

# 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

## 23rd - 24th February 2019

**First Reading:** 1 Sm 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

*The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.*

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him. Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them. David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 102: 1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

R/ The Lord is kind and merciful.

**Second Reading:** 1Corinthians 15:45-49

*Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.*

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation:** Jn 13:34

**Alleluia, alleluia!** I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you. **Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Luke 6:27-38

*Be merciful as your Father is merciful.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord



# Sacred Heart Parish

## Preston

322 Bell St, Preston 3072

**Parish Contacts:** Phone: (03) 9480 3398 Or (03) 9484 2124

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## 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

### 23rd - 24th February 2019

### 'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate'

The gospel today contains the most challenging of all the Christian commandments and probably the most difficult to keep: love your enemies and do good to those who hurt you.

In last week's gospel, through the Beatitudes, the disciples learned that to be a faithful follower of Jesus, they must be committed to a new order at variance with ways of the world. This week's text tells them how they must live in that new order; in a sense it provides the practical details. What Jesus is suggesting should not be confused with passivity or simply inaction or resignation in the face of persecution and injustice. Quite the contrary! What Jesus is suggesting is radical action. It demands that we act towards others without being asked, that believers offer friendship and pardon constantly, without asking or hoping for anything in return. In Jesus is located God's self-revelation, God's actions in and for the world, plan for salvation and its fulfilment. Followers of Jesus must act in these ways precisely because they are the ways of God – and God, as we are told, is Love which of its nature is open to see the potential good in others and to act out of the goodness within oneself. Jesus goes on to elaborate: turn the other cheek; love your enemies do not retaliate as this serves to endorse wrong doing; do good to those who hate you! Be agents of healing not retributive hurt. This may well seem an impossible ideal as a way of life - a huge challenge beyond the Beatitudes.

The first disciples of Jesus may well have made this judgement, had it not been for the memory of the life Jesus had lived in their midst. In the New Testament, these first followers shared how they came to recognise the central importance of the New Commandment of love, as they reflected in the selfless life of Jesus and its culmination in his tragic death. In Jesus' words through John the evangelist, "no greater love can there be than to lay down one's life for one's friends" (Jn 25:12-13)

Clearly the Law of Love – proclaimed today, is an ideal that none of us will ever fully realise. But 'being Christian is about striving towards the ideal nevertheless. So how can we love others as Christ himself has loved them in our daily interactions? It's about compassion. "Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate." Jesus is teaching us not to set limits to the practical goodwill we bear towards our fellow human beings. The way of true happiness lies in celebrating and sharing the gifts of God's Spirit that we have received through our faith in Christ Jesus.



#### Office Hours:

Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

#### Parish Priest:

Fr Jan Szweda, SVD

#### Priests in Residence:

Fr Ennio Mantovani SVD

Fr Phuong Vu SVD, La Trobe University Chaplain

**Parish Office:** Cristina Agius

**School Principal:** Mark Tierney

**School Phone:** 9484 3514

#### Sacrament Co-ordinator:

Judeline Wadhvani

#### Child Safety Officer:

Judeline Wadhvani

M: 0490660787

judeline.wadhvani@gmail.com

#### Parish Council Members:

Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),

Kay Dufty (secretary), Gerard

Grant, Ophelia Swai, Anisasio

(Pauline) Veamatahau, Mark

Tierney, Fr Jan Szweda SVD

#### St. Vincent de Paul Society:

Pauline O'Day (President)

Ph: 9484 2445

#### 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 Thursday of the month at 1.30pm

##### Devotional Practices:

**Adoration of the Blessed**

**Sacrament:** Wednesday after 9.10am Mass

**Holy Rosary:** Thursday (English) & Friday (Italian) after 9.10am Mass

**Legion of Mary:** Thursday 7.30pm, in the Presbytery

##### Reconciliation:

Weekdays: 30 minutes before Mass or by appointment

##### Baptisms & Weddings:

By appointment only

**Our Church - A Safe Community  
A Shared Commitment**

**National Catholic Safeguarding Standards**

A second draft of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards has been released prior to final adoption. After rigorous consultation processes conducted by CPSL, a second draft of the Standards was provided to the November plenary meeting of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and to Catholic Religious Australia for their consideration, in line with CPSL's constitution.

