



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 5 October** 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: 24/9/2026

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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Sunday 27 September 2026

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

"In Your Minds You Must Be the Same as Christ Jesus"

Today's readings are not just about saying "Yes" but doing what we say we will do – putting words into action. In short, we're talking about "Integrity" and "Mercy" that comes from the Heart of God.

The prophet Ezekiel speaks to his people in Exile. Many regarded their situation as "unfair punishment by God". Ezekiel urges them to think a bit deeper into their own hearts and the way they should live with others as people of honesty and integrity abiding by God's Law. Then regardless of the circumstances, they will maintain their dignity and live as models of God's justice and love which reaches out to all of creation.

Jesus tells a parable of two sons. The first was asked by his father to go and work in the family vineyard for the day. He said "No!" - but later thought again and went. The second son was asked to do the same. He said, "Certainly!" but didn't. The first had a change of heart and did what he was asked. The second gave the appearance of being co-operative but was not in action.

At this stage in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus has already told His disciples that He will suffer for the way He conducts His mission reaching out to all God's children but particularly those deemed lost or abandoned: religious, social or family outcasts, the poor, the diseased... and those judged non observers of the Covenant. This parable was a challenge to those who, by complying and promoting rigid external observances of the law appeared to be saying "Yes" to God's will. Yet by their lack of active compassion for a struggling or disabled neighbour and failure to include or try to ease the suffering of others were actually working against the spreading of God's kingdom which as Jesus depicted and prophets before Him like John the Baptist was to be offered to all according to the Central Commandment of God's Covenant with Humanity:

"The Lord your God is One; and You shall love the Lord God with all your heart and with all your mind and soul and your neighbour as yourself."

St Paul's advice to the Philippians referred to the practical attitudes that followers of Jesus should have. "Be united in your convictions and in love, let there be no competition or petty rivalry. Put the wellbeing and interests of others before your own...so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus."

So may we aim to go forward as bearers of Jesus' healing power not from a sense of duty but with the mind of Christ, walking with and in others' shoes - identifying and attending to the wounds of our human family and our mother earth through strategies of peace, compassionate respect and inclusion.



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
19-Sep	Marlene Vergou	Terry Murphy	Rayhan Domingo
26-Sep	Raymond Wibisono	Teresa Dang	Rayhan Domingo
03-Oct	Teresa Dang	Terry Murphy	Rayhan Domingo

Sun 10:30am Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion	Slide Projection
20-Sep	Marlene Fortuna Ophelia Swai	Tony Eley	Tanya Ferraro
27-Sep	Tissa Sebastian Marlene Fortuna	Mia Grant	Tanya Ferraro
04-Oct	Mia Grant Marlene Fortuna	Giovanna D' Intino	Natalia Molini

Sun 6pm Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion	Slide Projection
20-Sep	Jenifer Cahapay Snehta Antony	Damian Casamento	Kartika Henry
27-Sep	Robert Dullard Judith Pimentel	Natalie Baran	Hoi Ying Lam
04-Oct	Damian Casamento John Gaffney	Robert Dullard	Tanya Ferraro

St Raphael's Parish Roster (STR)

Sat 6:30pm Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion
19-Sep	Paul Smith	Nick Cachia
26-Sep	Mel Puliueva	Nick Cachia
03-Oct	Paul Smith	Carmel Whelan

Sun 10:30am Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion
20-Sep	Rosetta Macri Anna Sisinni — Italian	Carmela Molinaro Nick Cachia
27-Sep	Lena Pennacchia Melinda Di Prospero — Italian	Bruna D'Alessandro Lucy Triulcio
04-Oct	Lena Pennacchia Anna Sisinni — Italian	Bruna D'Alessandro Carmela Molinaro

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, Jay, Sofia, Lydia, Dominga, Ursila, Teresa

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

Those who have died recently:

Francesca Paolacci RIP 12/9. Funeral Wed 30/9 at 10:30am (STR)

Elisa Ferguson, RIP 14/06

Vittorio Sandri, RIP 19/08

Angela Di Genova, RIP 25/08

Paolo Tortomano, RIP 21/9 in Italy

We Commemorate:

Carmela Greco - Sun 27/9 at 9am (SHP)

Juan H. Pimental, 6th Anniv. - Sun 27/9 at 6pm (SHP)

Tommy Trantino, 7 Months - Sun 27/9 at 10:30am (STR)

Peter Ferronato (STR)

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): 20.9.2026

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,117

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$673

Last week's Collection (St Raphael's): 20.9.2026

Stewardship/Church \$705 Presbytery \$422

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

Sunday, 27 September, marks the World Day of Migrants and Refugees. My thoughts go out to migrants and refugees, especially minors compelled to leave their homeland. Children and teenagers are the most vulnerable. They often endure unspeakable suffering, violence, torture, exploitation, and traumatic conditions. It is not uncommon for them to lose their lives along migration routes. I appeal to everyone's sense of responsibility: may we all feel a sense of involvement in the lives of these young people, who must always be protected and supported..



Solemnities / Feasts / Memorials of the week:

Monday 28 September St Wenceslaus, Martyr
St Lawrence Riuz and companions, Martyrs
Tuesday 29 September Sts Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels (Feast)
Wednesday 30 September St Jerome, Priest, Doctor (Memorial)
Thursday 1 October St Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin, Doctor (Memorial)
Friday 2 October The Holy Guardian Angels (Memorial)



Please note: there will be **NO morning Mass** on Monday 28 September and Tuesday 29 September. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.



