

**22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
(Year B) 29 August 2021**

**First reading Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8**  
Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'  
The Word of the Lord  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

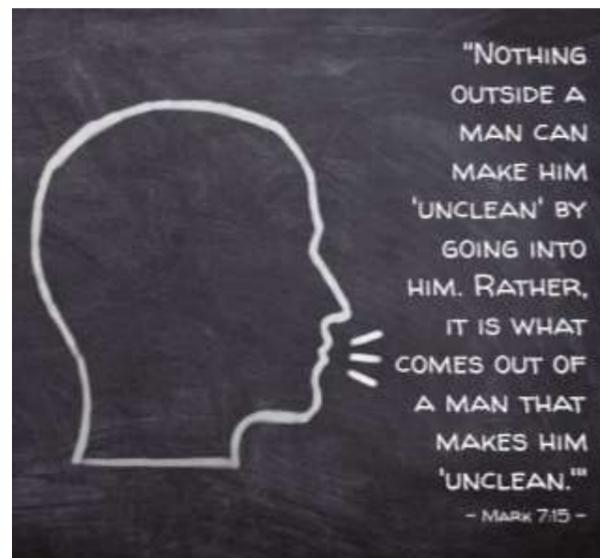
**Responsorial Psalm Psalm 14(15):2-5**  
*The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*  
Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?  
He who walks without fault;  
he who acts with justice  
and speaks the truth from his heart;  
he who does not slander with his tongue.  
*The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*  
He who does no wrong to his brother,  
who casts no slur on his neighbour,  
who holds the godless in disdain,  
but honours those who fear the Lord.  
*The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*  
He who keeps his pledge, come what may;  
who takes no interest on a loan  
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.  
Such a man will stand firm for ever.  
*The just will live in the presence of the Lord.*

**Second reading James 1:17-18,21-22,27**  
It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.  
Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.  
Pure, unspoiled religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.  
The Word of the Lord  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.*

**Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!**  
The Father gave us birth by his message of truth, that we might be as the first fruit of his creation.  
**Alleluia!**

**Gospel Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23**  
The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:  
This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me.  
The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'  
The Gospel of the Lord.  
**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**



**Sacred Heart Parish  
Preston**

322 Bell St, Preston 3072

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**22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
(Year B) 29 August 2021**

**The Love of God is "the source of all traditions"**

Like many other countries, Australia is rich in cultures and traditions. One of its traditions is the celebration of Anzac Day which commemorates the fallen heroes who served and died in conflicts, wars and peace keeping operations and the contribution of all those who have served. For Australia, Anzac Day is a National Day of Remembrance. We pay our tribute, love and respect for the fallen heroes. As we celebrate Anzac Day, we are expected to show love, respect and care for one another. The reason is because the freedom that we enjoy is the fruit of the sacrifice of others. We need to keep the tradition of celebrating Anzac Day with its original purpose.  
Jewish people, in Jesus' time, too had many good cultural and religious traditions. Some of them are mentioned in today's gospel. Often these traditions were imposed as strict rules rather than means to help members of the community to have peaceful and meaningful life. As a result of this, the traditions were accepted as obligations without an adequate understanding of their purpose. In many cases, they were used by some, like Pharisees and Scribes who were Teachers of the Traditions and Laws of Israel, to bully and oppress others. Today's Gospel story is an example of this. The disciples of Jesus were blamed and bullied by the Pharisees and Scribes for having their meal without first washing their hands. In response, Jesus condemned the Pharisees and Scribes for their self-righteousness, lack of compassion and understanding. He called them hypocrites as they loved talking one thing and doing another. They seemed to know traditions and God's commandments by heart but failed miserably to put them into practise. Jesus reminded them that love of God and love of others is at the heart of God's commandments. Hence, serving God and others out of love is far more important than the strict observing of the traditions and commandments.  
How about the Church traditions? The Catholic Church is known for its rich and meaningful traditions such as Mass, Easter, Christmas and so on. These traditions help us nourish and strengthen our faith. In celebrating them our bond with one another is also strengthened and our awareness is awakened to be united in the mission of the Church. Unfortunately, many are indifferent to the Church traditions. Some look at them as stumbling blocks to personal freedom. Others find no joy and purpose in living them. In other words, many fail to see God's love in these traditions. Why is it? What is the problem?  
I think the root cause of this problem is the lack of understanding or sufficient knowledge of the Church traditions. Therefore, it would be good to take seriously Jesus' criticism of the Pharisees and Scribes as an encouragement and invitation to review our understanding of the Church traditions. We must ask ourselves: Why do we do what we do? Why do we say what we say? Why do we use what we use? Is what we're doing still appropriate and beneficial today? Is what we're doing on a daily basis still achieving what it was originally intended to do? The sufficient knowledge of the Church traditions and their purpose will help us show a great appreciation of them and take them as the source of nourishment of our faith and joy in following Christ.



