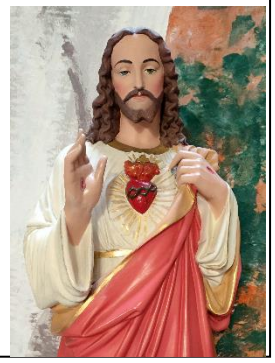




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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 on Thursday 28 December

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

Reconciliation:

30 minutes before Mass or by appointment

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 22/12/2023

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



The Nativity of the Lord 25 December 2023



A Christmas Message from Archbishop Comensoli

19 December 2023

Dear friends,

we hear these words from the ancient prophet Isaiah (52:7):

How beautiful upon the mountains

are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,

who brings good news,

who announces salvation ...

These are beautiful words—old words, first spoken in old days, yet so sorely needed in our day!

Amid this time of conflict, suffering and exile, Isaiah speaks to us words of peace and the good news about the Prince of Peace.

Our hearts ache for reconciliation of peoples; respect for our shared humanity; care for our crying planet. Our world and its people seem to be groaning and railing against pathways to true peace.

Yet we experience the hope of God through simple words of joy, mercy and peace.

The shepherds experienced this. So did the Magi. Mary and Joseph knew it intimately.

God knew we needed His Son to come amongst us, to show us the way ahead.

As we come to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord this year, might we be attentive to the broken people across the world who are held captive by the tragedy of war and old hatreds.

Might we also remember those exiled in other ways—bereft of knowing God; lost and searching for identity and purpose.

We too can be the messengers whose footfalls bring light into the world, announcing mercy, bringing joy, offering Good News.

God has come among us, simply, humbly and hopefully in a little child, His Son, our Brother.

May the peace that comes through this child, the Prince of Peace, be with you this Christmas.

And with every footstep, may you take His message, and life, out into the world.

Happy Christmas to you all!



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
23-Dec-23	Terry Murphy Mary Harb	Charlotte Bainy
30-Dec-23	Marlene Vergou Mary Harb	Terry Murphy
06-Jan-24	Teresa Dang Terry Murphy	Mary Harb
	Sunday 10:30AM Mass - Readers	Sunday 10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion
24-Dec-23	Hannah Lopez Marilene Fortuna	Giovanna D' Intino
31-Dec-23	Jessica Suppiah Ophelia Swai	Eileen Stevens
07-Jan-24	Jessy Thambiraj Judeline Wadhvani	Tony Eley
	Sunday 6:00PM Mass - Readers	Sunday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion
24-Dec-23	Christmas roster	Christmas roster
31-Dec-23	Volunteer	Damian Casamento
07-Jan-24	Michelle Totawatte Natalie Baran	Robert Dullard



WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Sandra Bishop, John Storrie
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:

Agnes Fernandez
Sr Sheila Thompson FMM
George McBrien (RIP 17/12. Rosary - Wed 27/12 at 7pm.
Funeral - Thurs 28/12 at 11am)

We Commemorate:

Frank Mendolicchio
Amelia & Hugo Tassone

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



Last Week's Collection: 17/12/23

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,109
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$854
Advent Ukraine Appeal:
Thank you for your kind generosity!



Thanksgiving Envelopes

The next batch of thanksgiving envelopes are in the foyer ready for collection. Kindly collect yours if you haven't already done so.

Thank you for your continued support to our Parish.



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 25 December	Christmas Day
Tuesday 26 December	St Stephen, the First Christian Martyr
Wednesday 27 December	St John, Apostle and Evangelist
Thursday 28 December	Feast of The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Friday 29 December	St Thomas Becket, Bishop, Martyr



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS

May we not forget people suffering the evils of war. Let us think about children in war and the things they see. May we draw near to the Nativity Scene to ask Jesus for peace. He is the Prince of Peace.



Advent Candles:

Christmas

Today is the day we have been preparing for throughout Advent. **Jesus is born.**
All five candles are lit.



We have been waiting for this day, Loving God. We have prepared ourselves for this special day. On this Christmas Day, let us live as those who let hope, peace, joy, and love reign in our lives. As the candles burn brightly and light our path, let us live as those who have the Christ's light burning inside us today and every day. Amen.



Safety alert to all

There have been current incidences of reported suspicious persons being seen in some parishes and theft of collection money and handbags/wallets left on seats. Please be vigilant and secure your belongings. We suggest that you take your valuables with you when lining up to receive Communion.

Collectors, please monitor collections at all times.



Introducing Mengjie...

Hello, my name is Mengjie, I am a seminarian from China. I have four siblings; two sisters and two brothers, I'm number four. I have been in Australia for more than nine months, and I will stay at Sacred Heart Parish for four weeks with Fr. Aloysius. After that I will be going back to Box Hill to continue my English course, and in February I will start my theology course. I believe that my time here will be my first valuable experience.



Please note:

There is **NO** morning Mass on Tuesday 26 December. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

*Readings for the Vigil and Night
Masses on Christmas Eve*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord said to me: You are my Son.
It is I who have begotten you this day.

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

See page 4

FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:1-7

The people that walked in darkness has
seen a great light; on those who live in a
land of deep shadow a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase; they
rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at
harvest time, as men are happy when they
are dividing the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his
oppressor, these you break as on the day of
Midian.

For all the footgear of battle, every cloak
rolled in blood, is burnt, and consumed by
fire.

For there is a child born for us, a son given
to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders;
and this is the name they give him:
Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God,
Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace.

Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no
end, for the throne of David and for his
royal power, which he establishes and
makes secure in justice and integrity.

From this time onwards and for ever,
the jealous love of the Lord of Hosts will
do this.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 95(96):1-3,11-13

The Response Is:

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the
Lord.*

O sing a new song to the Lord,

sing to the Lord all the earth.

