



Partnered Parishes of:

Sacred Heart Parish, Preston (SHP)

322 Bell St, Preston 3072

St Raphael's Parish, West Preston (STR)

17 Hardy St, Preston West

Phone (03) 9480 3398 or (03) 9484 2124 Email: preston@cam.org.au

Websites: www.melbcatholic.org/preston www.straphaelswestpreston.org.au



Office Hours: (322 Bell St, Preston)

Mon, Thurs & Fri: 10:30am - 4pm

Parish Priest: Fr Aloysius Nato, SVD

Parish Office: Rachel Costa

Sacred Heart School Principal:

Antoniette Stasi

School Phone: 9487 1001

St Raphael's School Principal:

Mrs. Rosalba Squarci

School Phone: 9478 8374

Sacred Heart Parish (SHP)

Sacred Heart Mass Schedule

Sunday 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 February, May, August & November at 1:30pm

Next Healing Mass: Friday 6 November

Devotional Practices:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

Every Wednesday Morning after the 9:10am Mass for 30 minutes.

Holy Rosary: Thurs after the 9:10am Mass

Reconciliation: Every Saturday at 5:15pm

Baptisms & Weddings: By appointment only

Cuppa with Fr Aloysius

1st Monday of the month, the next one is on **Monday 14 September** in the church foyer after 9:10am Mass. All welcome



St Raphael's Parish (STR)

St Raphael Mass Schedule

Sunday Masses:

Saturday: 5pm **NEW**, **Sunday:** 10:30 am

Weekday Masses:

Thursdays: 9:10am

Devotional Practices:

Reconciliation: Every Saturday at 4:15pm

Living Gospel Prayer Group (LPGP):

Wednesdays at 1:30pm. All Welcome

Enquiries: Marijana 0422 340 675

Stay connected with parish news and upcoming events. To receive the weekly bulletin by email, subscribe at: www.melbcatholic.org/preston

Bulletin printed: 11/9/2026

Our Parishes are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Sunday 13 September 2026

Safeguarding Sunday

"Love Protects"

Every Year on the second Sunday of September the Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday (formerly called Child Protection Sunday) which is at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week.

On this Safeguarding Sunday, we pray for those who have suffered abuse in its various forms and for their families and supporters who grieve and long to relieve their suffering. This year's theme "Love Protects" (1Corinthians 13) drawn from the letter of St Paul reminds us that safeguarding is a practical expression of Christian love.

When communities prioritise the safety, dignity, and wellbeing of children, young people and vulnerable adults, they embody the love and care of God that as Jesus proclaimed is at the heart of the Gospel.

"'Love Protects' reminds us that genuine love is demonstrated through action," said chair of the Bishops Commission for Professional Standards and Safeguarding, Bishop Greg Bennet. "Safeguarding is an essential part of our mission and ministry. It calls each of us to be attentive, accountable and committed to ensuring that every person can participate in the life of the Church safely and with confidence."

Safeguarding Sunday also provides an opportunity to acknowledge the ongoing work of clergy, staff, volunteers and safeguarding leaders who strive to pierce through the tragic silence and inaction of the past to foster cultures of safety and trust throughout church communities. Their dedication strengthens the Church's commitment to preventing harm, responding appropriately to concerns and promoting the dignity of every person.

The Church is showing national leadership in safeguarding through:

- Professional development that strengthens the capacity of Catholic organisations
- Reviews, audits and assessments of Catholic organisations
- Management of the Australian Catholic Ministry Register
- Safeguarding awareness, education and communications initiatives.

As our faith communities gather to mark this Safeguarding Sunday and reflect on the Gospel that focusses on "forgiveness" let's hear it not as a call for victims to forgive. That's not the point. It is a call for all of us to reflect on the example of Jesus, who welcomed, listened to and protected the vulnerable and marginalised. His ministry is the foundation of the Church and continues to inspire the Church's commitment to care, respect, and justice to others

"Love protects when we listen. Love protects when we act. Love protects when we place the wellbeing of others at the centre of our decisions and our ministry Together, we can build communities where every person is valued, respected and safe." (Bishop Greg Bennet Chair 4/9/2026)



Divine Word Missionaries serving the Parish of Sacred Heart Preston since 2007 and St Raphael's Parish since June 2026. www.divineword.com.au

Sacred Heart Parish Roster (SHP)

Sat 6pm Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion	Slide Projection
5-Sept	Maureen Gough	Terry Murphy	Rayhan Domingo
12-Sept	Raymond Wibisono	Teresa Dang	Alvin Rahadjo
19-Sept	Marlene Vergou	Terry Murphy	Rayhan Domingo

