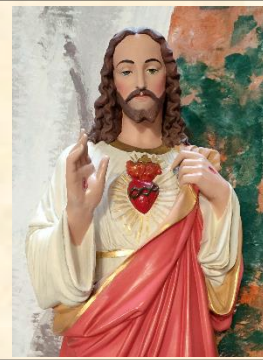




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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 1 April** in the presbytery after 9:10am Mass.

Bulletin printed: 8/3/2024

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year B) Sunday 10 March 2024 Laetare Sunday

IN AND THROUGH JESUS WE ARE SAVED!

In the first reading today taken from the Second Book of Chronicles, we discover the compassion and patience of God. God chose Cyrus the Great, a pagan conqueror, to become the instrument of His mercy to and salvation of His chosen people exiled in Babylon. In today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 137), the Psalmist voices the pain of exile the captives of Judah suffered. In the second reading, Paul tells us that God is so rich in mercy that He has granted us eternal salvation and life as a free gift through Christ Jesus.

In today's Gospel, Jesus, the Son of God, becomes the agent of God's salvation, not just for one sinful nation but for the sinfulness of the whole world. The Gospel teaches us that God has expressed His love, mercy and compassion for us by giving His only Son for our salvation. Nicodemus, a Pharisee and member of the Sanhedrin, meets Jesus by night and begins a long religious discussion. Jesus explains to him that he must believe Jesus' words because Jesus is the Son of God, and, by referring to the story of Moses and the bronze serpent (Nm 21:1-9), further explains God's plan of salvation. Just as God saved the victims of serpent bite from death through elevating the bronze serpent, He will save humankind by permitting the crucifixion and death of His Son Jesus, because the love of God for all of us is that great.

We need to love the cross, the symbol of God's forgiving and merciful love: As a forceful reminder not only of God's love and mercy, but also of the price of our salvation, the crucifix invites us to more than simple generosity and compassion. It inspires us to remove the suffering of other people's misery. It encourages us not only to feel deep sorrow for another's suffering, but also to try our best to remove that suffering. Hence, let us love the cross, wear its image and carry our own daily cross with joy, while helping others to carry their heavier crosses. We need to reciprocate God's love by loving others. God's love is unconditional, universal, forgiving and merciful. Let us try to make an earnest attempt to include these qualities in sharing our love with others. Our rebirth by water and the Spirit must be an ongoing process. That is, we must lead a life of repentance and conversion which will bring us, with the help of the Holy Spirit living within us, to an ongoing renewal of life through prayer, Scripture reading, frequenting the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist and living these by doing corporal and spiritual works of mercy that relieve, enable and restore to dignity of the suffering, ignored and abused of our world.

"Christ has no body now on earth but yours, no hands, no feet but yours. Yours are the eyes with which Christ looks out his compassion to the world. Yours are the feet with which he is to go about doing good. Yours are the hands with which he is to bless us now."
Teresa of Avila

Christ has
no body
now
But
Yours....



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
09-Mar-24	Marlene Vergou Mary Harb	Terry Murphy
16-Mar-24	Terry Murphy Celia Lemos	Charlotte Bainy
23-Mar-24	Rohan Lemos Marlene Vergou	Mary Harb

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

	Sunday 6:00pm Mass Lectors(Readers)	Sunday 6:00pm Mass Ministers of Communion
10-Mar-24	Tim Rankin Natalie Baran	Damian Casamento
17-Mar-24	Michelle Totawatte Tim Rankin	
24-Mar-24	Michelle Totawatte Natalie Baran	Robert Dullard



WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

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:

Mrs. Mary Fanny D'Souza (RIP 9/2 in Goa, India)
Elena Acquistapace (Rip 1/3. Funeral Tues 12/3 at 11am)
John Frank Lo Piccolo (RIP 25/2. Memorial prayers Fri 15/3 at 1pm)

We Commemorate:

Michael Bradshaw (8th Anniv.)
Settimo Crocco (35th Anniv.)
John Borowicki (9th Anniv.)
Deceased members of the Crocco, Rizzo, Gelain, Moretti, Bradshaw, Valier-D'Abate, Kalinowski and Borowicki and Jolley families.



