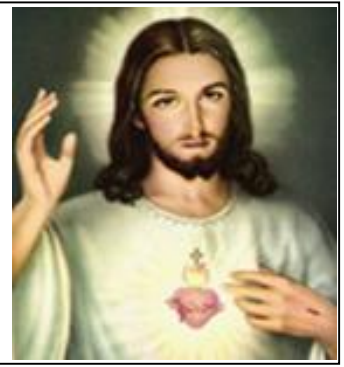




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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

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 Coordinator: TBA

Safeguarding Committee:

Safeguarding Officers:

Robert Dullard: 0433 401 958

Kay Duffy: 0431 376 212

Safeguarding Committee: Members:

Mary Harb: 0422 891 324

Teresa Dang : 0434 583 911

Pauline O'Day: 0497 935 593

Parish Council Members:

Gerard Grant (chairperson), Kay Duffy

(secretary), 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

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 the month
at 1:30pm

Please note: No healing Mass in April.

Next Healing Mass:

Friday 5 May

Devotional Practices:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Thursday at 7:30pm for 1 hour



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

Reconciliation:

30 minutes before Mass or by appointment

Baptisms & Weddings: By appointment only

Bulletin printed 17/3/2023

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year A) Sunday 19 March 2023 Laetare Sunday

“God does not see as ‘man’ sees: man looks at appearances.

The Lord looks at the heart. (1 Sam 16:7)

Last week, we journeyed with the woman of Samaria from bewilderment to deep insight into Jesus’ identity and mission and to a strong personal faith commitment. This week, we are invited on a faith journey with a man born blind and with the varying groups of participants in the John’s narrative. All have the opportunity of coming to faith. Ironically, the blind come to see, both physically and spiritually, while those who are gifted with physical sight remain spiritually short-sighted - even in darkness.

In healing the man born blind, Jesus performs the sixth of eight powerful actions or “signs” in John’s gospel that reveal God’s Love and Power at work in Jesus and in the lives of those who seek life. The “signs” invite the reader/hearer/viewer to accept Jesus and His revelation of God and God’s purposes.

Time features significantly in the story. Jesus heals the blind beggar on the Sabbath. The Jerusalem authorities have already raised objections about Jesus’ Sabbath healing activity (John 5). Once again they object that He is failing to observe the Sabbath. They label Him a sinner. Ironically, in the final authoritative analysis, it is they who “remain in their sins”. This story reminds us of the need to check our assumptions and, if necessary, to revise our thinking and action. It also reminds us to accept the fact that we can be wrong about things we have always believed and in our interpretations of what God of Everlasting and non-discriminating love expects of us as disciples. It invites us to be open to seeing differently or from a new perspective. Jesus’ disciples, the parents of the man born blind, his neighbours, the religious authorities all operate out of unchecked assumptions. They mostly come to the wrong conclusions. Only those willing to admit that they have it wrong have any chance of coming to faith.

In the present political climate in our country, admitting that one “got it wrong” seems to be anathema. And yet, from a gospel perspective, it is a sign of real strength. In the common estimation, the man was blind, so he or his parents must have sinned. Not so, according to Jesus. From the perspective of the authorities, Jesus heals on the Sabbath and is therefore a sinner. Not so, from Jesus’ point of view. The man was born blind and so needs others to speak for him. Not so, say his parents, he can speak for himself. He does speak for himself and quite eloquently, to the vexation of the religious authorities. He presents them with the truth about Jesus but they refuse to accept the word of an outcast. Their reaction is violent: they drive him out.

But Jesus goes in search of him and leads him to yet deeper levels of faith and understanding. You may like to read the story once more and put yourself in the place of the different characters. There is a little bit of each character in every one of us.

St Paul advises in the second reading, *“Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness... Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead and Christ will shine on you”* (Ephesians 5:8)

Veronica Lawson RSM.



