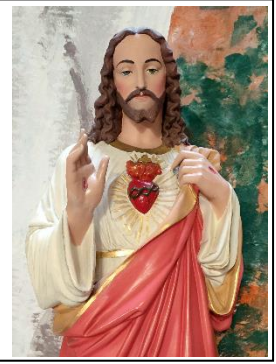




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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 2 February 2024

Devotional Practices:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Thursday at 7:30pm for 1 hour.
(Excluding last Thursday of the month)



No Adoration 4/1 and 11/1

Adoration Resumes 18/01/2024

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

Reconciliation:

NOW - 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 5 February** in the presbytery after 9:10am Mass.

Bulletin printed 29/12/2023

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

The Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph (Year B)

Sunday 31 December 2023

Marriage is too often conceived as the sacrament which unites a man and a woman to form a couple. In reality, marriage establishes a family, and its purpose is to increase the number of the elect, through the bodily and spiritual fecundity of the Christian spouses.

1. Every marriage intends children. Although Mary and Joseph were not united in a carnal way, their marriage is a true marriage: an indissoluble, exclusive union wholly subordinated to the child. Mary and Joseph are united only in order to bring Jesus into the world, to protect and raise him. They have only one child, but he contains the whole of mankind, even as Isaac, an only child, fulfilled the promise made to Abraham of a countless progeny.

2. The purpose of every marriage is to establish a Christian family. The Holy Family observed the religious laws of Israel; it went in pilgrimage to Jerusalem every year with other Jewish families (Lk. 2:41). Jesus saddens and amazes his father and his mother because to their will and company he prefers "to be in his Father's house". Thus, it may happen that God's will obliges the family to make disconcerting sacrifices. Yet every Christian family must live in harmony and in prayer, which are the pledges of joy and union.

3. "He remained obedient to them." Jesus was God. And through the fullness of grace Mary stood above Joseph. Nevertheless — if we except the event in the Temple — Joseph remained the head of the family; he took the initiative (as when the Holy Family fled to Egypt), and in Nazareth Jesus obeyed his parents.

Excerpted from Bread and the Word, A.M. Roguet

The Holy Family Prayer

JESUS, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that you found in your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

MARY, Mother of Jesus and Our Mother, nourish our family with your faith and your love. Keep us close to your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

JOSEPH, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement or anxiety.

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the centre of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen



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 - Readers	Saturday 6:00PM Mass - Ministers of Communion
30-Dec-23	Marlene Vergou Mary Harb	Terry Murphy
06-Jan-24	Teresa Dang Terry Murphy	Mary Harb
13-Jan-24	Mary Harb Marlene Vergou	Charlotte Bainy

	Sunday 10:30AM Mass - Readers	Sunday 10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion
31-Dec-23	Jessica Suppiah Ophelia Swai	Eileen Stevens
07-Jan-24	Jessy Thambiraj Judeline Wadhvani	Tony Eley
14-Jan-24	Hannah Lopez Albert D'Souza	Giovanna D' Intino

	Sunday 6:00PM Mass - Readers	Sunday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion
31-Dec-23	Volunteer	Damian Casamento
07-Jan-24	Michelle Totawatte Natalie Baran	Robert Dullard
14-Jan-24	Natalie Baran	Robert Dullard

WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Sandra Bishop, John Storrie, Pat Tuttle
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:

George McBrien (RIP 17/12)

We Commemorate:

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

Last Week's Collection: 24/12/23 & Christmas Day

1st Collection for our Church: \$2,836

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$2,375

Christmas Offering: \$379

Thank you for your kind generosity!

Volunteers Christmas Masses

A very big thank you to all Readers, Ministers of Eucharist, Overhead Projectionists, Ushers/Welcomers, Collectors, Candle Lighters, Singers etc who volunteered their time during the Christmas Masses.
It was much appreciated!



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 1 January Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
World Day of Prayer for Peace
Tuesday 2 January Sts Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors
Wednesday 3 January The Most Holy Name of Jesus
Thursday 4 January St Elizabeth Anne Seton



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



To say "yes" to the Prince of Peace, then, means saying "no" to war, to every war, to the very mindset of war, an aimless voyage, a defeat without victors, an inexcusable folly. To say "no" to war means saying "no" to weaponry.



New Year's Day Mass

Monday 1 January at 9:10am



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.



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.



Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal

An estimated 1 million people have been displaced in Gaza with immediate food, shelter, health, and psychosocial needs.

'This is a period of incredible turmoil and sadness. The escalation of violence has only exacerbated needs for the people in Gaza and West Bank, who already live in dire conditions. We are working with our partners on the ground to provide comprehensive and critical support to over 17,000 families affected by this devastating conflict.'

Sally Thomas, Humanitarian Lead, Caritas Australia

With your support, we will be able to help our partners on the ground to assist people displaced and affected by the current conflict.

Please donate to Caritas Australia's Gaza Crisis Appeal.

You can donate online www.caritas.org.au/gaza or phone 1800 024 413



Please take the bulletin home

Closing Prayer for the Year

A Prayer For Our Earth

By Pope Francis

All-powerful God, Ground of all Being,
you are present in the whole universe
and in the smallest of your creatures.
You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.
Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.
Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor,
help us to rescue the abandoned
and forgotten of this Earth,
so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,
that we may protect the world and not prey on it,
that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.
Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain
at the expense of the poor and the Earth.
Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,
to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize
that we are profoundly united with every creature
as we journey towards your infinite light.
We thank you for being with us each day.
Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace. Amen.

*Pope Francis published this prayer in Laudato Si', and is meant
for sharing with all who believe in our Creator God.*

We hope that this prayer serves as a north star for you in the new year.



Sacred Heart Giving Tree



Sincere thanks to all who have supported our parish giving tree. Over the past weeks our St Vincent de Paul Team have, on your behalf been delivering the generous gifts of our parish and school individuals, families, friends and other groups to families who have received them with much joy and gratitude. All donations received will continue to go towards supporting our local families and neighbours struggling over the holiday period to meet everyday essential and back to school expenses. Our Giving tree appeal and individually designated donations has raised over \$2500.

May the peace and love of Christ whose humble birth we celebrate at this time be ever with you and your Families. Thank you all!

The St Vincent de Paul team.



Piety Shop

Columban calendars are now available in the Piety shop - \$10

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.



Children's activity pages

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



PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE



**O LORD GOD, WE PRAY FOR PEACE & LOVE
IN ALL THE NATIONS, AMONG ALL THE PEOPLE
THAT ALL WARS AND HATRED WILL END.
WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM
WAR, INJUSTICE, & INTOLERANCE, FOR THE
CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, THE POOR &
NEGLECTED ONES. WE PRAY FOR PEACE IN
OUR LIFE, LANDS, NATIONS, FAMILIES &
IN OUR HEARTS. LORD GIVE US WORLD PEACE.
WE ASK YOUR MERCY IN THE NAME OF OUR
LORD JESUS CHRIST. AMEN.**

Joke Corner

What is a New Year's resolution? Something that goes in one year and out the other.

I was going to give up all of my bad habits for the new year, but then I remembered that no one likes a quitter.

At the beginning of the year, I made a resolution to lose 5 Kilos. Only 8 more to go!

Q. How can you keep a New Year's resolution to read more while never opening a book? A. Watch TV with subtitles.

Q: What happened to the man who shoplifted a calendar? A: He got 12 months!

An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in, A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves

I just read that 4,153,237 people got married last year. Not to cause any trouble, but shouldn't that be an even number?

I told my wife she was drawing her eyebrows too high. She looked surprised to hear it.

In 2023 remember: In any argument, a wife has the last word. Anything the husband says after that last word is the beginning of a new argument.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The shepherds went in haste,
and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant
lying in a manger.

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

Genesis 15:1-6,21:1-3

The word of the Lord was spoken to Abram
in a vision, 'Have no fear, Abram, I am
your shield; your reward will be very
great.'

'My Lord,' Abram replied 'what do you
intend to give me? I go childless...'. Then
Abram said, 'See, you have given me no
descendants; some man of my household
will be my heir.' And then this word of the
Lord was spoken to him, 'He shall not be
your heir; your heir shall be of your own
flesh and blood.' Then taking him outside
he said, 'Look up to heaven and count the
stars if you can. Such will be your
descendants' he told him. Abram put his
faith in the Lord, who counted this as
making him justified.

The Lord dealt kindly with Sarah as he had
said, and did what he had promised. So
Sarah conceived and bore a son to
Abraham in his old age, at the time God had
promised. Abraham named the son born to
him Isaac, the son to whom Sarah had
given birth.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The Response Is:

**The Lord remembers his covenant for
ever.**

Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples.
O sing to him, sing his praise;

tell all his wonderful works! **Response.**

Be proud of his holy name,
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice.

Consider the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face. **Response.**

Remember the wonders he has done,
his miracles, the judgements he spoke.

O children of Abraham, his servant,
O sons of the Jacob he chose. **Response.**

He remembers his covenant for ever,
his promise for a thousand generations,
the covenant he made with Abraham,
the oath he swore to Isaac. **Response.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:8,11-12,17-19

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the
call to set out for a country that was the
inheritance given to him and his
descendants, and that he set out without
knowing where he was going. It was
equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being
past the age, was made able to conceive,
because she believed that he who had made
the promise would be faithful to it. Because
of this, there came from one man, and one
who was already as good as dead himself,
more descendants than could be counted, as
many as the stars of heaven or the grains of
sand on the seashore.

It was by faith that Abraham, when put to
the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to
sacrifice his only son even though the
promises had been made to him and he had
been told: It is through Isaac that your name
will be carried on. He was confident that
God had the power even to raise the dead;
and so, figuratively speaking, he was given
back Isaac from the dead.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

In the past God spoke to our fathers through
the prophets;

now he speaks to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

When the day came for them to be purified
as laid down by the Law of Moses, the
parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem
to present him to the Lord, – observing
what stands written in the Law of the Lord:
Every first-born male must be consecrated
to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice,
in accordance with what is said in the Law
of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two
young pigeons.

Now in Jerusalem there was a man named
Simeon. He was an upright and devout
man; he looked forward to Israel's
comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on
him. It had been revealed to him by the
Holy Spirit that he would not see death
until he had set eyes on the Christ of the
Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the
Temple and when the parents brought in
the child Jesus to do for him what the Law

required, he took him into his arms and
blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go
in peace, just as you promised;
because my eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared for all the nations
to see, a light to enlighten the pagans
and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there
wondering at the things that were being
said about him, Simeon blessed them and
said to Mary his mother, 'You see this
child: he is destined for the fall and for the
rising of many in Israel, destined to be a
sign that is rejected – and a sword will
pierce your own soul too – so that the secret
thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the
daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher.
She was well on in years. Her days of
girlhood over, she had been married for
seven years before becoming a widow. She
was now eighty-four years old and never
left the Temple, serving God night and day
with fasting and prayer. She came by just at
that moment and began to praise God; and
she spoke of the child to all who looked
forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of
the Lord required, they went back to
Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.
Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and
he was filled with wisdom; and God's
favour was with him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Our God has appeared on the earth, and
lived among us.