Sun 10:30am Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion	Slide Projection
6-Sept	Marilène Fortuna Tissa Sebastian	Mia Grant	volunteer required
13-Sept	Ophelia Swai Marlene Fortuna	Giovanna D' Intino	Natalia Molini
20-Sept	Marlene Fortuna Ophelia Swai	Tony Eley	Tanya Ferraro

Sun 6pm Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion	Slide Projection
6-Sept	Snehita Antony Shanthi Antony	Natalie Baran	Kartika Henry
13-Sept	John Gaffney Jenifer Cahapay	Judith Pimentel	Natalie Baran
20-Sept	Jenifer Cahapay Snehita Antony	Damian Casamento	Kartika Henry

St Raphael's Parish Roster (STR)

Sat 6:30pm Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion
5-Sept	Paul Smith	Nick Cachia
12-Sept	Mel Puliueva	Nick Cachia
19-Sept	Paul Smith	Nick Cachia

Sun 10:30am Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion
6-Sept	Tanya Madhusudan Anna Sisinni — Italian	Carmela Molinaro Lucy Triulcio
13-Sept	Bianca Molini Melinda Di Propsero — Italian	Nick Cachia Bruna D'Alessandro
20-Sept	Rosetta Macri Anna Sisinni — Italian	Carmela Molinaro Nick Cachia

A Heartfelt Thanks to All Our Volunteers

Please note: All volunteers are required to have a current linked Working With Children Check (WWCC), complete the "Safeguarding Essentials Training Module" and sign a "Code of Conduct". Phone 9480 3398 if you need assistance.



WE PRAY FOR:

The elderly and the sick

Margaret Bannan, Paulina Nato

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

Those who have died recently:

We Commemorate:

Jack Chiodo, 1st Anniv. (SHP)

Isa, Mario, Orfeo & Rino Bergamin,

Teresina & Valter De Stefani, John Fikai

Carlo, Duilio, Livio, Pasqua & Beppi Trentin

and all deceased members of the Ottaviano Bertonecello & Carlo Trentin families

— all 9am Italian Mass (SHP)

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.



Last week's Collection (Sacred Heart): 6.9.2026

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,424

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$1,123

Last week's Collection (St Raphael's): 6.9.2026

Stewardship/Church \$779

Presbytery \$487

Thank you ALL for your kind generosity!



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.



Pope Leo XIV@Pontifex

Lord of Life, You have given us the gift of water, source of fruitfulness, freshness, and hope. It quenches thirst, nourishes the earth, and heals wounds. We see with pain so many brothers and sisters who lack clean water, who walk for miles to find it, who become ill due to its scarcity. Forgive us for turning it into a commodity, forgetting that it is a universal gift, a right without borders, meant for all your children.



Solemnities / Feasts / Memorials of the week:

Monday 14 September The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Feast)

Tuesday 15 September Our Lady of Sorrows (Memorial)

Wednesday 16 September Sts Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs (Memorial)

Thursday 17 September St Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, Doctor

Saint Hildegard of Bingen, Virgin, Doctor

Saturday 19 September St Januarius, Bishop, Martyr



Flowers in the Church



Thank you to those who bring flowers to the Church.

Kindly return after 5 days and remove the dead flowers and dispose of them in your green waste bin. Thank you



Update on Fr Aloysius

We welcome back Fr Aloysius who returned on 11 September and extend our heartfelt gratitude to his brothers from the Divine Word Missionaries who stepped in at short notice to serve both communities of Preston and Preston West.



Baptism Congratulations

The community of Sacred Heart Parish congratulates

Sienna Li Rosi

on the occasion of her Baptism

celebrated on Sunday 13 September



Sacrificial giving via QR code

To support Sacred Heart parish, you can make a donation by scanning the QR code unique to Sacred Heart Church, Preston. It links directly to our parish donation page.



QR code for St Raphael's Church will be available soon.



Cuppa with Fr Aloysius

Please join Father for a tea or coffee on,

Monday 14 September in the Sacred Heart Church

foyer after the 9:10am Mass.

All Welcome



Cordis – A Night for Young Adults

Sunday, 13 September 2026

6:30pm – 9:30pm

School Hall, St Monica's Church, Moonee Ponds

Cordis is open to young adults aged 18 and over.

Join young adults from across the Archdiocese of Melbourne for an evening of good food, meaningful conversation with a guest speaker, prayer and community.

Catholic Mission sincerely thanks the parish communities of St Raphael's and Sacred Heart for your generous support

of this year's Propagation of the Faith Appeal. As the Pope's Mission Agency, Catholic Mission supports the local Church in more than 160 countries and over 1,100 dioceses.