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
18-Mar-23	Celia Lemos Mary Harb	Terry Murphy
25-Mar-23	Rohan Lemos Terry Murphy	Charlotte Bainy
01-Apr-23	Marlene Vergou Teresa Dang	Mary Harb

	Sunday 10:30AM Mass - Readers	Sunday 10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion
19-Mar-23	Hannah Lopez Judeline Wadhvani	Giovanna D' Intino
26-Mar-23	Jessy Thambiraj Ivana Lo Bello	Eileen Stevens
02-Apr-23	Jessica Suppiah Marilene Fortuna	Tony Eley

	Sunday 6:00PM Mass - Readers	Sunday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion
19-Mar-23	Carolina Constable Peter Constable	Robert Dullard
26-Mar-23	Albert D'Souza Tim Rankin	Damian Casamento
02-Apr-23	Carolina Constable Peter Constable	Robert Dullard

*A Heartfelt Thank You
TO ALL OF OUR
AMAZING VOLUNTEERS!
We couldn't do it without you!*

Volunteers
*To all our Volunteers
Thank you for your hard work*

WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Sandra Bishop, John Plum
Our parishioners, family members and friends, that they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect.

Those who have died recently:

Carmela Aliotta (RIP 12/3. Funeral Tue 21/3 at 11am)

We Commemorate:

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

Last Week's Collection: 12/3/23

1st Collection for our Church: \$945
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$679
Thank you for your kind generosity!

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.



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 20 March St Joseph
Thursday 23 March St Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop
Saturday 24 March The Annunciation of the Lord



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



Let us remain united in faith and solidarity with the people who suffer because of war. Let us especially not forget the battered people of Ukraine.



Dates to Remember

All Thursdays during Lent –

Lenten reflection – “The Seven Last Words of Christ” and Adoration – 7:30pm – in the Church

All Fridays during Lent –

Stations of the Cross – 6:30pm – in the church



>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
Victoria Matthews,
in preparation for her Baptism on 26 March.



Sunday 19 March -

Come for a Cuppa after 10:30am Mass



Please join us after the 10:30am Mass this Sunday 19 March for a cup of tea or coffee at **Sacred Heart School.**

All are welcome



Holy Week Program 2023

Sun 2 April **Palm Sunday** – normal weekend Masses
Thurs 6 April **Mass of the Last Supper** at 7:30pm
Fri 7 April **Good Friday**

10:00am - “The Seven Last Words of Christ” followed by Stations of the Cross
3:00pm - Commemoration of the Passion & Death of Our Lord

Sat 8 April **Easter Vigil Mass** at 7:30pm
Sun 9 April **Easter Sunday** - normal Sunday Masses

Please Note: There will be no morning Masses on Holy Thursday 6/4, Good Friday 7/4 and Holy Saturday 8/4

Volunteers Needed

Are you available to participate in our Holy Week Ceremonies 2nd to 9th April?

Readers, Ministers of Communion, Altar servers, leaders of music, projectionists, those who clean and prepare the church, collectors are all needed for:

Palm Sunday Masses

Holy Thursday Evening

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross

3pm Celebration of the Lords Passion

Easter Vigil Mass

If you can assist, please put your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet in the church foyer or email Rachel at: preston@cam.org.au or phone 9480 3398. Thank you



Project Compassion Fourth Sunday of Lent



Thu lost his leg after stepping on a land mine in Vietnam. With the support of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Thu can now earn extra income and care for his wife as she recovers from a stroke.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

You can donate through [Project Compassion](https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion) donation boxes and envelopes available in the Church foyer, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.



Free Public Lecture in Melbourne

Wednesday the 29 March at 6pm there is a free public lecture, **'Works that Made the West: The Letters of St Paul.'** It is held at The Athanaeum Club, Melbourne CBD. For a free ticket to the evening follow this link; [Free Ticket to Public Lecture](#)



4th Sunday of Lent

Today's Gospel reminds us to abandon the mindset of people 'destined' to suffer and instead help anyone live. This is **Laetare Sunday**, Rejoice! As Pope Francis reminds us in Laudato Si', "truly, much can be done!"



Walk With Mary Sunday 26 March

2.00 pm St Patrick's Cathedral



Prayers and Holy Mass with
Bishop Columba Macbeth Green
Followed by Street Procession
All welcome



Please take the bulletin home



Türkiye-Syria Earthquake Disaster

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake has unleashed devastation on Türkiye and Syria. Over 50,000 people have been killed, with many more injured and left homeless. After 12 years of war, Syria is at breaking point and desperately needs assistance.

