

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A, The Presentation of the Lord 1st - 2nd February 2020

The First Reading Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord whom you seek will come to his people.

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23:7-10. R. v.10

R/ Who is the king of glory? It is the Lord!

The Second Reading Hebrews 2:14-18

He had to be made like us in all things.

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation Lk 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia! This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people, Israel. **Alleluia!**

Gospel: Luke 2:22-32

My eyes have seen your saving power.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord - observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord - and also to offer sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

The Gospel of the Lord

We thank our loving God for the gift of his Son, the light of the world. We share our joy with others because the Lord who entered his temple has entered our lives too.

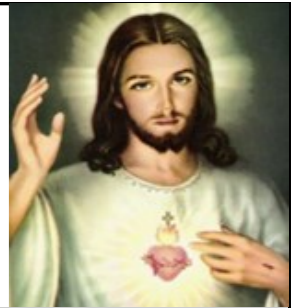


Sacred Heart Parish Preston

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Office Hours:

Tues to Fri: 10.00am - 12.30pm

Parish Priest:

Fr Jan Szweda, SVD

Priest in Residence:

Fr Ennio Mantovani SVD

Parish Office: Cristina Agius

School Principal: Mark Tierney

School Phone: 9487 1001

Sacrament Co-ordinator:

Vacant

Child Safety Officer:

Kay Dufty: 0431 376 212

Child Safety Committee:

Teresa Dang, Kay Dufty, Robert Dullard (Chair), Mary Harb, Sharron Kotz, Pauline O'Day, Fr Jan Szweda

Parish Council Members:

Catherine Zanatta (chairperson), Kay Dufty (secretary), Tony Eley, Gerard Grant, Ophelia Swai, Anisasio (Pauline) Veamatahau, Mark Tierney, Ben Fortuna, Solomon Konchakara, Natalie Baran

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)

Legion of Mary: Thursday 7.30pm, in the Presbytery

Reconciliation:

Weekdays: 30 minutes before Mass or by appointment

Baptisms & Weddings:

By appointment only

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A, THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD 1st - 2nd February 2020

My eyes have seen your Salvation

The coming of the child Jesus to the temple to be presented to God according to the Law of Moses took place forty days after his birth. Today's feast day echoes themes of Christmas celebration. Through the birth of a child to a humble man and woman, the Light of God's love has shone out, overcoming the darkness of suffering and despair in the world.

Traditionally, this feast has been a festival of light, with processions of blessed candles. The coming of spring in the northern hemisphere provided a symbolic setting for recalling the appearing of the Light of the World.

The gospel reading from Luke remarkably weaves together several themes fundamental to the story he is to tell. What a contrast between the prophet's description in the first reading of the Lord's dramatic coming to his temple and the presentation scene – in which the characters are from the 'anawim' - the poor and humble ones of God's people, to whom first and foremost God's blessings were promised. Luke underlines



the fact that the Holy Family made the presentation of the child in fulfilment of the Law of Moses. Throughout his lifetime, Jesus himself was a faithful observer of the Law to which he would bring fulfilment. He was truly one with us in the life we lead, as the second reading reminds us: "because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help those who are tempted". Luke points out the fact that Joseph and Mary were not well off. The offering prescribed for the event was a lamb; the pair of birds that Joseph and Mary brought was the offering of those who could not afford the lamb.

The meeting with Simeon and Anna introduced the dimension of prophecy; seeing the child, Simeon gave God thanks and praise. Echoing phrases used by prophets of old, he declared

what they foretold was being fulfilled: "a light to enlighten the pagans, and the glory of your people."

The scene closes with the mysterious prophecy of Simeon pointing to Mary's place in this work of God. Christian history was to bring a remarkable fulfilment of Simeon's words to this humble mother, foreshadowing Jesus giving his life for his people.

Joseph and Mary presenting Jesus in the Temple is an act of honesty and humility: they recognise that the child with whom they are entrusted is God's child through whom God's light will shine in the world. We might recognise a link with what our parents were about when they brought us to the church for baptism. On that day we received the 'light of Christ'. How do we bring that light to others?

John Thornhill SM The Emmaus Series

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Today the Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and is also known as Candlemas day. Before the revision of the General Roman Calendar this marked the end of the Christmas season.

The feast was first observed in the Eastern Church as "The Encounter." In the sixth century, it began to be observed in the West: in Rome with a more penitential character and in Gaul (France) with solemn blessings and processions of candles, popularly known as "Candlemas." The Presentation of the Lord concluded the celebration of the Nativity and with the offerings of the Virgin Mother and the prophecy of Simeon, the events now point toward Easter.

Our Shared Love and Compassion

It has been a difficult past few months for Australia, with bushfires raging across our nation. It has destroyed countless homes; ruined livelihoods; razed millions of acres of land; and ultimately taken the lives of family, friends, and animals that call Australia home.

But through the devastation, we have seen great compassion and love shown by others. As a nation, it has shown how we band together to lift others up when the burden of darkness and despair becomes too heavy. Our differences have been left behind, and we have joined as one to stand up for the place we call home.

