



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 (LGPG):

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: 2/10/2026

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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A Sunday 4 October 2026

How's Our Vineyard Doing?

The image of the vineyard has long been a tender symbol of God's loving care for His people. Anyone who has tended vines knows the patience involved - preparing the soil, pruning, nurturing, and finally hoping for a good harvest. Scripture uses this familiar image today to help us reflect on our relationship with God and our shared mission as disciples.

Isaiah's Vineyard Song speaks to a people living under oppression. God, the devoted gardener, has given Israel every chance to flourish in faithfulness. Yet the vineyard yields only sour grapes - signs of injustice, hardness of heart, and neglect of the covenant. The prophet's message is clear: God desires integrity, compassion, and justice from His people, not empty words or self-interest.

In the gospel, Jesus again turns to the vineyard. This time the grapes are good, but the tenants entrusted with the harvest act with greed and violence. Even when the owner sends his son, hoping they will respond with respect, the son is rejected. Early Christians heard in this parable the painful refusal of leaders to welcome Jesus, God's Anointed. But the parable also speaks to us today as we gather for Eucharist.

Each Sunday we come together because the Son - the Risen Lord - still calls us, forgives us, and strengthens us. In the Eucharist He entrusts His mission to us, inviting us to bear fruit in our daily lives. So we must ask: **How are we tending the vineyard entrusted to us - our planet, our parish, our families, our wider human family?**

Are we people of integrity and compassion, giving priority to the weak, the innocent, and the vulnerable? Are we building a more open and inclusive Church where gifts are shared, voices are heard, and new possibilities are welcomed? Can we recognise moments of grace that invite fresh beginnings, healing, and reconciliation?

Christ often comes to us quietly - in the advice of a friend, the courage of an asylum seeker, the gratitude of someone helped, or the suffering of a child in need. These encounters are God's gentle reminders: **"They will respect my Son."**

Let us look honestly at the vineyard we have been given. With God's grace, may we be faithful tenants - people who nurture life, protect the vulnerable, and allow the love of Christ to bear fruit in abundance.



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	Overhead Projectionists
03-Oct	Teresa Dang	Terry Murphy	Rayhan Domingo
10-Oct	Marlene Vergou	Teresa Dang	Rayhan Domingo
17-Oct	Teresa Dang	Terry Murphy	Rayhan Domingo

Sun 10:30am Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion	Overhead Projectionists
04-Oct	Mia Grant Marlene Fortuna	Giovanna D' Intino	Natalia Molini
11-Oct	Mark Tierney Tissa Sebastian	Tony Eley	Tanya Ferraro
18-Oct	Ophelia Swai Mark Tierney	Mia Grant	Tanya Ferraro

Sun 6pm Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion	Overhead Projectionists
04-Oct	Damian Casamento John Gaffney	Robert Dullard	Tanya Ferraro
11-Oct	Judith Pimentel Shanthi Antony	Natalie Baran	Kartika Henry
18-Oct	Shanthi Antony Snehita Antony	Damian Casamento	Natalie Baran

St Raphael's Parish Roster (STR)

Sat 5pm Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion
03-Oct	Paul Smith	Carmel Whelan
10-Oct	Mel Puliueva	Nick Cachia
17-Oct	Paul Smith	Nick Cachia

Sun 10:30am Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion
04-Oct	Lena Pennacchia Anna Sisinni — Italian	Bruna D'Alessandro Carmela Molinaro
11-Oct	Bianca Molini Melinda Di Prospero - Italian	Maria Gaggiano Lucy Triulcio
18-Oct	Sr Vilay Anna Sisinni — Italian	Nick Cachia Carmela Molinaro

Attention all Lectors, Ministers of Communion and Overhead Projectionists: Kindly arrive at least 15 minutes before Mass as a courtesy to Father and to ensure he knows you are present and available for your ministry

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:

Giulia Mercuri RIP 21/9

Antonio Mancini RIP 26/9. Funeral Thurs 8/10 at 11am at STR

We Commemorate:

Antonio Ferraro (SHP)

Maria Crocco, 6th Anniv. (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): 27.9.2026

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,378

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$1,048

Last week's Collection (St Raphael's): 27.9.2026

Stewardship/Church \$898 Presbytery \$438

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

The month of October calls us to pray the Holy Rosary more fervently, asking in particular for an end to wars and the attainment of peace.



Solemnities / Feasts / Memorials of the week:

Monday 5 October St Faustina Kowalska, Virgin
Tuesday 6 October St Bruno, Priest
Wednesday 7 October Our Lady of the Rosary (Memorial)
Friday 9 October St Denis, Bishop and his Companions, Martyrs,
St John Leonardi, Priest



Cuppa with Fr Aloysius

Please join Father for a tea or coffee on,
Monday 5 October in the Sacred Heart Church
foyer after the 9:10am Mass. All Welcome



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.



To support **St Raphael's Parish**, you can make a donation by scanning the QR code unique to **St Raphael's Parish**, Preston West. It links directly to our parish donation page.

When you arrive at either of the donation pages, please select whether you would like your gift to support the **Church**, **Presbytery**, or **Piety Shop**.

