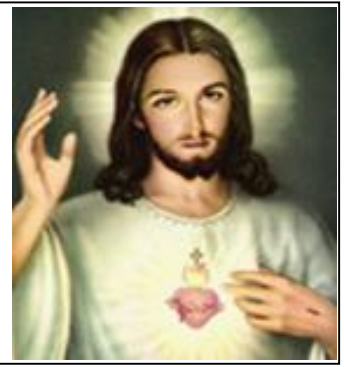




Sacred Heart Parish Preston



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 Dufty: 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 Dufty

(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 new day.

Next Healing Mass:

Friday 3 March

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 24/2/2023

1st Sunday of Lent (Year A)

Sunday 26 February 2023

“I Will Give You a New Heart and a New Spirit...”

The season of Lent is a gift. It offers us time to stand back and look at the big picture of our human condition lived within the horizon of God’s unending love. From the ashen sign on the forehead on Ash Wednesday to the wooden cross of Good Friday, the forty days of Lent keep us focused on the cross of Christ. Historically the cross is a human symbol of tragedy and defeat yet for those who walk the way of Jesus it is the figure of humanity’s greatest hope – that loss, suffering or death do not have the last word.

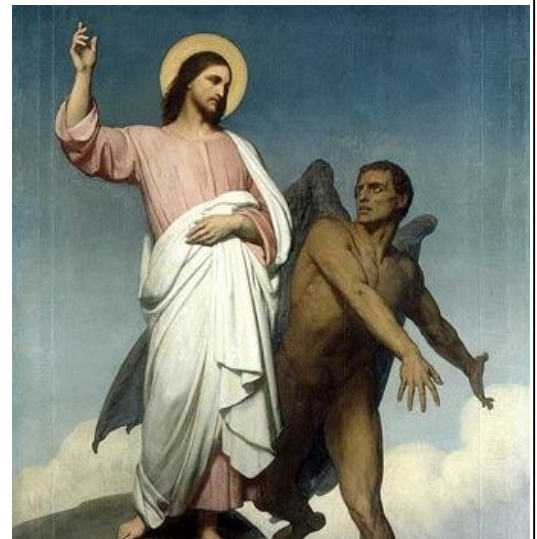
In this season of Lent, the readings prepare us to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus at Easter. This is done by taking us on a journey of faith through the great events -disasters and triumphs of salvation history. We survey the whole story of salvation from the dawn of creation to the climax of Jesus’ mission among us.

Today’s readings challenge us to reflect deeply on the choices that confront us daily, just as they have since the dawn of time. We might find it hard to relate to the dramatic struggle told for us in the gospel of Jesus’ testing in the desert or the strange story about a serpent in the garden of Eden. Our day to day experiences are not so figurative -but more subtle and mundane. They are the daily temptations to stick to routine or to go along with the crowd when deep within something is telling us to look beyond ourselves and “give!”. We are tempted to believe that what we do is not going to make any difference anyway and separate ourselves in spirit from others. And in so doing, God and His purpose for us is squeezed out of our consciousness and in living for ourselves we become miserable and stuck in a wilderness. Our hearts can become oblivious to the love and mercy of God that challenges each of us through those around us to be people of integrity and faithfulness to the Way of Jesus.

Lent is our wilderness desert journey. Whatever ‘acts of denial’, extra prayer or good works for neighbours, for our mother earth - even our enemies -we practice, we do them not to score points with God or egotistically punish ourselves for failings and indulgence. We do them to open our hearts to God’s love and mercy, to become more deeply aware and proclaim God’s kingdom amongst us right here, right now and endeavour to live out our commitment to give witness to it in our living with others who inhabit this garden of Creation with us.

The challenges are made evident for us today when environmental and human tragedies confront us: bushfires, floods, earthquakes and viral epidemics, wars, that threaten our world and poverty, gang and domestic violence, abuse and human trafficking threaten our human family. May we be disciples of hope and consolation. “We can’t do great things, but small things well” *Mother Teresa*. Let us pray today and each day during Lent:

“Create in me a clean heart O God and put Your steadfast spirit within me’ Ps. 50



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
25-Feb-23	Celia Lemos Marlene Vergou	Terry Murphy
04-Mar-23	Mary Harb Terry Murphy	Charlotte Bainy
11-Mar-23	Marlene Vergou Teresa Dang	Mary Harb

	Sunday 10:30AM Mass - Readers	Sunday 10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion
26-Feb-23	Ivana Lo Bello Jessy Thambiraj	Eileen Stevens
05-Mar-23	Jessica Suppiah Marilene Fortuna	Tony Eley
12-Mar-23	Eileen Stevens Ophelia Swai	Ivana Lo Bello

	Sunday 6:00PM Mass - Readers	Sunday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion
26-Feb-23	Michelle Totawatte Rachel Vorlander	Damian Casamento
05-Mar-23	Albert D'Souza Tim Rankin	Robert Dullard
12-Mar-23	Michelle Totawatte Rachel Vorlander	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
Our parishioners, family members and friends, that they may be blessed with constant care, attention and respect.