O sing to the Lord, bless his name.

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the
Lord.*

Proclaim his help day by day,

tell among the nations his glory

and his wonders among all the peoples.

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the
Lord.*

Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,
let the sea and all within it thunder praise,

let the land and all it bears rejoice, all the
trees of the wood shout for joy at the
presence of the Lord for he comes, he
comes to rule the earth.

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the
Lord.*

With justice he will rule the world,

he will judge the peoples with his truth.

*Today is born our Saviour, Christ the
Lord.*

SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

God's grace has been revealed, and it has
made salvation possible for the whole
human race and taught us that what we
have to do is to give up everything that does
not lead to God, and all our worldly
ambitions; we must be self-restrained and
live good and religious lives here in this
present world, while we are waiting in hope
for the blessing which will come with the
Appearing of the glory of our great God
and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed
himself for us in order to set us free from
all wickedness and to purify a people so
that it could be his very own and would
have no ambition except to do good.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I bring you news of great joy:

today a saviour has been born to us, Christ
the Lord.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Luke 2:1-14

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a
census of the whole world to be taken. This
census – the first – took place while
Quirinius was governor of Syria, and
everyone went to his own town to be
registered. So Joseph set out from the town
of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to
Judea, to the town of David called
Bethlehem, since he was of David's House
and line, in order to be registered together
with Mary, his betrothed, who was with
child. While they were there the time came
for her to have her child, and she gave birth
to a son, her first born. She wrapped him in
swaddling clothes, and laid him in a
manger because there was no room for
them at the inn.

In the countryside close by there were
shepherds who lived in the fields and took
it in turns to watch their flocks during the
night. The angel of the Lord appeared to
them and the glory of the Lord shone round
them. They were terrified, but the angel
said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you
news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the
whole people. Today in the town of David
a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ
the Lord. And here is a sign for you: you
will find a baby wrapped in swaddling
clothes and lying in a manger.' And
suddenly with the angel there was a great

throng of the heavenly host, praising God
and singing:

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and peace to men who enjoy his favour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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

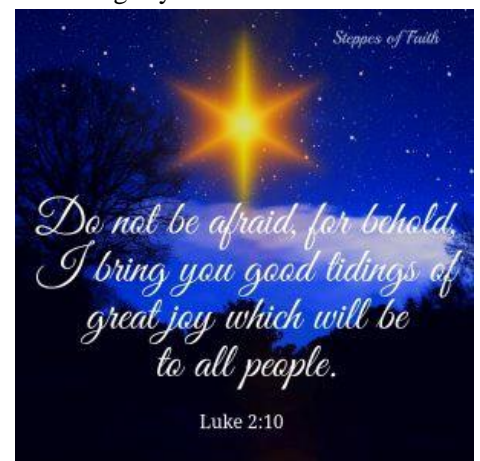
apostolic Church.

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.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Word became flesh, and we have
seen his glory.



Readings for Masses on Christmas Day

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

A child is born for us, and a son is given to us; his sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder, and his name will be called Messenger of great counsel.

PENITENTIAL ACT

See page 3

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 52:7-10

How beautiful on the mountains, are the feet of one who brings good news, who heralds peace, brings happiness, proclaims salvation, and tells Zion, 'Your God is king!'

Listen! Your watchmen raise their voices, they shout for joy together, for they see the Lord face to face, as he returns to Zion.

Break into shouts of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord is consoling his people, redeeming Jerusalem.

The Lord bares his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 97(98):1-6

The Response Is:

All the ends of the earth have seen the saving power of God.

Sing a new song to the Lord for he has worked wonders.

His right hand and his holy arm have brought salvation. **Response**

The Lord has made known his salvation; has shown his justice to the nations.

He has remembered his truth and love for the house of Israel. **Response**

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, ring out your joy. **Response**

Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp with the sound of music.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn acclaim the King, the Lord. **Response**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 1:1-6

At various times in the past and in various different ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our own time, the last days, he has spoken to us through his Son, the Son that he has appointed to inherit everything and through whom he made everything there is. He is the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature, sustaining the universe by his powerful command; and now that he has destroyed the defilement of sin, he has gone to take his place in heaven at the right hand of divine Majesty. So he is now as far above the angels as the title which he has inherited is higher than their own name.

God has never said to any angel: You are my Son, today I have become your father; or: I will be a father to him and he a son to me. Again, when he brings the First-Born into the world, he says: Let all the angels of God worship him.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

A hallowed day has dawned upon us. Come, you nations, worship the Lord, for today a great light has shone down upon the earth.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 1:1-18

In the beginning was the Word: and the Word was with God and the Word was God.

He was with God in the beginning.

Through him all things came to be, not one thing had its being but through him.

All that came to be had life in him and that life was the light of men, a light that shines in the dark, a light that darkness could not overpower.

A man came, sent by God.

His name was John.

He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him.

He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light.

The Word was the true light that enlightens all men; and he was coming into the world. He was in the world that had its being through him, and the world did not know him.

He came to his own domain and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God, to all who believe in the name of him who was born not out of human stock or urge of the flesh or will of man but of God himself.

The Word was made flesh, he lived among us, and we saw his glory, the glory that is his as the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

John appears as his witness. He proclaims:

'This is the one of whom I said:

He who comes after me ranks before me because he existed before me.'

Indeed, from his fullness we have, all of us, received – yes, grace in return for grace, since, though the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth have come through Jesus Christ.

No one has ever seen God; it is the only Son, who is nearest to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.



May the joy of Christ's birth fill our hearts anew with peace and love and enliven within us a spirit of hope for the world.

Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas

