

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: 16/10/2026

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

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Sunday 18 October 2026

World Mission Sunday

"Belonging and God's Mission"

Today's Gospel presents a tense moment. The Pharisees and Herodians try to trap Jesus with a political question: *"Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar?"* No matter how He answered, someone would accuse Him. But Jesus refuses to be pulled into their game. Instead, He offers a deeper truth: "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." With this simple sentence, Jesus invites us to reflect on belonging. Not just political belonging, but the deepest question of all: To whom do I belong?

We know how easy it is to belong to the world. We cling to possessions, comfort, status, and the need to be in control. These things can quietly shape our identity and distract us from God. They can make us forget that our true worth comes from being God's beloved children.

To belong to God means offering ourselves to Him - our gifts, our time, our hopes, and even our struggles. It means trusting that God can use our lives for His purpose. It means recognising that mission belongs to God, not to us. We do not create mission; we participate in it. We become instruments of His love.

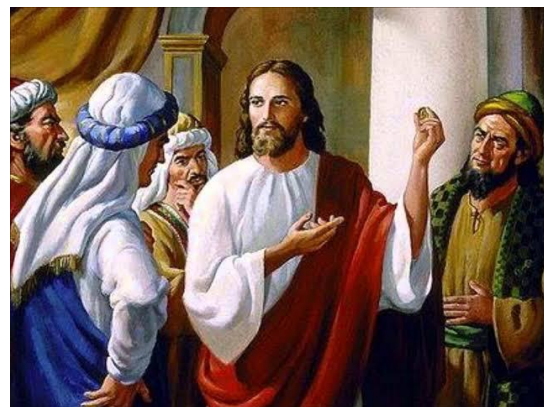
Mission is not a burden. Mission is a grace. It is God inviting each of us - wherever we live, whatever our vocation - to discover what it means to belong to Him. Mission is not measured by success or numbers. Mission is simply sharing how God has touched our lives.

We speak of God through our lived experience: - when God carried us through hardship - when we were forgiven - when we felt loved in loneliness - when God guided us through difficult choices. These stories reveal who God is. They help others recognise His presence and His love.

As a member of the Society of the Divine Word, I will soon be sent to Slovakia for my first missionary assignment. This call is not about my abilities. It is God inviting me to live out my belonging to Him in a new place, among new people. I am not an outsider to God's mission; I am part of God's family - and so are you.

On this World Mission Sunday, Jesus asks each of us: To whom do I belong? When we know we belong to God, we find our identity, our purpose, and our mission. May this day renew in us a deep sense of belonging - to God, to the Church, and to His mission of love.

Deacon Anthony Khanh, SVD



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
17-Oct	Teresa Dang	Terry Murphy	Rayhan Domingo
24-Oct	Marlene Vergou	Teresa Dang	Alvin Rahadjo
31 Oct	Maureen Gough	Terry Murphy	Rayhan Domingo

Sun 10:30am Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion	Overhead Projectionists
18-Oct	Ophelia Swai Mark Tierney	Mia Grant	Tanya Ferraro
25-Oct	Marilène Fortuna Mark Tierney	Giovanna D' Intino	Natalia Molini
01-Nov	Mark Tierney Marilène Fortuna	Marilene Fortuna	Natalia Molini

Sun 6pm Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion	Overhead Projectionists
18-Oct	Shanthi Antony Snehta Antony	Damian Casamento	Natalie Baran
25-Oct	John Gaffney Jenifer Cahapay	Judith Pimentel	Tanya Ferraro
01-Nov	Snehta Antony John Gaffney	Robert Dullard	Hoi Ying Lam

St Raphael's Parish Roster (STR)

Sat 5pm Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion
17-Oct	Paul Smith	Nick Cachia
24-Oct	Mel Puliueva	Nick Cachia
31-Oct	Paul Smith	Nick Cachia

Sun 10:30am Mass	Lectors	Ministers of Communion
18-Oct	Sr Vilay Anna Sisinni — Italian	Nick Cachia Carmela Molinaro
25-Oct	Franca Surace Melinda Di Prospero - Italian	Rosetta Macri Bruna D'Alessandro
01-Nov	Lena Pennacchia Melinda Di Prospero - Italian	Rosetta Macri Carmela Molinaro

Attention all Sacred Heart Lectors, Ministers of Communion and Overhead Projectionists:

Liturgical Ministers Roster

The current Liturgical Ministers for the Sacred Heart roster concludes on **7/8 November**. Preparation of the next roster, covering **14/15 November 2026 to 27/28 February 2027**, will begin shortly. Please advise your availability

by Monday, 19 October by contacting Rachel at: preston@cam.org.au or 9480 3398 Thank you.

A Heartfelt Thanks to All Our Volunteers



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:

We Commemorate:

Giuseppe Passalacqua, 20th Anniv. Sun 18/10 at 9am (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): 11.10.2026

1st Collection for our Church: \$1,605

2nd Collection for support of clergy: \$1,542

Last week's Collection (St Raphael's): 11.10.2026

Stewardship/Church \$941 Presbytery \$513

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

Prayer becomes effective when it reaches out to others. The charity born of the Holy Spirit is God's love poured into our hearts: a love that takes shape in a commitment to life and service. This love must become the goal, the way, and the meaning of our lives.