Those who have died recently:

Sheila Kenny (RIP 12/2-Funeral Mon 6/3 at 1pm)

We Commemorate:

*John, Alfonso, Dino & Natalina Bernardini,
Isa, Mario, Orfeo & Rino Bergamin,
Teresina & Valter De Stefani,
Carlo, Duilio, Livio, Pasqua & Beppi Trentin
and all deceased members of the Ottaviano Bertinello & Carlo Trentin families.*

Leo Francis Howard (13th Anniv.)

O Lord may perpetual light shine upon them.

May they rest in peace. Amen.



Last Week's Collection: 19/2/23

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,020

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$684

Thank you for your kind generosity!



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OUR TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS

Sacred Heart Community Preston acknowledges the Wurundjeri Peo ple 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 27th February	St Gregory of Narek
Wednesday 1st March	St David
Friday 3th March	Autumn Ember Day
Saturday 4th March	St Casimir



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



Fasting will be the spiritual training ground where we joyfully renounce the superfluous things that weigh us down, grow in interior freedom and return to the truth about ourselves..



SYRIAN EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

The recent Syrian earthquake has hit people who were already displaced in a region that has been devastated by more than a decade of civil war. Yet again, we are seeing people fleeing and desperate for shelter in freezing winter conditions. We want to help provide that light in the deepest darkness, to get through this devastating disaster.

PLEASE DONATE NOW

MCF DGR ACCOUNT

BSB: 062784 Account: 100011493

Ref: Syrian Appeal



All donations are Tax Deductible. For a receipt please email mcf@melkite.org.au or contact on (02) 9750 5514



† Baptism Congratulations †

The community of Sacred Heart Parish congratulates



Caleb Monea
for his Baptism
on 26 February.



Dates to Remember

All Thursdays during Lent –

Lenten reflection – “Seven last words” and Adoration – 7:30pm – in the Church

All Fridays during Lent –

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



menALIVE Dinner

Founder of menALIVE Robert Falzon

will visit Melbourne in March.

Priests and Parish men are invited to dinner

with Robert at Reservoir RSL at

251 Spring Street Reservoir on

Tuesday 7 March at 7pm.

Robert will speak about menALIVE and what it offers Australian Catholic men. Brunswick-Moreland Mission will offer a menALIVE weekend in April.

Please advise your attendance at this special event by Friday 3

March to St Gabriel's Parish office reservoir@cam.org.au

Please provide your name, mobile number and email. Thank you





After losing her father when she was just 10-years-old, **Laxmi** was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty. But with the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club, became a leader in her school and is now a mentor to other children in her village. Please donate to Project Compassion 2023.

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 in the Church foyer, by visiting 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](#)



Palms Australia

Mission: Change their lives ... and yours.

Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills with those who have less opportunity to develop their talents.

Explore 35 positions by on our website where you can also see news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand.

Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you know:

RING: 02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567.

WEB: www.palms.org.au



Renewing our relationship with Creation in Lent

During the season of Lent, let's deepen our relationship with God the Creator and with creation through the traditional spiritual practices of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Prayer: Pray *A Prayer for Our Earth* from Pope Francis's encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. It is a call for greater care of the Earth and of each other and can be found [here](#).

Fasting: Cut back on some of your normal activities, e.g., watching favourite TV programs or scrolling through social media, to enable you to spend more time in creation reflecting on your relationship with the Creator and creation.

Almsgiving: Continue to give generously during Lent to Project Compassion to support the work of Caritas Australia to address the injustices faced by many of our sisters and brothers around the world.