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



Last Week's Collection: 3.3.2024

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,007
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$688
Thank you for your kind generosity!



Come for a Cuppa after 10:30am Mass



Please join us after the 10:30am Mass for a cup of tea or coffee at **Sacred Heart School.**
All are welcome

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 ✠

Wednesday 13 March 11th Anniversary of the Election of Pope Francis



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS

Pride is the 'great queen' of all the vices. Those who give in to this vice are far from God, and it takes time and great effort to correct this evil, more than any other battle to which the Christian is called-



✠ 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



Sofia Bueno & Gabriele Farina,
in preparation for their Baptisms on
17 March & 23 March.



LITURGICAL MINISTERS MEETINGS

ALL OTHER LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Tuesday 12 March 7.30 to 8.30 pm in the presbytery
Facilitator: Ophelia Swai – 0431 311 976

MUSIC

Wednesday 13 March 7.30 to 8.30 pm in the presbytery
Interim Group Leader – Carolina Constable – 0409 158 581

****Please note that meetings will start promptly as mentioned above so kindly arrive on time.**



Holy Week Program 2024

Sun 24 March **Palm Sunday** – normal weekend Masses
Thurs 28 March **Mass of the Last Supper** at 7:30pm
Fri 29 March **Good Friday**
10:00am - Stations of the Cross
3:00pm - Commemoration of the Passion & Death of Our Lord
Sat 30 March **Easter Vigil Mass** at 7:30pm
Sun 31 March **Easter Sunday** - normal Sunday Masses
Please Note: There will be NO morning Masses on Holy Thursday 28/3, Good Friday 29/3 and Holy Saturday 30/3



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.



LENT AND FLOWERS

Please, NO flowers in the church during Lent.
Flowers that are left in the church will be removed.



Dates to Remember in Lent:

All Thursdays during Lent –

Lenten reflection and Adoration

7:30pm – in the Church

All Fridays during Lent –

Stations of the Cross – after 9:10am Mass in the Church



4th Sunday of Lent - 9 & 10 March

As the eldest child in a low-income farming family in rural Malawi, Memory faced many barriers to her education. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, she enrolled in a technical school and became the first female carpenter in her village.



Please donate to Project Compassion.

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.



NEW LIFE IN GOD'S SPIRIT

The eight-week seminar every Wednesday continues

TIME: 1:30pm – 3:00pm

St. Raphael's Catholic Church

17 Hardy St. Preston West

For More Details Contact - Marijana 0422 340 675

The Living Gospel Prayer Group

13/3 – session 5 - Forgiveness, healing and reconciliation

20/3 – session 6 - New life in God's Spirit

27/3 - sessions 7/8 - Growth and community in the Lord



Lenten Regulations

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of Fasting and abstinence from meat.

On all other Fridays, except solemnities, the law of the common practice of penance is fulfilled by performing any one of the following:

- Prayer
- Self Denial
- Helping Others

* Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday, 14 February 2024 and Trinity Sunday 26 May 2024 unless for a good reason it is fulfilled at another time during the year.

* The wonderful gift of the Lord's merciful love is offered in a special way in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Lent is a most appropriate time to receive this Sacrament. All faithful who have reached the age of discretion are bound faithfully to confess their grave sins at least once a year.



Heading onto Campus?

The years spent studying at university are a unique time for building lifelong friendships with other students and with Jesus Christ. To find out what is happening for Catholics on and around campus, check out our website:

udisciple.melbournecatholic.org



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

Ticket sales close 24 March 2024

Bookings: contact 0406 777 986



New Seminarrians

Catholic Vocations is delighted to accept eight men to the Seminary for Melbourne this year:

Chinh Tran, Rohan Prince, Luke Kennedy,

Luke Emslie, Tung Phan, Joseph Maea,

Patrick Harris and Mathews Noble.

Please pray for them!



Laudato Si'
Caring for our common home



Fasting our Way to a Change of Heart and Mind

This week's Lenten fasting program from St Declan's (Penshurst, NSW) focused on our use of, and our attitude to, energy. Pope Francis asks us to "care for it (energy) and use it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude." Once more it's a call to a change in heart and mind, particularly about the way our use of energy affects others.

