

ST RAPHAEL'S PARISH, West Preston



In partnership with St Gabriel's and St Stephen of Hungary,
Reservoir and Reservoir East

St Raphael's Parish Office: 17 Hardy Street, Preston. 3072

Tel: 9470 2586 Email: prestonwest@cam.org.au

Website: straphaelswestpreston.org.au



Joint Parish Priests:

Fr Greg Pritchard (Moderator) and
Rev. Dr Simon Grainger

Asst Priest:

Fr Aurelio Fragapane

Parish staff: Carol Hawkesford

A School Principal: Rosalba Squarci

School phone: 9478 8374

MASSES-Weekends:

Saturday: 9:00 am, 6:00 pm (vigil),

Sunday: 9:00 am (Italian), 10:30 am

Weekdays:

Tues, Wed: 4:00pm Thurs, Fri: 8:30 am

† † †

ROSARY: every Wednesday at 3:30pm

Please join us in Our Lady's Chapel.

LIVE STREAMING of MASS

Sunday 10:30am Mass is live streamed
from St Raphael's Church and will be
available for live viewing or downloading
afterwards on:

<https://bit.ly/StRaphaelsMass>

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: 1st Friday of
every month, the next one being
Friday 5 April 2024 after the 8:30am Mass.

LIVING GOSPEL PRAYER GROUP

(LGPG): Wednesdays at 1:30pm.

All Welcome

BAPTISMS: please contact parish to
arrange. Baptisms normally take place
following the 10:30am parish Mass each
Sunday.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 9:30am.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

The parish office is attended by volunteer
staff on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
You may contact the office at any time and
leave a message on **9470 2586** and we
will get back to you as soon as possible.

Parish Bulletins

The current Parish bulletin can be viewed
on the parish website:

www.straphaelswestpreston.org.au

Bulletin printed: Thurs 14/03/2024

Our Parish is committed to the safety,
wellbeing and dignity of all children
and vulnerable adults.

5th Sunday of Lent [Year B]

17th March 2024

My dear Brothers and Sisters,

"Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified", Jesus tells Andrew and Philip in this Sunday's Gospel reading from St John [12:20-30]. Our readings this Sunday carry us towards the great Easter Feast in which we remember Jesus's self-offering and suffering on the Cross for our redemption. Pope Benedict XVI told us that "this is the will of God, to give eternal life to us who have lost it". And so as we continue through this beautiful season of Lent, continuing our offerings of prayer and penance and fasting and almsgiving, we focus more fully on the true meaning of Easter, that we are drawn by our loving God into his embrace and receive from Him the gift of eternal life, paid for by Jesus in His Passion and Resurrection.

Our project of strengthening our partner relationship with St Gabriel's Reservoir and St Stephen of Hungary East Reservoir continues. This week I am delighted to be able to announce that Liza Powell has been appointed the parish secretary of the two partner parishes. She will work four days a week, three at Reservoir parish office and one at the West Preston parish office. I am delighted with this appointment. Liza has been helping on a volunteer basis for some months and her husband, Melvin Thomas, has been a huge help here in the parish for the past four years. Liza's familiarity with our parish will be a big help in moving forward with these new arrangements.

Five children are being prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, receiving their First Communion at the Easter Sunday 10.30am Mass. Three adults are being confirmed at the Easter Vigil Mass at 8.00pm on Saturday 30 March. One adult will be baptised at that Mass. We congratulate all those people as we do the 25 children who were confirmed by Bishop Terry Curtin at the annual Confirmation Mass at 2.00pm on Saturday 16 March. We thank Bishop Curtin for presiding at that Mass.

You may like to go and see the movie "Cabrini". It is in Italian and English. Not perfect but still enjoyable.

Let us always remember that "although He was Son, [Jesus] learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation" [Hebrews 5:7-9].

With every prayer for God's
richest blessings to be upon
you and your families.

