



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 2 November 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: 9/10/2026

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

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Sunday 11 October 2026 (SHP)

"You Are Invited but.... Are You Dressed for it?"

The image of a great banquet to which all are invited appears often in the pages of the Bible as a symbol of Divine Hospitality and hope – God's inclusiveness and all-embracing mercy offered to all who seek him particularly in times of oppression and suffering. In the first reading today, Isaiah reminds his people of God's merciful love for them at a time when the inhabitants of Jerusalem suffer under the ruthless invasion of the Assyrian Empire. Into this situation of sadness and need, Isaiah brings the message of hope reminding his people of God's faithful love ever dwelling within them. "God will prepare a banquet for us. There will be plenty for all and God will heal us – will wipe away the tears from every cheek."

God is present not only when people can come together, putting aside differences, sharing the same 'fellowship' and ongoing peace. God's presence and vision is that life be lived in the same fellowship of loving one another not just on specific occasions but always. Such is the life and mission of the beloved Son.

Matthew's account of Jesus' parable of the wedding banquet, has a sting in its tale as have others. A king is planning a wedding feast for his son. He sends out a lot of invitations to the people who usually get invited to such occasions. But many invited knock their invitation back without explanation. Some even kill the king's messengers. However, the banquet will go on. The king sends his surviving messengers out again to invite anyone they might run into – be they rich, poor, compassionate, self-centred, even the socially ignored by the 'Elite'. Such is the generosity of the king and love for his son.

During the feast the king notices that one of the last invited guests has not made an effort to be appropriately dressed for the occasion. When asked Why, the person ignores the question. The king's response is quick. The unprepared guest is turned out into the darkness.

The original hearers would not have been in any doubt about this story. God's kingdom is not for the complacent – those who feel they belong by birth, piety or constant observers of ritual. God's kingdom is to be lived from the heart. In the early Church, being Baptized was likened to 'putting on Christ- 'a new garment' and was about living Gospel – bearing the "Good News" of God's service of compassion and hospitality and hope to others in practical ways.

When we gather together to share the Eucharist, we experience the presence and hospitality of Jesus who unites us as one family and is in our midst as "One who serves". To put on Christ is to be clothed in compassion, concern and humble service to others witnessing to God's hospitality in our own interactions with others.

So, when we respond to the Call, let's
make sure we are suitably "dressed"



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:

Giovanna Gandolfo RIP 2/10. Funeral Fri 16/10 at 11:30am at STR

We Commemorate:

Vincent Misquitta 1st Anniv. (SHP)

Crocco, Rizzo, Gelain, Bradshaw, Borowicki, Penzo, Valier-D'Abate and Kalinowski family members. (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

Families participate in the Church's mission in the ordinary fabric of their lives, through love and fidelity, care and forgiveness, the education of children, their efforts in transmitting faith, attention to the elderly and the vulnerable, and the many ways in which they serve their communities and society. In all these ways, families bear witness to the Gospel and contribute to the life and mission of the Church.



Solemnities / Feasts / Memorials of the week:

Wednesday 14 October

St Callistus I, Pope, Martyr

Thursday 15 October

St Teresa of Jesus, Virgin, Doctor

Friday 16 October

St Hedwig, Religious,

St Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin

St Gerard Majella

Saturday 17 October

St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr



Happy Birthday

We wish Nick Cachia

a Happy 90th Birthday for 11 October 2026

May God continue to bless you with all the wonderful things in life!



Welcome before Baptism

Dear Parents, as you prepare for your child's Baptism, the parishioners of our partnered parishes rejoice with you. We give thanks that you have chosen to baptise your child, and we pray that in the years ahead your family may continue to grow in the everlasting love of God.

Today, our parish community warmly introduces

Alessio Bacash,

who will be receiving the Sacrament of Baptism on

Sunday, 25 October.

May God bless Alessio and his family as they journey toward this joyful celebration.



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..



The Sacred Heart Parish community warmly congratulates our sister Parish, St Raphael's, on the joyous occasion of their feast day today.

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

18 October - Mission Sunday(SHP) – All Welcome

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.



Monthly Partnered Parishes Lunch

**Next Lunch on Thursday 5 November
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 2**

November or email preston@cam.org.au. Thank you.

Any questions, please contact **Nadia on 0409 409 467**.



Pope Leo XIV has dedicated his October prayer intention to mental health ministry, calling on the Church to listen without judging, and to be an 'open house' where people facing challenges to their mental health find welcome, dignity and hope.

Let us pray that the mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.



Melbourne Synod 2026



41. Synodality helps the Church grow

Growth in faith often comes through dialogue and shared discernment.

42. Synodality is a gift

It is not an obligation imposed from above, but a gift for the Church's renewal.



CARING FOR OUR MINDS

"Almost everything will work again if you unplug it for a few minutes, including you." ~ Anne Lamott ~

We all have a lot going on in our lives. Some days we manage well, while on others even the smallest things can seem a little harder.

World Mental Health Day on October 10 reminds us that looking after our mental wellbeing is just as important as caring for our physical health.

It's easy to keep going without noticing how much we are carrying. We get through the day, do what needs to be done and tell ourselves we'll slow down later. But sometimes we need to recognise when things are becoming too much.

That might mean taking a little time out, talking to someone we trust about how we're feeling, getting outside for a change of scenery or simply accepting that everything doesn't have to be done at once.

Some days are easier than others, and that's just part of life.

When things do become difficult, it's important to know when to ease the pressure, reach out for support or simply give ourselves a break.

Perhaps the message for today is a simple one:

Be gentle with yourself. You're doing the best you can, and sometimes that is enough.

Dear Lord, when life feels overwhelming, help us to slow down, find peace and remember that we are never alone. Bring hope to our hearts and strength for each new day. 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 CELEBRATIONS

**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.

All Welcome

😊 Joke Corner 😊

My wife said spring was the perfect time to get out into the garden. So I took my beer outside. Apparently, that wasn't what she meant. Spring cleaning is going well. I've moved everything I don't need into a different room where I still don't need it.

October is when my lawn starts growing faster than my enthusiasm for mowing it.

I bought antihistamines so I could enjoy the spring flowers. Now I can admire them without sneezing—provided I can stay awake. Finally, somewhere to sit while they eat my tomatoes.

The birds are looking for a mate this spring. One's been screaming outside my window since five. I can see why he's single.

I put up a scarecrow to protect my spring veggie patch. The cockatoos love it.



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 25:6-10

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 22(23)

The Response Is:

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of
darkness no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your
staff; with these you give me comfort.

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

SECOND READING

Philippians 4:12-14,19-20

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty.

There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

*Please stand for the Gospel
Acclamation.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the

wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.' 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

The rich suffer want and go hungry,
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