You can choose to make a one-off payment or set up weekly or monthly contributions.

Both QR codes are also available in the respective church foyers. Thank you for your continued generosity..



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!



Save the Date:

11 October – St Raphael's Feast Day (STR)

18 October - Mission Sunday (SHP)



Living Water

Season of Creation 2026

IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER
Ezekiel 47:9, 12

St Francis and the Close of the Season

The **Season of Creation** ends on 4 October, the **Feast of St Francis of Assisi**, marking the saint's special relationship with creation. St Francis saw the natural world as something that continually points beyond itself towards God. His *Canticle of the Creatures* praises God through the sun, moon, water, fire, wind and earth. This year carries extra meaning because 2026 marks the **Jubilee Year of St Francis** and the 800th anniversary of his death, or Transitus.

A Time to Listen, Pray and Respond

The Season of Creation is ultimately more than an environmental awareness campaign. It asks Christians to recognise creation as God's gift, to listen to the suffering of people and the earth, and to consider how faith should shape the way we live. [Pope Leo's message for 2026](#) reminds us that change begins with the heart. Prayer leads to contemplation, contemplation to greater awareness, and awareness should influence the choices we make as individuals and communities.

From **Living Water** to Isaiah's vision of weapons becoming tools that sustain life, this year's Season of Creation offers a clear invitation: to choose what protects life, nurtures peace and honours the world entrusted to our care. For our parish communities, the response can start simply: through scripture, prayer, song, learning, and small acts of care. By reflecting on the life and wisdom of St Francis of Assisi through the Peace Prayer, may we grow into a more compassionate and healing relationship with all creation. Happy 800th Feast of St Francis of Assisi!

For more information visit: seasonofcreation.org



Melbourne Synod 2026



39. Synodality invites responsibility

Being heard also means being responsible for the Church's mission.

40. Synodality and prayer

Without prayer, synodality loses its soul. Every step must be rooted in prayer.



THE GIFT OF A TEACHER

"A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."
~ Henry Adams ~

World Teachers' Day on October 5 is an opportunity to recognise the important role teachers play in our lives.

A good teacher does much more than help us learn. They encourage us when we are unsure, offer support when we face difficulties and help us discover abilities we may not have recognised in ourselves.

Most of us can remember a teacher who made a difference. Perhaps they were patient when we struggled, believed in us when our confidence was low or simply took the time to listen. That support can shape the way we see ourselves and give us the motivation to keep trying.

Teachers also help prepare us for life beyond the classroom. Along with knowledge, they can teach us valuable lessons about kindness, respect, perseverance and the importance of doing our best.

On World Teachers' Day, we give thanks for those who dedicate themselves to teaching and inspiring others. Their guidance can have a lasting influence on the person we become.

Dear Lord, bless all teachers with patience, wisdom and strength each day. May they find joy in their work and know that what they do is valued and appreciated. Amen.

Sourced from www.majellan.media

St Raphael's and Sacred Heart News

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



World Mission Sunday – 18 October 2026

Sunday, 18 October
is **World Mission Sunday**,
a special day to celebrate our
participation in the Church's
universal mission.



This year, our theme, chosen by Pope Leo, is
One in Christ, United in Mission.

The Parish Social Committee is organizing a celebration in the school hall after the 10:30am Mass and you are all welcome to join in the celebration. Please mark this date in your calendars, let your family and friends know.

Please write your name, phone number and what you will be bringing to the function on this sign-up sheet or contact the parish office on 9480 3398 or preston@cam.org.au. Thank you.

😊 Joke Corner 😊

Daylight saving starts on Sunday morning at 2am. The different time zones often create confusion, especially for people travelling by air.

I booked a flight from Brisbane to Sydney on the day daylight saving started. The ticket said we'd leave at 8 and arrive at 11, even though the flight was only two hours.

I asked the bloke at the gate where the extra hour went.

He said, "Sydney."

I said, "Can I have it back?"

He said, "Only if you fly home."



My wife says daylight saving means we can enjoy longer evenings. Apparently "enjoy" means I can now see all the jobs in the garden that require my attention after work.

They say daylight saving gives you more time outdoors. So far, it's given the mozzies an extra hour to eat me.

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

Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard.

My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside.

He dug the soil, cleared it of stones

and planted choice vines in it.

In the middle he built a tower,

he dug a press there too.

He expected it to yield grapes,

but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me.

What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done?

I expected it to yield grapes.

Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.

I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;

overgrown by the briar and the thorn.

I will command the clouds

to rain no rain on it.

Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of Hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant.

He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 79(80):9,12-16,19-20

The Response Is:

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;

to plant it you drove out the nations.

It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

Then why have you broken down its walls?

It is plucked by all who pass by.

It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,

devoured by the beasts of the field.

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,

look down from heaven and see.

Visit this vine and protect it,

the vine your right hand has planted.

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

And we shall never forsake you again;

give us life that we may call upon your name.

God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:6-9

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel

Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-43

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one,

killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son" he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone.

This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

THE NICENE CREED.

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the Only Begotten Son of God,

born of the Father before all ages.

God from God, Light from Light,

true God from true God, begotten, not

made, consubstantial with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.