CPSL CEO, Sheree Limbrick said it is understood that finalisation could take another month or so but that significant changes are not expected. "We have decided to release this second draft to enable participating entities to closely consider the detail of the Standards and support material designed specifically to support implementation. It is very important that those entities scheduled for audit have time to prepare. This current draft of the Standards is the result of 18 months of consultation and testing. They have been mapped against state legislation, the recommendations made by the Royal Commission and by national bodies and overseas experience. They take the new National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and apply them to the Catholic Church context," Ms Limbrick said. The second draft of the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards is available on CPSL's website: [www.info@cpsltd.org.au](http://www.info@cpsltd.org.au)

*CPSL - Catholic Professional Standards Ltd is a not-for-profit public company, limited by guarantee. It was established by the leadership of the Catholic Church during the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse to develop national safeguarding standards, to audit the compliance of Church Authorities with those standards and to publicly report the results. CPSL is functionally independent of the Church.*

**Dates to Remember**

- Wednesday 6th March:** Ash Wednesday Masses at 9.10am & 7.30pm
- All Fridays during Lent:** Stations of the Cross - 7.30pm
- Sunday 17th March:** 10.30am - Children's Mass & commitment for children preparing for Reconciliation
- Sunday 17th March:** 11.30am - in the presbytery Meeting for Parents/Guardians of children preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Sunday 17th March:** After 10.30am Mass Parish Picnic in School grounds

**Last Week's Collection: 17/02/19**

1st Collection for our Church: \$1680.85  
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$824.15  
*Thank you for your kind generosity!*



**Sacred Heart Primary School  
Enrolments**

Enrolments for the 2020 school year are open. For a school tour, contact the school principal on 9487 1001 or via the school website: <http://www.shpreston.catholic.edu.au>

**Open Day:** Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30am – 11.00am and 12.00pm – 1.30pm

**Sacramental Program 2019**

Registration for children preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion closes by next Sunday. Please fill in a registration form available in the church foyer. Children preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will make their commitment on Sunday at the 10.30am Mass. The Mass will be followed by a meeting of their parents or guardians at the presbytery.



**Lenten Program - The Person of Jesus  
5th March - 9th April 2019**

Presenter: Fr. Phuong Vu, SVD  
Venue: Sacred Heart Preston  
Time: 7.30 – 8.30pm



**Topics**

- 5th March** - Jesus is God
- 12th March** - Jesus is the Compassionate God
- 19th March** - Jesus is the Free Man
- 26th March** - Jesus is the Healer
- 2nd April** - Jesus is the Teacher
- 9th April** - Jesus is the Redeemer

**Like to join Sacred Heart's Music Ministry??  
Contact Priscilla on 0415061781**

**Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) Meeting**

Last Tuesday, the PPC met for its first meeting in 2019. The main focus was on planning for parish events for 2019. At this time we intend to have 3 cultural masses: Multicultural on the Sacred Heart Feast (23rd June) and Mission Sunday (20th October) plus a Tongan cultural Mass in August. We also plan for children masses once a month. A parish picnic is planned for Sunday 17th March after 10.30 Mass. The Council will make an effort to find more volunteers to welcome parishioners and visitors before Sunday masses.



**Welcome!**

This weekend through Baptism we welcome: **Mikayla Tracy Rogan** into our Parish family



**Parish Picnic**

Come and join us for a parish picnic! Everyone is invited to attend Mass and stay on for a social gathering on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March, in the Sacred Heart School grounds. There will be a lot of food and weather permitting, outdoor family games.