We must act NOW

and help those affected by this catastrophe.

Your generous donation means our partners in Türkiye and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy.

Visit: www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey
or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.



Left: The destroyed Cathedral of Iskenderun. Photo: Caritas network.
Right: Earthquake response by Caritas network. Photo Caritas network.



Sacred Heart Primary School 2024 Enrolments

Enrolments for the 2024 school year Foundation classes, open on Monday 6th March. For a school tour, please contact the school principal on 9487 1001 or via the school website <http://www.shpreston.catholic.edu.au>
Our school was ranked in the top 7% of primary schools across Victoria for NAPLAN in 2022.
At Sacred Heart School, our students are at the heart of every decision we make. Every day is Open Day and prospective students and their families are warmly invited to tour our school.



Children's activity pages

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



Joke Corner

A few Irish laughs ...

Why do leprechauns love to garden? They have green thumbs!
What do you call a leprechaun prank? A saint pat-trick.
What happens if a leprechaun falls into the ocean? He gets wet, of course.
Why Do leprechauns make good secretaries? To be sure, they're great at shorthand!
When does a leprechaun cross the road? When it turns green!
How did the leprechaun win the race? He took a shortcut.
What did the giant say to the leprechaun? Look up!
Why wouldn't you borrow money from a leprechaun? Because they're always a little short.
You know you overdid it on St Patrick's Day when you think you're kissing the Blarney Stone and then it kisses back.
Why did St Patrick drive the snakes out of Ireland? Because he couldn't afford a plane ticket.

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

1 Samuel 16:1,6-7,10-13

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn
with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse
of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a
king among his sons.' When Samuel
arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and
thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed
stands there before him,' but the Lord
said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his
appearance or his height, for I have
rejected him: God does not see as man
sees: man looks at appearances but the
Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented
his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel
said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen
these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all
the sons you have?' He answered, 'There
is still one left, the youngest; he is out
looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel
said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not
sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had
him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion,
with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The
Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is
the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of
oil and anointed him where he stood with
his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord
seized on David and stayed with him
from that day on.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 22(23)

The Response Is:

*The Lord is my shepherd; there is
nothing I shall want.*

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

*The Lord is my shepherd; there is
nothing I shall want.*

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your
staff; with these you give me comfort.

*The Lord is my shepherd; there is
nothing I shall want.*

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

*The Lord is my shepherd; there is
nothing I shall want.*

Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

*The Lord is my shepherd; there is
nothing I shall want.*

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:8-14

You were darkness once, but now you are
light in the Lord; be like children of light,
for the effects of the light are seen in
complete goodness and right living and
truth. Try to discover what the Lord
wants of you, having nothing to do with
the futile works of darkness but exposing
them by contrast. The things which are
done in secret are things that people are
ashamed even to speak of; but anything
exposed by the light will be illuminated
and anything illuminated turns into light.
That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

*Please stand for the Gospel
Acclamation.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus
Christ!*

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of
life.

*Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus
Christ!*

GOSPEL

John 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who
had been blind from birth. He spat on the
ground, made a paste with the spittle, put
this over the eyes of the blind man, and
said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of
Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So
the blind man went off and washed
himself, and came away with his sight
restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier
had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the
man who used to sit and beg?' Some said,
'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said,
'No, he only looks like him.' The man
himself said, 'I am the man.'

They brought the man who had been
blind to the Pharisees. It had been a
sabbath day when Jesus made the paste
and opened the man's eyes, so when the
Pharisees asked him how he had come to
see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes,
and I washed, and I can see.' Then some
of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot
be from God: he does not keep the
sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a
sinner produce signs like this?' And there
was disagreement among them. So they
spoke to the blind man again, 'What have
you to say about him yourself, now that
he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a
prophet' replied the man.

'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied
'and you a sinner through and through,
since you were born!' And they drove
him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away,
and when he found him he said to him,
'Do you believe in the Son of Man?'
'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is
so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said,
'You are looking at him; he is speaking
to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe',
and worshipped him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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.

**RESPONSE TO PRAYERS OF THE
FAITHFUL:** Lord, hear our prayer.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I
washed, I saw and I believed in God.

