', to be 'parts of the same body', to share in 'promise' that the 'gospel' has brought to the world 'in Christ Jesus'.  
John Thornhill SM



## 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

*Isaiah 60:1-6*

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples.  
Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears.  
The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness.  
Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and your daughters being tenderly carried.  
At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you, the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Psalm 71(72):1-2,7-8,10-13**

*The Response Is:*

**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

O God, give your judgement to the king,  
to a king's son your justice,  
that he may judge your people in justice  
and your poor in right judgement.

**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

In his days justice shall flourish  
and peace till the moon fails.

He shall rule from sea to sea,  
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts  
shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba  
shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,  
all nations shall serve him.

**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

For he shall save the poor when they cry  
and the needy who are helpless.

He will have pity on the weak  
and save the lives of the poor.

**Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.**

## SECOND READING

*Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6*

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

We have seen his star in the East;  
and have come to adore the Lord.

*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL

**MATTHEW 2:1-12**

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

*And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.'*

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward, and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh.

But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Announcement of the date of Easter and movable feasts

*After the Gospel, following a long-established custom of the Church, the deacon or cantor may proclaim the movable feasts of the current year, in the following form.*

Know, dear brothers and sisters, that, as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Saviour.

On the fifth day of March will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the twentieth day of April you will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the first day of June will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the eighth day of the same month, the feast of Pentecost.

On the twenty-second day of the same month, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the thirtieth day of November, the First Sunday of the Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

## 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.