Our first task is to pray and reflect on our attitude to energy and how our use of it relates to "the common good". Could you do one practical "fast" this week. An easy one in this weather – don't use your clothes dryer at all. Turning off all TVs and computers each night is also easy once you become more aware of responsible use of energy. Have one car-free day or a day of 'electrical silence' with all electric gadgets turned off. Some of us may find those last 'fasts' too radical – that's OK, select a small step and be on your way to a more conscientious use of this great gift of energy. With this small building of awareness you might soon take on even greater challenges.



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.

☺ Joke Corner ☺

A priest known for his lengthy homilies, especially at Christmas and Easter, noticed a man get up and leave during the middle of his sermon one Sunday morning. The man came back just before communion. Afterward the slightly annoyed priest asked the man where he had gone.

"I went to get a haircut, Father," was the man's reply.

"But," said the priest, "why didn't you do that before Mass?"

"The man said, "Because I didn't need one then."

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling
breast.

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.

FIRST READING

2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23

All the heads of the priesthood, and the
people too, added infidelity to infidelity,
copying all the shameful practices of the
nations and defiling the Temple that the
Lord had consecrated for himself in
Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their
ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger
after messenger, since he wished to spare
his people and his house. But they
ridiculed the messengers of God, they
despised his words, they laughed at his
prophets, until at last the wrath of the
Lord rose so high against his people that
there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple
of God, demolished the walls of
Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and
destroyed everything of value in it. The
survivors were deported by
Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were
to serve him and his sons until the
kingdom of Persia came to power. This is
how the word of the Lord was fulfilled
that he spoke through Jeremiah, ‘Until
this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest,
until seventy years have gone by, it will
keep sabbath throughout the days of its
desolation.’

And in the first year of Cyrus king of
Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that
was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord
roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia
to issue a proclamation and to have it
publicly displayed throughout his
kingdom: ‘Thus speaks Cyrus king of
Persia, “The Lord, the God of heaven,
has given me all the kingdoms of the
earth; he has ordered me to build him a
Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever
there is among you of all his people, may
his God be with him! Let him go up.”’

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 136(137):1-6

The Response Is:

***Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever
forget you!***

By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there
we hung up our harps.

***Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever
forget you!***

For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
‘Sing to us,’ they said,
‘one of Zion’s songs.’

***Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever
forget you!***

O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?

If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither!

***Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever
forget you!***

O let my tongue
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys!

***Let my tongue be silenced, if I ever
forget you!***

SECOND READING

Ephesians 2:4-10

God loved us with so much love that he was
generous with his mercy: when we were
dead through our sins, he brought us to life
with Christ – it is through grace that you
have been saved – and raised us up with
him and gave us a place with him in
heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come,
through his goodness towards us in Christ
Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace.
Because it is by grace that you have been
saved, through faith; not by anything of
your own, but by a gift from God; not by
anything that you have done, so that
nobody can claim the credit. We are God’s
work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live
the good life as from the beginning he had
meant us to live it.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

*Please stand for the Gospel
Acclamation.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

***Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ!***

God loved the world so much, he gave us
his only Son,
that all who believe in him might have
eternal life.

***Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ!***

GOSPEL

John 3:14-21

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘The Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the
desert,

so that everyone who believes may have
eternal life in him.

Yes, God loved the world so much that
he gave his only Son, so that everyone
who believes in him may not be lost but
may have eternal life.

For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world, but so that
through him the world might be saved.

No one who believes in him will be
condemned; but whoever refuses to
believe is condemned already, because
he has refused to believe in the name of
God’s only Son.

On these grounds is sentence
pronounced:

that though the light has come into the
world men have shown they prefer
darkness to the light because their deeds
were evil.

And indeed, everybody who does wrong
hates the light and avoids it, for fear his
actions should be exposed; but the man
who lives by the truth comes out into the
light, so that it may be plainly seen that
what he does is done in God.’

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

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one
together.

It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of
the Lord, to praise the name of the Lord.