Happy Birthday Fr Aloysius for Monday 28 September



Wishing you endless happiness and God's abundant grace in the year ahead.

We are so grateful for your spiritual leadership and the love you pour into our lives!



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



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.



Reverence in the Church

As you enter the pews, please maintain a reverent disposition. Kindly ensure that all mobile phones are switched to silent mode. Thank you.



IMPORTANT: Daylight Saving Time begins

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, 4 October, 2026. Clocks move forward one hour at 2am. Remember to adjust your clocks before bed on Saturday night, 3 October!





Living Water

Season of Creation 2026

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER

Ezekiel 47:9, 12

During the Season of Creation, remember the living water that sustains all life

Highlighting the interconnection between "the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor," Pope Francis observed how the poorest members of the human family are those most immediately and drastically harmed by lack of access to clean water due to drought and pollution. So important is access to clean drinking water that Pope Francis declared it a "fundamental right which conditions the exercise of other human rights." For something so essential to every creature on this planet, we humans can take water for granted too easily. And this is why this is an excellent time to pause and reflect on the significance and importance of water during this Season of Creation. When millions of people face drought or polluted waterways as a result of climate change or industrial impact, when fish and coral reefs face death and extinction, and when weather systems continue to grow unpredictable and destructive, **it is vital that we turn our attention to water, the source of life.**

May this year's Season of Creation be an opportunity for people of faith to reflect on what is ours to do as members of God's community of creation who not only depend on Sister Water for life but are also called to protect and preserve this essential part of creation.

Source: Extract from an [article](#) by Daniel Horan published in the National Catholic Reporter on 3 September 2026

For more information visit: seasonofcreation.org



Melbourne Synod 2026



38. Synodality and mercy

Listening with compassion reflects the mercy of Christ, who always began with encounter.



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/>.



A PLACE TO BELONG

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me." ~ Matthew 25:35 ~

World Day of Migrants and Refugees on September 27 reminds us of the many people who leave their homes seeking safety, peace and a better future.

Leaving behind family, friends and familiar surroundings takes courage. Some choose to move; others are forced by war, persecution or hardship. Each person carries their own story, memories and hopes. Starting life in a new country can be challenging - learning a new language, adapting to different customs and finding a place in the community. Patience, understanding and a warm welcome make a real difference.

Behind the words *migrant* or *refugee* is a person seeking security, dignity and the chance to rebuild their life. Every person deserves kindness and respect.

Everyone needs a place where they feel they belong.

Dear Lord, watch over all migrants and refugees during times of uncertainty. Give them strength in times of worry and courage as they adjust to a different way of life. May they find compassion, friendship, acceptance and lasting hope in the years to come. Amen.

Sourced from www.majellan.media

St Raphael's and Sacred Heart News

Monthly Partnered Parishes Lunch

Next Lunch on Thursday 1 October at 12.00pm Midday at Darebin RSL, 402 Bell Street, Preston.



If you would like to attend, please write your name on the sign-up form in either church foyer **by Monday 28 September** or email preston@cam.org.au. Thank you.

Any questions, please contact Nadia on 0409 409 467.

You are all invited to our St. Raphael's Feast Day celebrations

**On Sunday October 11th
10:30am Mass celebrations.**

Community gathering in the School Hall (entrance via Breen st)

11:30am-1:30pm as we share light refreshments and finger food.

Please bring a cold plate or dessert to share.

Provide your attendance by adding your name and what you can bring to the booking sheet in the foyer.

Or text your attendance to:

**Maria Gaggiano - 0409 254 177
or Nadia Moretto - 0409 409 467**

RSVP by 6th Oct 2026

Address: St. Raphael's Church 17 Hardy st West Preston



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.

😊 Joke Corner 😊

A tribute (sort of) to those who don't play fair in competition ...

A bloke won the local fishing competition with the biggest fish anyone had ever seen.

One of the judges looked closely and said, "Hang on ... there's a supermarket sticker underneath the fish and it's frozen solid!"

The bloke shrugged. "You said the biggest fish wins. Nobody mentioned I couldn't buy it beforehand."

A bloke won the local chess tournament without losing a single match. His mate asked, "How'd you manage that? You don't even know how to play chess!"

"Easy," he said. "Whenever my opponent looked away, I moved his king."

"That's cheating!"

"No, mate—it's strategic relocation."



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

Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: ‘You object, “What the Lord does is unjust.” Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.’

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 24(25):4-9

The Response Is:

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:

for you are God my saviour.

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth.

In your love remember me,

because of your goodness, O Lord.

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,

He guides the humble in the right path,

He teaches his way to the poor.

Remember your mercies, O Lord.

SECOND READING

Philippians 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself

to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.

But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings in the heavens,
on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus

and that every tongue should acclaim

Jesus Christ as Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

*Please stand for the Gospel
Acclamation.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord;

I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, ‘What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, “My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today.” He answered, “I will not go,” but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, “Certainly, sir,” but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?’ ‘The first’ they said. Jesus said to them, ‘I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.’

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

Remember your word to your servant,
O Lord, by which you have given me
hope.

This is my comfort when I am brought
low.

