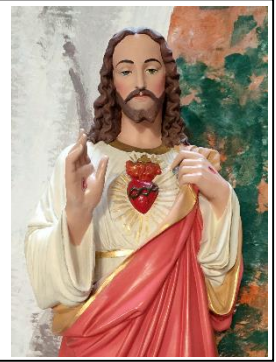




# Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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 4 November

## Devotional Practices:

### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Thursday at 7:30pm for 1 hour.  
(Excluding last Thursday of the month -  
NO Adoration 14, 21 & 28 September)



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

## Reconciliation:

30 minutes before Mass or by appointment

**Baptisms & Weddings:** By appointment only

## New Breakfast with Fr Aloysius

1st Monday of the month, the next one is on

**Monday 2 October** in the presbytery after  
9:10am Mass.

Bulletin printed 15/9/2023

## 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday 17 September 2023 (Year A) Social Services Sunday

### Forgive and you will be Forgiven

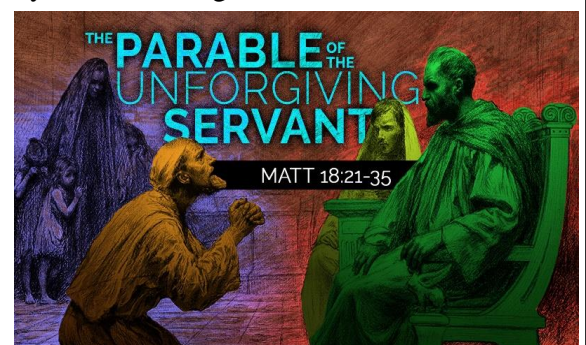
Forgiveness is a Christian virtue. It is the hallmark of our Christian faith and practice. Truly forgiving another from our heart is a form of loving and caring. Forgiveness is a spiritual act, which means that, ultimately, we rely on God's grace to accomplish it. Sometimes we hesitate to forgive because we think it must automatically include reconciliation. These are two separate processes, and one does not always lead immediately to the other. There are two approaches to reconciliation. One is the human approach where we expect the offender to acknowledge the wrong done, apologise for it, repair the injury and in return receive forgiveness from the victim.

The other approach is the Christian understanding of reconciliation, where we see how freely God has forgiven us our offences. Inspired by divine forgiveness, we extend forgiveness to the one who offended us. Here reconciliation does not begin with the offender, but with the victim. God will forgive the one that forgives others and God's Spirit will dwell within the forgiving person.

The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant in today's Gospel raises the frightening prospect that forgiveness already granted by God could be revoked. The king who forgave his servant his debt meant it. But when the servant went out and failed to forgive his fellow servant, the king revoked the pardon. By his action the servant had shown that he did not appreciate and therefore was unworthy of the pardon given to him. Is this how God deals with us? That seems to be the point of the parable. Jesus tells us that His Heavenly Father will not forgive us if we do not forgive our brother or sister from our heart. In other words, when God gives us His word of forgiveness, everything is not over yet. The deal is finally concluded only when we are able to go out and forgive those who sin against us.

The free grace of God's forgiveness needs our response of forgiving our neighbour to be finally ratified. This is indeed a frightening thought. Hence the first reading tells us to forgive our neighbours the wrong they have done, and then our sins will be pardoned when we pray. In real life, we find it so hard to forgive others even though it is the only way to obtain God's forgiveness. Often we fail to appreciate and celebrate God's forgiveness like the ungrateful servant in the parable. We tend to focus on the little things that others owe us rather than the larger amounts we owe to God; which God has graciously chosen to forgive.

Hence forgiveness has to be part and parcel of our Christian lives. May we learn to experience the depth of God's forgiving love in Christ and may we in turn learn to expand our hearts, stretching its limits to match the breadth and the height, the length and the depth of God's love.



## 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.*

	<b>Saturday 6:00PM Mass - Readers</b>	<b>Saturday 6:00PM Mass - Ministers of Communion</b>
16-Sep-23	Rohan Lemos Natalie Baran	Terry Murphy
23-Sep-23	Celia Lemos Mary Harb	Charlotte Bainy
30-Sep-23	Marlene Vergou Terry Murphy	Mary Harb

	<b>Sunday 10:30AM Mass - Readers</b>	<b>Sunday 10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion</b>
17-Sep-23	Hannah Lopez Judeline Wadhvani	Giovanna D' Intino
24-Sep-23	Jessy Thambiraj Ophelia Swai	Eileen Stevens
01-Oct-23	Jessica Suppiah Marilene Fortuna	Giovanna D' Intino

	<b>Sunday 6:00PM Mass - Readers</b>	<b>Sunday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion</b>
17-Sep-23	Carolina Constable Peter Constable	Damian Casamento
24-Sep-23	Marijana Jurjevic Tim Rankin	Damian Casamento
01-Oct-23	Carolina Constable Peter Constable	Damian Casamento

**Readers, if you are unable to attend on your rostered day**, kindly contact another reader to organise a swap or advise your co-reader that he/she may need to prepare all allocated readings.



**Ministers of Communion, if you are unable to attend on your rostered day** kindly contact another minister to organise a swap. Thank you



### **WE PRAY FOR:**

#### The elderly and the sick

Sandra Bishop, John Storrie, Ylenia Useli, Ray Hudson

*Our parishioners, family members and friends, that they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect.*

#### Those who have died recently:

*Domenico Meddi (RIP 5/9)*

*Kay Dufty (RIP 6/9)*

#### We Commemorate:

*Angelo D'Souza (22nd Anniv.)*

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



#### Last Week's Collection: 10/9/23

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,235

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$771

Thank you for your kind generosity!