Australia is home to over 24 million people. With a quarter of residents born overseas and many more who are first or second-generation Australians, we have become one of the most ethnically diverse places in the world. Despite where we were born or where we have come from, there is something that we all share in common with one another – the love for our great country. It is this love that has given rise to the millions of dollars donated towards the bushfire crisis and the people and animals affected by it. This love that has urged countless volunteers to step forward and lend a helping hand. This love that has resulted in acts of kindness and compassion, good deeds and heroism. *CatholicCare*

Dates to Remember


Thursday 6th February: Mass at 1.30pm

Mass with Anointing of the Sick



Welcome!
This weekend through Baptism we welcome
Eva Rose Rinaldi & Audrey Vanden Wyngaert
into our Parish family

Last Week's Collection: 26/01/20
1st Collection for our Church: \$1521.05
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$939.10
Bushfire Appeal: \$1400.00
Thank you for your kind generosity!



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.

World Day for Consecrated Life



In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolising Christ who is

the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples.

“This then is the consecrated life: praise which gives joy to God’s people, prophetic vision that reveals what counts. Consecrated life is not about survival, it is not about preparing ourselves for *ars bene moriendi* (art of good dying): this is the temptation of our days, in the face of declining vocations. No, it is not about survival, but new life. “But... there are only a few of us...” – it’s about new life. It is a living encounter with the Lord in his people. It is a call to the faithful obedience of daily life and to the unexpected surprises from the Spirit. It is a vision of what we need to embrace in order to experience joy: Jesus” –Pope Francis, WDCL Homily on February 2, 2019

Registration for Sacramental Program for 2020

Children of our parish who attend other than Catholic schools and wish to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Year 3), First Holy Communion (Year 4) or Confirmation (Year 5-6), will have to enrol for preparation classes conducted in our parish.

Enrolment forms are available in the foyer of our church throughout the month of February 2020.



Interfaith Dialogue



Would you like to know more about the Maronite Church? Please come and join a meeting with members of another rite, denomination or religion. The first meeting this year will be on Tuesday 4th of February, 2020 at 7.30pm – 8.45 pm, in the Presbytery. Everyone most welcome. Refreshments provided.

Being a Catholic in 2020 Melbourne

We are thrilled to kick off the New Year with our very own Archbishop Peter Comensoli, talking around the topic of 'Being a Catholic in 2020 Melbourne'. As young adults in a very secular city, it can sometimes be difficult to navigate our way through the many challenges we face. How are we called to evangelise? What would the Archbishop like the young people of Melbourne to focus on this year? These are some of the questions he will be focusing on, whilst allowing time to answer questions from the audience. What a great way to start our year!

When: Monday 3rd February
Doors open on Level 1 at 6:30pm
The talk will commence at 7:30pm

Where: European Bier Café, Level 1, 120 Exhibition Street CBD MELBOURNE

Audience: 18 to 35 year olds; Priests and Religious of all ages welcome

Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/tapmelb/

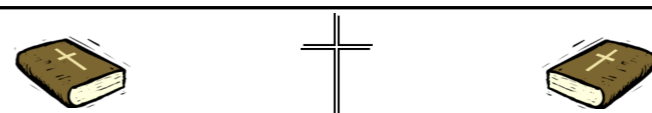
Website: www.theologyatthepub.com.au

Children's Liturgy of the Word Returns Sunday 2 February!

The Children's Liturgy Team warmly welcomes our Parish families back to weekly gatherings of Children's Liturgy of the Word starting today, Sunday 2nd February 2020, at the 10:30am Mass.



Primary school aged children are invited to attend. Younger children may also attend with a parent. Our Liturgy is held in the Parish meeting room but always starts from Church with a blessing from Fr Jan. Check out the poster in the foyer for more information.



Cleaning Roster: Saturday 8th February 2020

Lizzie/Volunteers

Thank you for your help!



Roster for weekend of 8th - 9th February 2020

	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6.00pm	Rohan Lemos Renato Tonini	Mary Harb Charlotte Bainy
Sun 9.00am (Italian)	Mancini M.	Bozzella C. Pavan M.
Sun 10.30am	Sonia Bading Ivana Lo Bello	Teresa Bernardini Tony Eley
Sun 6.00pm	Peter Constable Carolina Constable	Robert Dullard Margaret Bannon

WE PRAY FOR:
The elderly and the sick
Alan Castles & Rita Grant

We Commemorate
**Candida Cardamone,
Carmelo, Francesca & Giovanni Chiodo,
Angelo & Vittorio Didone, Giuseppe Marasco & Maria Reginato**

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



2020 Strength in Weakness Conference

Saturday 15th February 2020, 9:00am – 6:30pm, 400 City Road, Southbank (Planetshakers Centre)

A day of prayer and renewal for all Christians to come together and be strengthened and encouraged in their faith. Encouraged by Pope Francis' message that we are all called to be saints, the underlying theme of the conference is to rely solely on God's grace and strength – especially in times when your faith could be questioned and challenged. Guest speakers will include Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, Archbishop Christopher Prowse, Fr Augustine Vallooran V.C, Lenyce Willason, Fr Ken Barker MGL & Lalith Perera.

We invite everyone to this free event. If you are interested in participating, please register online. For more information & free registration visit: www.strengtheninweakness.com.au

Northern Region Youth Group Gathering

This year, we are re-launching our northern central young adult group: "True North". St Ambrose parish kindly offers their community room for this gathering.

For launch party:
When: Sunday February 16th
Where: St Ambrose Community Centre, 259 Sydney Rd, Brunswick
Time: 6:30pm-8:00pm
Age: 18 to 35 year olds
Food and drinks provided
Event: bit.ly/TNLaunchParty
Click [here](#) for flyer

Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist Roster

Readers and ministers of the Eucharist, copies of the next roster are available and will be emailed this week. Please check the envelopes on the table at the entrance

PLEASE TAKE THE BULLETIN HOME

