

3rd Sunday of Lent - Year A, 14th - 15th March 2020

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Give us water to drink.

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 94:1-2. 6-9. R. v.8

R/ If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation: See Jn 4:42. 15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; give me living water, that I may never thirst again. **Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Gospel: John 4:5-15. 19-26. 39-42

The water that I give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.' 'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.' 'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.' Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done,' so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord

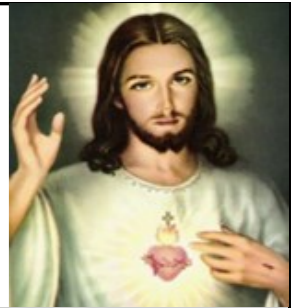


Sacred Heart Parish Preston

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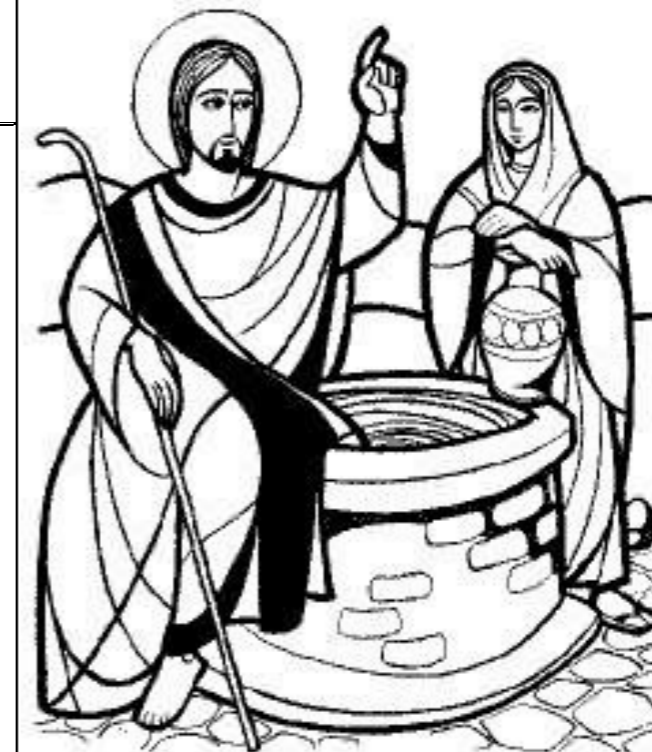
3rd SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A 14th - 15th March 2020

**“There is no true peace without
fairness, truth, justice and solidarity.”**

Pope John Paul II

In today's gospel we hear about the woman of Samaria who was engaged in a very truthful encounter with Jesus. The Jews despised the Samaritans as having no claim on their God. This nameless woman, an outcast from her own community, chose to visit the well at a time to avoid those who judged her harshly. It's important to acknowledge how radical this encounter was. Jesus reaches out to her as he did to outcasts demonstrating that all people are valuable to God. In this way we too are called to be radical, to uphold the dignity of all people. The exchange was so profound, bringing about a change of heart for the Samaritan woman. She then became a witness for Jesus, influencing those around her.

This week we hear the story of Barry, an Indigenous Australian man who through a Caritas Australia supported program, Red Dust Healing, was able to confront destructive patterns in his life. Red Dust Healing is an Indigenous led program in which participants learn culturally appropriate tools to empower them to overcome addiction, mental health, grief, abuse and other challenges. For Barry, it changed his life and helped him to recognise his hurt and anger stemmed primarily from rejection and



grief. It provided a safe space to talk and connect with others who've supported each other in their healing journey. The program has also helped Barry connect back with his culture, language and stories. Just as the Samaritan woman went on to share her revelation with others, Barry also shares the richness of his experience. His community is striving forward, facing the challenges of intergenerational trauma, past oppression and colonisation together.

How can we manifest the radical love of Christ in order to break down barriers of injustice?

Barry grew up in a tough environment. With the support of a program from Caritas Australia's

partner, Red Dust Healing, Barry has overcome many of life's challenges. He is now an inspirational father to his four girls and a leader in his community.

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:

Ylenia Useli

shpcatechists@gmail.com

Child Safety Officers:

Kay Dufty: 0431 376 212 and

Robert Dullard: 0433 401 958

Child Safety Committee:

Robert Dullard (Chair)

Parish Council Members:

Catherine Zanatta (chairperson),

Kay Dufty (secretary), Tony Eley,

Gerard Grant, Ophelia Swai,

Anisasio (Pauline) Veamatahau,

Mark Tierney, Ben Fortuna, Solo-

mon Konchakara, Natalie Baran

Parish Finance Committee:

Peter Constable (Chair)

0425 779 831

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



Update on Coronavirus Prevention

The following recommendations are believed to be proportionate to the current understanding of the coronavirus and the risks outlined by health authorities. They are consistent with the Catholic Church's prerogative to protect those who are most vulnerable.

- Individuals should consider their own health, including any potential to infect others with a contagious disease, before attending a public liturgical celebration.
- Holy Water should be temporarily removed from stoups at the doors of churches to reduce the possibility of transmission of the virus.
- Parishes should make alcohol-based gels or rubs (or like products) available near entrances.
- When exchanging the Sign of Peace, individuals should avoid shaking hands but say "Peace be with you" and offer a smile, wave, nod or bow.
- All Ministers of Holy Communion should take particular care to wash their hands before and after distributing. Appropriate means should be made available.
- Parishes should cease distributing Holy Communion from the Chalice until further notice.
- The coronavirus is easily spread through saliva. It is therefore recommended that the Body of Christ only be administered in the hand because of the high risk of transmission if people continue to receive on the tongue. Ministers should seek to avoid contact with the communicant's hands.
- The faithful who are too unwell to attend Sunday Mass – whether due to coronavirus or some other condition – or are at particular risk of contracting the virus can honour their Sunday obligation by participating in a time of prayer within the home, reading the Scriptures or watching Mass on television or online (<http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand>).