## 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 19 September St Januarius, Bishop, Martyr*  
*Wednesday 20 September Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang and their Companions, Martyrs*  
*Thursday 21 September St Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist*  
*Friday 22 September St Maurice and Companions*  
*Saturday 23 September St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest (Padre Pio)*



### THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



*Let us Pray Together in the face of the many challenges and difficulties of our age. We should not remain idle spectators. Rather, may we actively engage for a more just and peaceful world.*



### Temporary Changes to weekday Masses

Fr Aloysius will be taking some leave from Tuesday 12 September to Wednesday 27 September. During his absence, weekday Mass will continue however, the Church will be open for morning Mass from 8:45am from Tuesdays to Fridays.



### Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

While Fr Aloysius is away, there will be NO adoration on Thursday 14/9, 21/9 and 28/9.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.



### **† Baptism Congratulations †**

The community of Sacred Heart Parish congratulates  
**Elsie Kuhnell**

for her Baptism on 23 September.



### 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.



# Social Services Sunday

A day to reflect and give thanks



Sunday 17 September 2023 marks Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we give thanks to the dedicated work of the thousands of staff and volunteers who serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised. We acknowledge with gratitude Catholic Social Service Victoria's 40 member organisations, their 8,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who work together to serve and support over 211,000 people.

**Loving God**, we praise and thank you for those without fear who speak, advocate, and create for the peace of our world.

*We rejoice in seeing Catholic Social Services Victoria and its member organisations bring together structures of change to build hope and healing.*

*May we all be engaged agents of positive change, opening our hearts and minds to possibilities and growth.*

*May your unconditional love for all inspire our hearts to humbly serve in a spirit of charity and justice for most disadvantaged, marginalised and vulnerable brothers and sisters.*

*May the changes we make be based on the common good and may we be gracious and patient in accepting that sometimes change takes time.*

*We pray for those who serve in social services, who hear the cry of the abandoned, who dress the wounds of those frayed by life's journey and speak with those who are silenced and exploited.*

*As we seek your face and strive to do your will, fill our hearts with the peace and hope that only you can give so that we can share that with the those in our care, in our families and in our communities.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen*



## SAVE THE DATE

Mission Sunday Family Fun Day Picnic

Sunday 22 October 2023

after 10.30 am Sunday Mass

BYO Picnic Food and drinks.

Sausage Sizzle, Family Outdoor Games, Music and Dancing will be provided.

Venue to be advised.



## Piety Shop

The piety shop stocks small gifts and cards for **all Sacraments** as well as various religious items at reasonable prices. Please take the time to have a look after any of the weekend Masses. Thank you



## Sacred Heart Primary School 2024 Enrolments

Enrolments for the 2024 school year Foundation classes are still available. For a school tour, please contact the school principal on 9487 1001 or via the school website

<http://www.shpreston.catholic.edu.au>



**Let Justice  
and Peace Flow**  
Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River  
Amos 9: 24

## *Transforming Lifestyles*

In a message for the 2023 Season of Creation, [Pope Francis](#) urges us to adopt *simpler lifestyles*. Pope Francis says, "Let us be as mindful as we can about our habits and economic decisions so that all can thrive – our fellow men and women wherever they may be, and future generations as well. Let us cooperate in God's ongoing creation through positive choices: using resources with moderation and a joyful sobriety, disposing and recycling waste, and making greater use of available products and services that are environmentally and socially responsible."

As a way to live [Laudato Si'](#), you're invited to look for ways to use less, waste less, share more, drive less, nurture your relationships, and take time to pray and give thanks.

*Creator God, lover of life and of everything, please help us each day to find new ways to live simply and dwell peacefully in your kin-dom. Amen*

♥ Natalie

Laudato Si' Animator, Sacred Heart Parish



## Blessing of our Pets Liturgy

6.00pm, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October

Sacred Heart Primary School



All pets from goldfish to guinea pigs, dogs to reptiles and every pet in between are invited, and will receive a blessing from Father Aloysius.

*"Everyone is welcome even if you do not have a pet."*



## Children's activity pages

Please find in the foyer of the Church activity pages and pencils for young children to use quietly during Mass.



## Joke Corner

A police recruit was asked during the entrance exam, "What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?"

He said, "Call for backup."

\*\*\*\*\*

A little boy's mother was trying to get the sauce out of the bottle to put the finishing touch on his sandwich when the doorbell rang. The boy ran to the door.

"Is your Mummy home?" the visitor asked.

"Yes," he said, "She's in the kitchen hitting the bottle."

\*\*\*\*\*

Ten-year-old Jack constantly embellished his stories. One day his father had had enough and said to him, "I've told you fifty million times, Jack! Don't exaggerate!"



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

## 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

*Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9*

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner.

He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins?

Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;

who will forgive him his sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**Psalm 102(103):1-4,9-12**

*The Response Is:*

***The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.***

My soul, give thanks to the Lord all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

***The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.***

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

***The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.***

His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever.

He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.

***The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.***

For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

***The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.***

## SECOND READING

*Romans 14:7-9*

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

**Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL

*Matthew 18:21-35*

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At

this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

**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

How precious is your mercy, O God!

The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