Your contributions - \$641.15 from St Raphael's and \$486.00 from Sacred Heart - have been gratefully received. They will help bring education, dignity and hope to families in Kampira, Malawi, through the building of a new primary school and the ongoing mission of the local Church.

Thank you for walking in mission with the Church in Malawi.



Living Water

Season of Creation 2026

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER

Ezekiel 47:9, 12

From September 1 to October 4, Christians around the world are coming together in prayer and action for our common home under this year's theme, **Living Water**, inspired by the vision of the prophet Ezekiel:

"Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live." (Ezekiel 47:9)

Think for a moment about the water in your own life.

The rain. The rivers. The oceans. The water we drink. The water that nourishes the food on our tables and sustains forests, animals and entire communities. Water that cleanses and water that sanctifies.

What an extraordinary gift we have been given!

But where can we see this Living Water today?

We receive Living Water through prayer, contemplation and our encounter with God in creation.

We encounter the reality of our common home—its beauty, but also the ecological crisis threatening water, territories and vulnerable communities.

And we are called to become Living Water—through our choices, our ministries, our advocacy, our solidarity and our willingness to act.

"Let us ask the grace to become springs of Jesus' water for our brothers and sisters and for our common home."

Source: <https://laudatosimovement.org/news/living-water-stories-a-river-of-hope-begins-to-flow-around-the-world/>

For more information visit: seasonofcreation.org

Melbourne Synod 2026

35. Synodality and courage

Listening honestly may reveal uncomfortable truths. Synodality requires courage to face them with faith.

Children's activity pages

Activity sheets and pencils are available in the foyer to keep young children quietly engaged during Mass.

Please tidy up after your children when Mass is over. Thank you for your cooperation.

melbourne
catholic
youth



catholic
mission

Reach out. Give life.



AFL GRAND FINAL BBQ and FUN DAY

Saturday, 26 September 2026, 1:00pm – 5:00pm

Sacred Heart Presbytery, 322 Bell Street, Preston VIC 3072

All parishioners, families & friends are warmly invited!

Gold coin donation

Please bring nibbles or salad or dessert to share

Byo drinks

Join us for an afternoon of fun, food and footy spirit as we celebrate Grand Final weekend together at the Sacred Heart Presbytery.

Bring your team colours, good cheer and enjoy a great community day.

Please write your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet in either church foyer or register through Trybooking

<https://www.trybooking.com/DPUFX>



Community Social Meal

Sunday 13 September,

at 12:00pm Midday at Darebin RSL,



CANCELLED

due to lack of interest



Next Cuppa after Mass

Sacred Heart: Sunday 20 September

after both 10:30am and 6pm Masses

St Raphael:

Sunday 20 September after 10:30am Mass

(STR) - If you would like to contribute homemade cakes, biscuits, or treats for our morning tea, please pick up an information sheet from the foyer and return it along with your baked goods on the day. For any questions, please contact Nadia 0409 409 467



Enrolments for 2027 at Sacred Heart Primary School are now open!

We warmly invite prospective families to book a personal school tour to discover our welcoming community, meet our dedicated staff, and see our students learning and thriving. We'd love to welcome you to Sacred Heart. To book a tour or learn more, please visit <https://www.shpreston.catholic.edu.au/>.



Creation Sings!

Catholic Youth Art Competition

Submissions Due September 25, 2026



In celebration of the Jubilee Year of St. Francis of Assisi, Catholic Climate Covenant is holding a youth art competition! Youth K-12 are invited to submit art inspired by the lives and example of St. Francis & St. Clare of Assisi for cash prizes. Learn more at bit.ly/FrancisYouthArtContest



Joke Corner



Pope Leo XIV has asked people to take shorter showers to help sustain the environment. Here are some jokes about taking a shower.

Why did the shower go to therapy?

Because it couldn't handle the pressure!

I told my shower a joke, but it just let it slide.

What do you call a shower that sings?

A soap-opera star!

Soap always wins at hide and seek because it's great at slipping away.

Did you hear about the shower who became a detective?

It always found the wettest clues!

I tried multitasking in the shower and ended up soaking my phone instead of my hair.

Shower thought: Friendship is like soap—sometimes slippery but always cleaning up the mess



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.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

FIRST READING

Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner.

He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins?

Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins?

Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 102(103):1-4,9-12

The Response Is:

The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

His wrath will come to an end;

he will not be angry for ever.

He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.

The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

SECOND READING

Romans 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel

Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:

love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and

all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me," he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

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

How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