Dates to Remember

- All Fridays during Lent:** Stations of the Cross - 7pm
- Tuesday, 17th March:** Masses: 9.10am & 7.30pm
Solemnity of St. Patrick
- Thursday, 19th March:** Masses: 9.10am & 7.30pm
Solemnity of St. Joseph, Spouse of Mary
- Wednesday, 25th March:** Masses: 9.10am & 7.30pm
The Annunciation of the Lord

'Like us' at:

<https://www.facebook.com/SacredHeartChurchPreston/>



Tell us what you would like to see on our Parish Page!



Last Week's Collection: 08/03/20

1st Collection for our Parish: \$1232.45
2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$735.40
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.



Sacred Heart Primary School Enrolments

Enrolments for the 2021 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: Thursday 19th March at 9.30am – 11.00am and 12.00pm – 1.30pm

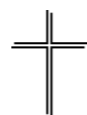
A Special Environmental Evening at Sacred Heart

Thursday 26th March @ 7pm - Presbytery

Parish Pastoral Council warmly invites you to a special gathering to learn about Laudato Si which contains Pope Francis' teaching on the care and protection of God's creation. This special evening will be led by Franciscan Brother Matthew Beckmann, our guest from Yarra Theological College. Br Matthew will provide an overview of Laudato Si and discuss practical ways our Parish can care for our world.

Hearing Loop for Sacred Heart

We are considering installing a hearing loop in our church. When a hearing-aid wearer sets the hearing aid to the "T position", voltage is induced into the T coil. The signals are then amplified by the hearing aid and converted into sound. This allows the hearing-aid wearer to move around freely in the church and to receive the voice or music signals as high-quality, pleasant sound. If you are a hearing-aid wearer, please inform Fr Jan if your hearing-aid is compatible and you can benefit from the hearing loop.



Welcome!

This weekend through Baptism we welcome **Milla Sidney Sacco & Lucas John Van Zyl** into our Parish family



Triduum of Prayer

What can I do for vocations?

The best and most important thing is to pray. From March 20-22, there is 23 hours of prayer for vocations to the consecrated life and priesthood in parishes and religious communities around Melbourne.

To find out where you can join in the 'Triduum of Prayer', go to www.cam.org.au/vocations and click on 'Resources'. Consider joining in one hour around Melbourne for prayer for more vocations.

Theology @ The Pub

Monday April 6th - St Therese of Lisieux: the Little Way with a Big Impact; Speaker: Bernadette Micallef
Doors open: 6:30pm, Talk commences: 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

Pope Francis:

"A true confession of sins must remain in the heart. Going to confession is not just telling the priest this list, 'I did this, this, this,' and then I'm gone, I'm forgiven," the pope said. "No, that's not it. It takes one step, one more step, which is the confession of our miseries, but from the heart; that is, that the list of bad things I have done goes down to the heart."

The feeling of shame that comes after acknowledging one's sins, he continued, is a grace that all Christians should ask for from God because a "person who has lost shame loses moral authority, loses respect for others." Francis called on the faithful to pray for the "grace of shame" because the memory of one's sins and the feeling of shame "touches God's heart and he responds with mercy."

"The way to encounter God's mercy is to be ashamed of the bad things we have done," he said. "So, when I go to confession, I will not only say the list of sins but also the feelings of confusion, of shame for having done this to a God who is so good, so merciful and so just."

Roster for weekend of 21st - 22nd March 2020

	Readers	Ministers
Sat 6.00pm	Terry Murphy Renato Tonini	Charlotte Bains Mary Harb
Sun 9.00am (Italian)	Ilardi L.	Capobianco A. Roda G.
Sun 10.30am	Ophelia Swai Catherine Zanatta	Giovanna D'Intino Teresa Bernardini
Sun 6.00pm	Peter Constable Carolina Constable	Robert Dullard Damian Casamento

WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick
Lopisoni Amato, Alan Castles & Josef Hatlas
We Commemorate
Giuseppe Bassalacqua, John Bourke (20 month) and Narcisa Liwanag



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



Caritas AUSTRALIA Project Compassion 2020

Go further together is the theme for this year's Project Compassion. Millions of Australians take part in Caritas Australia's annual Lenten fundraising and awareness-raising appeal, standing in solidarity with the world's poor to help end poverty, promote justice and uphold dignity. Envelopes and boxes for your Lenten donations are in the church foyer. Take one and return it in April. Your donations are tax deductible. Just fill in the necessary information.

Interfaith Dialogue

Want to learn more about other than Roman Catholic rites, other Christian denominations or other religions? You are heartily invited to an encounter with a representative from the Ukrainian Catholic Church rite. The meeting will be held on Monday 16th March, at 7:30 pm in the Presbytery. After a rather informal presentation there will be time for dialogue and Q & A. Some refreshments will be provided.
Open to all. Welcome!



Reach Beyond: Become Simply Rich...

All trades and professions are being requested by communities abroad seeking to build the capacity of their organisations and the skills of their people. They're not asking for money or gifts that contribute to degrading dependence. Your assistance will help to develop self-reliance and sustainable solutions to poverty. [Palms Australia](http://www.palms.org.au) will provide you with thorough preparation and support. You will be rewarded with riches greater than you might imagine. Look at www.palms.org.au and talk to Roger on 0422472567, or email palms@palms.org.au



Cleaning Roster: Saturday 21st March 2020

Volunteers

Thank you for your help!