Laudato Si Spotlight

We have forgotten that we ourselves are dust of the earth. (LS, 2) These words from the Holy Father's *Laudato Si'* encyclical take on a special meaning in light of the ashes we as Catholics received on our foreheads on Ash Wednesday. Considering that "our very bodies are made up of her [earth's] elements," it is clear that not only can we not separate ourselves from the earth, but we must strive "in countless ways to guarantee the protection of the home which we share." (LS, 13)



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:

- (a) **Prayer:** e.g., Mass attendance; family prayer; a visit to a church or chapel; reading the Bible; making the Stations of the Cross; praying the Rosary; or in other ways.
- (b) **Self Denial:** e.g., not eating meat; not eating sweets or dessert; giving up entertainment to spend time with the family; limiting food and drink so as to give to the poor of one's own country or elsewhere; or in other ways. Project compassion is a major means of expressing our self-denial in Australia.
- (c) **Helping Others:** e.g., special attention to someone who is poor, sick, elderly, lonely or over-burdened; or in other ways.
 - * All who have completed their 18th year and have not yet begun their 60th year are bound to fast. All who have completed their 14th year are bound to abstain. (Canon 1252)
 - * The Season of Lent is a time of penance. During Lent the faithful are exhorted to devote themselves in a special manner to prayer, to engage in works of piety and charity, and to deny themselves.
 - * Each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled between Ash Wednesday, 22 February 2023 and Trinity Sunday 4 June 2023 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.

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.



Attention Ministers of Communion and Readers

NEW ROSTERS and updated phone lists have been emailed. Please check your junk mail folder if you haven't received yours in your inbox. For those who do not receive an email copy please check the Church foyer for your copy.

Thank you all for your faithful service to our Eucharistic Celebrations.

Joke Corner

Three sisters aged 92, 94 and 96 share a house together. One night the 96-year-old draws a bath, puts her foot in and pauses. She yells down the stairs, "Was I getting in or out of the bath?" The 94-year-old yells back, "I don't know, I'll come up and see." She starts up the stairs and pauses, then she yells, "Was I going up the stairs or coming down?" The 92-year-old who was sitting at the kitchen table having a cup of tea is listening to her sisters. She shakes her head and says, "I sure hope I never get that forgetful." She knocks on the wooden table for good measure. She then yells, "I'll come up and help both of you as soon as I see who's at the door!"

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

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

Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7

The Lord God fashioned man of dust
from the soil. Then he breathed into his
nostrils a breath of life, and thus man
became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden
which is in the east, and there he put the
man he had fashioned. The Lord God
caused to spring up from the soil every
kind of tree, enticing to look at and
good to eat, with the tree of life and the
tree of the knowledge of good and evil
in the middle of the garden.

Now the serpent was the most subtle of
all the wild beasts that the Lord God
had made. It asked the woman, 'Did
God really say you were not to eat from
any of the trees in the garden?' The
woman answered the serpent, 'We may
eat the fruit of the trees in the garden.
But of the fruit of the tree in the middle
of the garden God said, "You must not
eat it, nor touch it, under pain of
death."' Then the serpent said to the
woman, 'No! You will not die! God
knows in fact that on the day you eat it
your eyes will be opened and you will
be like gods, knowing good and evil.'
The woman saw that the tree was good
to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that
it was desirable for the knowledge that
it could give. So she took some of its
fruit and ate it. She gave some also to
her husband who was with her, and he
ate it. Then the eyes of both of them
were opened and they realised that they
were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves
together to make themselves loin-
cloths.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 50(51):3-6,12-14,17

The Response Is:

*Be merciful, O Lord, for we have
sinned.*

Have mercy on me, God, in your
kindness.

In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

Response

My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done.

Response

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Response

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall
declare your praise.

Response

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12,17-19

Sin entered the world through one man,
and through sin death, and thus death
has spread through the whole human
race because everyone has sinned. If it
is certain that death reigned over
everyone as the consequence of one
man's fall, it is even more certain that
one man, Jesus Christ, will cause
everyone to reign in life who receives
the free gift that he does not deserve,
of being made righteous. Again, as one
man's fall brought condemnation on
everyone, so the good act of one man
brings everyone life and makes them
justified. As by one man's
disobedience many were made sinners,
so by one man's obedience many will
be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

*Please stand for the Gospel
Acclamation.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king
of endless glory!*

No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the
mouth of God.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king
of endless glory!*

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the
wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
He fasted for forty days and forty
nights, after which he was very hungry,
and the tempter came and said to him,
'If you are the Son of God, tell these
stones to turn into loaves.' But he
replied, 'Scripture says:

Man does not live on bread alone
but on every word that comes from the
mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city
and made him stand on the parapet of
the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God'
he said 'throw yourself down; for
scripture says:

He will put you in his angels' charge,
and they will support you on their
hands

in case you hurt your foot against a
stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says:
You must not put the Lord your God to
the test.'

Next, taking him to a very high
mountain, the devil showed him all the
kingdoms of the world and their
splendour. 'I will give you all these' he
said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship
me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan!
For scripture says:

You must worship the Lord your God,
and serve him alone.'

Then the devil left him, and angels
appeared and looked after 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.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from
the mouth of God.