Solemnities / Feasts / Memorials of the week:

Monday 19 October Sts John of Brebeuf and Isaac Jogues, priests and their Companions, Martyrs, St Paul of the Cross, Priest
Thursday 22 October St John Paul II, Pope
Friday 23 October St John of Capistrano, Priest
Saturday 24 October St Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop



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..



A Message of Thanks from Our Sacred Heart St Vincent de Paul Conference

- **Thank You:** A sincere thank you to our parish community for your generous support. Whether through church donations, online contributions, Vinnies shop items, or appeals like our giving tree, your kindness has brought vital relief and made a real difference to families in need.
- **Our Impact:** Operating since 1915 - over 111 years - our Preston Conference has relied entirely on your kindness to bring hope and relief to neighbours and families in need.
- **Get Involved:** No gift is ever too small, and **new members are always welcome!**



St Raphael's Feast Day - Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made our recent St Raphael's Feast Day celebration such a wonderful success:

- **The Organising Committee:** Thank you for your hard work in planning the event.
- **Volunteers:** Thank you to everyone who helped set up, served on the day, supervised the outside area on the day and stayed to clean up.
- **Food Contributors:** Thank you to all who generously brought food to share.
- **St Raphael's School & Principal Rosalba Squarci:** Thank you for kindly allowing us to use the school hall for the function.
- **Father Aloysius:** A special thank you for celebrating such a beautiful Mass for our community.



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.



Presence: Advent & Christmas Daily Reflections 2026

This Advent and Christmas season, take time to discover the God who is closer than we think.

We are placing a bulk parish order for *Presence*, the 2026 daily reflection booklet. Each copy is \$7.00.

- Preview the booklet: dow.org.au/shop
- How to order: Contact the parish office by phone at 9480 3398 or email preston@cam.org.au
- Order deadline: End of day, Sunday, October 25

Note: Pre-payment before we place the order is greatly appreciated.



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

43. Synodality and faithfulness

True synodality deepens fidelity to Christ and His Gospel.



ST GERARD - THE MOTHERS' SAINT

- 300th Anniversary: This year marks the tercentenary of St Gerard Majella's birth in Italy (1726), with his feast day celebrated on October 16.
- A Humble Servant: Known for his gentle nature and deep faith, this Redemptorist brother dedicated his life to serving others.
- Patron of Mothers: He is especially remembered as the patron saint of expectant mothers, offering comfort, protection, and strength through pregnancy and motherhood.
- A Timeless Example: His legacy of faith, humility, and compassion continues to inspire us today.

ST GERARD MAJELLA, PRAY FOR US.

Sourced from www.majellan.media

St Raphael's and Sacred Heart News

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 Sacred Heart 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

You are all invited to the

Living Gospel Prayer Group End of Year Mass Friday 6th November at St Raphael's Church

5:30-6 pm Praise and Worship

6 pm Mass and Adoration

Finishing at 7:15 pm

Cuppa afterwards in fellowship, all welcome



Looking for flexible work and a chance to support persecuted Christians?



Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Australia is seeking a Diocesan Outreach Assistant to give short presentations at weekend Masses across the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

This part-time role involves sharing stories of the suffering Church and helping build prayerful support within parish communities.

If you are comfortable speaking in front of others and have a heart for this mission, we would love to hear from you.

For details: www.aidtochurch.org/work



😊 Joke Corner 😊

Where's Saint Francis when you need him?

St Francis loved every creature on earth. Clearly, he'd never had a possum in his roof at three in the morning.

St Peter asked a couple how they'd managed fifty years of marriage. "Patience, forgiveness and separate bathrooms."

"Ah," said Peter. "Two virtues and a miracle."

I asked St Anthony to help me find my car keys.

He said, "Have you checked your pockets?"

"Yes."

"Check again. We've been through this before."

St Peter asked a new arrival at the pearly gates, "Have you ever done anything brave?"

"I told my wife she was loading the dishwasher wrong."

"When was that?"

"About thirty seconds ago."

I asked St Jude, patron saint of hopeless causes, to help my footy team.

He looked at the ladder and said, "I admire your faith, but I do have other clients."

A man prayed, "St Anthony, please help me find my wallet."

A voice replied, "It's in your wife's handbag."

"Thank you! Can you help me get it back?"

"You'll need St Jude for that."



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 45:1,4-6

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: 'It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me.

I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.' The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 95(96):1,3-5,7-10

The Response Is:

Give the Lord glory and honour.

O sing a new song to the Lord, sing to the Lord all the earth. Tell among the nations his glory and his wonders among all the peoples.
Give the Lord glory and honour.
The Lord is great and worthy of praise, to be feared above all gods; the gods of the heathens are naught. It was the Lord who made the heavens,
Give the Lord glory and honour.

Give the Lord, you families of peoples, give the Lord glory and power; give the Lord the glory of his name. Bring an offering and enter his courts.

Give the Lord glory and honour.

Worship the Lord in his temple.

O earth, tremble before him.

Proclaim to the nations: 'God is king.'

He will judge the peoples in fairness.

Give the Lord glory and honour.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

*Please stand for the Gospel
Acclamation.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:15-21

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to

Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

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

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