**Lunchtime movie at the Westgarth  
"Stan & Ollie"**



Date: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> of March  
The day will begin with a light sandwich lunch and complimentary tea or coffee, followed by the movie. More details next weekend. All interested in this and following events, please leave your name and contact number on the signup sheet in the church porch or ring Eileen 0402 448 652 or Pauline 9484 2445

**Plenary Council 2020:**

Interested in a discussion session on the theme, "What is God asking of us in Australia at this time?". If 'yes', we will invite a facilitator to conduct a session by the end of this month. Please sign a list in the church foyer.

**Walking Toward Eternity:  
Engaging the Struggles of Your Heart**

A DVD based Bible study that can open our eyes to the obstacles in our Christian walk and help us overcome our struggles.

Where: Sacred Heart Presbytery  
When: 8 Saturdays beginning 16th February (except 13 & 20 April) from 3:30pm – 5:30pm.

If there is enough interest in an evening session, we will offer it on Wednesday evenings from 7:00pm - 9:00pm.  
Cost: Estimated Journal cost is \$35 (less if we have more participants to buy in bulk)

A sign up sheet is in the Church Foyer.  
This program is run by the Verbum Domini group.

**Lenten Prayer / Reflection Group**

If you would like to join the Prayer/Reflection Group, please contact Faye Santos, 657 Gilbert Road, Reservoir. on 0413713913.

**Church Cleaning Volunteers**

Again, we invite parishioners who are willing to help clean our church, only once a year, to please sign your name and contact number on the roster placed in our church foyer.  
Thank you for your help!



**WE PRAY FOR:**  
The elderly and the sick  
*Brian Donnellon, Irene Navascues, Dale O'Keefe, Veronica Parkes, Rosie Poter, Lidia Razzi, Raul Reinal & Fr Jan Szweda*  
.....  
Those who have died  
*John Bourke (7th month), Domenico Crupi, Maria Madelene Mai, Therese Nguyen (3rd Anni), Peter Tong Nham, Stephanie Silaen & Dominique Tran Ba*  
O Lord, may perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.

**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**

*Invest in your most precious asset... Your Marriage!*  
*There is no group sharing. Couples and a priest present the weekend. It is based around Catholic values but couples of all faiths are welcome.*  
**2019 Melbourne weekend dates: 29-31 March, 31 May-2 June, 23-25 August and 15-17 November**  
Starts 7pm Friday, Ends 5pm Sunday.  
Accommodation and all meals provided.  
Info/Bookings: Ph: Mercy and James 0409 183 676  
Email: [vicbookings@wwme.org.au](mailto:vicbookings@wwme.org.au)  
Website: [www.wwme.org.au](http://www.wwme.org.au)

**Interested in watching Religious Movies?**

This is an open invitation to all who would like to get together at the presbytery to watch a religious movie. It will be screened in the evening, every 2nd Friday of the month. During Lent, it will be screened following Stations of the Cross, at about 8.15pm. First movie about St. Patrick will be on Friday 8th March. No entry fee!! Just come!!

**Cleaning Roster: Saturday 2nd March 2019**

Pauline/Cory

Thank you for your help!



**Roster for weekend of 2nd - 3rd March 2019**

|                             | Readers                          | Ministers                            | Projector       |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Sat 6.00pm</b>           | Rohan Lemos<br>Mary Harb         | Marlene Vergou<br>Barbara Fitzgerald | Rohan Lemos     |
| <b>Sun 9.00am (Italian)</b> | Ilardi L.                        | Bozzella C.<br>Capobianco A.         | Mancini M.      |
| <b>Sun 10.30am</b>          | Catherine Zanatta<br>Anne Stuart | George Mc Brien<br>Tony Eley         | Jessy Thambiraj |
| <b>Sun 6.00pm</b>           | John Plum<br>Damian Casamento    | Margaret Bannon<br>Sharon Kotz       | Jessica Suppiah |