What is important for Jesus & what is in our hearts.

**Office Hours:**  
Mon, Thurs & Fri: 10am -2pm

**Parish Priest:**  
Fr Aloysius Nato, SVD  
Ph: 0428 715 282

**Italian Community Chaplain:**  
Fr Albano Da Costa, SVD  
Ph: 0478 963 248

**Parish Office:** Rachel Costa  
**School Principal:** Mark Tierney  
**School Phone:** 9487 1001

**Sacrament Co-ordinator:**  
Ylenia Useli  
shpcatechists@gmail.com

**Child Safety Officers:**  
Kay Dufty: 0431 376 212  
Robert Dullard: 0433 401 958

**Child Safety Committee:**  
Robert Dullard (Chair), Kay Dufty,  
Mary Harb, Teresa Dang and  
Pauline O'Day

**Parish Council Members:**  
Gerard Grant (chairperson), Kay  
Dufty (secretary), Tony Eley,  
Ophelia Swai, Anisasio (Pauline)  
Veamatahau, Mark Tierney,  
Ben Fortuna and Natalie Baran

**Parish Finance Committee:**  
Peter Constable (Chair)  
Ph: 0425 779 831

**St. Vincent de Paul Society:**  
Stephen Costello (President)  
Ph: 0432 405 417

**No public Masses  
until  
further notice**

10:30am Sunday Mass  
and 9:10 weekday  
Masses are livestreamed.  
For the live stream links  
please visit:  
[www.sacredheartpreston.com.au](http://www.sacredheartpreston.com.au)

**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

## 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.

## Registration for Sacramental Program for 2021

Children of our parish who attend other than Catholic schools and wish to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Year 3) and First Holy Communion (Year 4) are required to enrol for preparation classes conducted in our parish. Enrolment forms are available in the foyer of our church.



## Feast Days of the week:

Friday 3rd September 2021 *St Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor*

Pope Gregory I, commonly known as Saint Gregory the Great, was the bishop of Rome from 3 September 590 to his death. He is known for instigating the first recorded large-scale mission from Rome, the Gregorian Mission, to convert the then-pagan Anglo-Saxons in England to Christianity.

## MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND



An opportunity to spend a weekend improving your communication.

This experience gives you the tools to keep your passion alive in a gentle, nurturing environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living. The weekend we offer is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.

Please check our website for more details.

We have two options: An on-line/virtual weekend: **10 -12 September 2021** or

a non-residential weekend: **16 - 17 October 2021** in west Gippsland. Book early to avoid disappointment)

Information/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or Email: [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au)

## Joke Corner

Jesus and Satan are having a competition on who can finish an essay first. 1, 2, 3, GO. Jesus starts and takes his time while Satan is typing up a storm. Satan is typing so fast that the power goes out and both computers are shut off. They start back up, and Jesus states that he is done with the essay. Confused, Satan asks how he wrote that fast. Jesus turns to him and simply says, "Jesus saves."



## Social Justice Sunday

August 29, 2021

We celebrate Social Justice Sunday on the 29 August. The Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement, *Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor*, invites us to join in responding to Pope Francis' invitation to take a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. The Statement provides theological foundations to ground and inspire our efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded.

More information: ACBC Office for Justice, Ecology and Peace, [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au) or Tel (02) 6201 9845.

## Prayer: Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor

Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear: the bush grown more silent, the birdsong less vibrant, the stream's sluggish ripple. Have mercy and open our ears.

Lord, when we look with your eyes we see: the soil depleted, the sky smudged, the oceans rubbished and the great currents slowed. Have mercy and help us to see.

Lord, when we look with your eyes we see: the workers who struggle to get by, the women subjected to violence, the people who are excluded. Have mercy and help us to see.

Lord, when we listen with your ears we hear: the sound of hungry children, the distress of the mentally ill, the silent pain of homeless women and men. Have mercy and open our ears.

Send your Spirit upon us Lord to renew our sight, to restore our hearing, and to reclaim your reign of justice for all people and peace for creation. AMEN

Dear Father,

St Gabriel's Parish Reservoir is pleased to invite you and your parishioners to a Spiritual Afternoon with St Joseph. This will be held at St Gabriel's Parish Centre and Church on Sunday 19 September, 2pm – 4.30pm.

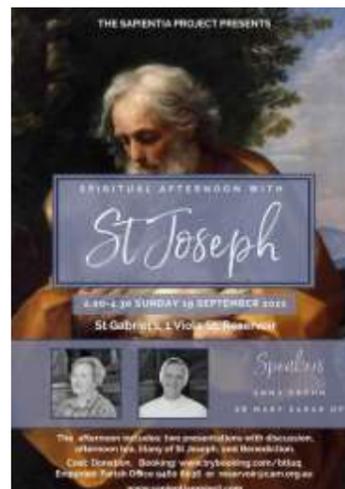
Presentations on St Joseph will be given by speakers Sr Mary Sarah OP and Anna Krohn. ([sapientiaproject.com](http://sapientiaproject.com)).

The afternoon will include Litany of St Joseph and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Participants can register <https://www.trybooking.com/BTLUQ>

or parish office 9460 6036, [reservoir@cam.org.au](mailto:reservoir@cam.org.au)

Regards  
Fr Gregory Pritchard  
Parish Priest  
St Gabriel's & St Stephen's Parish



## INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

**CANCELLED**

Due to the ongoing COVID restrictions and the uncertainty when restrictions will be eased, it is impossible to proceed with the planned 4th September Information session. It is regrettably cancelled. The possibility of holding an information session will be considered after any easing of restrictions. The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The preferred age limit is being able to be ordained by the 60th year.

For more information: Watch: Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTSO>

Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY>

Read More: [Brochure]

<https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>

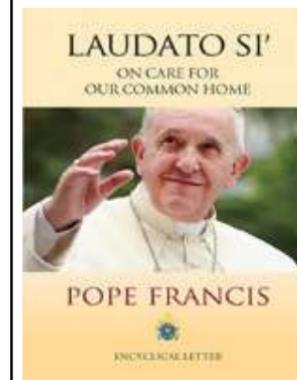
Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate

(Phone) 03 9412 335 (Email) [diaconate@cam.org.au](mailto:diaconate@cam.org.au)

## LAUDATO SI: ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

In the Social Justice Statement 21-22 Archbishop Mark Coleridge President, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference writes that Pope Francis reminds us that encounter, dialogue, and listening with an open heart enables God's transforming love to move more powerfully in the world. Yet when faced with complex interrelated crises – the pandemic, the ecological crisis, the economic crisis, hunger, threats to peace and security – we can find ourselves overwhelmed by information or bogged down in disagreements about details.

In the annual Social Justice Statements, we seek to discern the signs of the times and, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, to recognise how God is calling us to respond. As bishops our task is to bring the light of the Gospel to bear as we seek to respond to the cry of the poor and the cry of the earth. With Pope Francis, we avoid getting "mired in theoretical discussions" and instead seek to "hear the true stories" of people's experience, look at reality through the eyes of those most affected, and "listen with an open heart to the stories that they tell". Our task is to listen to people, to the earth, and to all of God's creation, since every created thing is interconnected, speaks of the wellbeing of each part and of the whole, and reveals something of the Creator.



*St Francis of Assisi please bless us as we discern our way forward in addressing the environmental crisis. Amen*

## WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick  
*Anthony, Peter Bourke, Pasquale Curcio, Anthony Joseph Paige Lapenta, John Plum, and Bronislawa Slobodzian*

That they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect

Those who have died recently  
Xavier Francis Navascues

We Commemorate

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



## THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



Let us work together to eradicate the appalling scourge of modern slavery that still shackles millions of people in inhumanity and humiliation. Every human being is the image of God, and is free and destined to exist in equality and fraternity.

## An Act of Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*  
(say this prayer in lieu of receiving Communion)

## Roster for weekend of 4/5 August 2021

	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6.00pm	John Kmaid Terry Murphy	Charlotte Bainy
Sun 9am (Italian)	Volunteers	Volunteers
Sun 10.30am	Catherine Zanatta Ivana Lo Bello	Giovanna D'Intino
Sun 6.00pm	Damian Casamento Robert Dullard	Margaret Bannan

## Cleaning Roster: Saturday 28 August 2021

Volunteers  
Thank you for your hard work