Fr Simon Grainger
Pax et Gratia



	Saturday 6:00PM Mass Ministers of Communion	Saturday 6:00PM Mass - Readers		
16-Mar-24	Melvin Thomas	Paul Smith		
24-Mar-24 Palm Sunday Vigil	Amato Puli'uvea	Maureen O'Dwyer Josephine Knight		
30-Mar-24 Easter Vigil	Angela De Fazio Lucy Triulcio Nick Cachia	Josephine Knight Maureen O'Dwyer Paul Smith		
	9:00AM Italian Mass Ministers of Communion	9:00AM Italian Mass Readers		
17-Mar-24	Bruna D'Alessandro Carmel Colosimo	Maria Sanciolo-Bell		
24-Mar-24 Palm Sunday	Carmel Colosimo Carmela Molinaro	Melinda Di Prospero Vince Colosimo		
31-Mar-24 Easter	Carmel Colosimo Carmela Molinaro	Anna Sisinni		
	10:30AM Mass Ministers of Communion	10:30AM Mass Readers		
17-Mar-24	Jennifer Singam Parker Maloney	Cory Medilo		
24-Mar-24 Palm Sunday	Amitu'anai To'oto'o Parker Maloney	Liza Powell Mary Finn		
31-Mar-24 Easter	Katalina To'oto'o Parker Maloney	Dean La Fontaine		
	Holy Thursday Ministers of Communion	Holy Thursday Readers	Good Friday Ministers of Communion	Good Friday Readers
28 & 29 March	Katalina To'oto'o	Cory Medilo	Amitu'anai To'oto'o Parker Maloney	Josephine Knight Vilay Khautakoun

WE PRAY FOR:

That the Sick may experience the healing touch of God.

We pray especially for:

Giuseppina, Cabrini, Dorothy, Marie, Raffaella, Claudia, Cesarina, Pauline, Graeme, Patrick, Luana, Gitti, Coradina, Angela, Tanya, Narelle, Trish, Grace, Marelle, Peter, Isidoro, Anne, Kevin, Daniella, Aemon, Nelson, Adam, Joseph, Grazie, Frances, Mariana, Kristiana, Tamika

We pray for our beloved dead, especially those we love:

RECENTLY DECEASED: Ugo Cendron (Reqm Mass Thurs 21/3 AT 11am)

ANNIVERSARIES:

Paolo Vasile (7th Anni Sun 24/3 at 10.30am Mass)

Pasquale Tommasiello (Tues 2/4 at 7pm Mass) *that they may enter joyfully into God's kingdom.*



Feast of St Joseph

Tuesday 19 March-NO 4pm Mass at St Raphael's
Mass at 7pm followed by adoration and prayer at 7.30pm at
St Raphael's



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION:

Thanksgiving: \$843

Presbytery: \$486

Many thanks to all our contributors



✠ Baptism Congratulations ✠

The community of St Raphael's congratulates
Leonardo Larman & Posie Larman,
for their Baptisms on 17 March.



SPECIAL COLLECTION: There will be a special
collection on the 23rd and 24th of March towards a gift for
Fr Simon Grainger as he is leaving the Parish. Please give
generously. Thank You.



Parish Prayer:

Generous God,

We give our thanks to you for the gifts you have given to us – our
life, our family and friends – time, talents and material
possessions.

Above all we are grateful for the Father's unconditional love, for
Jesus Christ our Savior and for the Holy Spirit who nourishes us
with every spiritual gift.

All we have comes from you. May we remember this always and
rejoice in your generosity.

Sustain us on our Christian journey, so that we may constantly
renew our relationship with you and all people of our parish
community.

Grant us the strength and courage to become better followers of
Jesus: to be disciples and to live the Christian Way of Life. Amen
St Raphael healer and guide protect us.



THOUGHTS FROM POPE FRANCIS



*How many Christians have reached holiness
through tears, discovering they could not
overcome some of their weaknesses! They
found that God completed their good work,
which for them was only a rough draft.*



† Solemnities / Feasts / Memorials of the Week †

Monday 20 March St Joseph

Thursday 23 March St Turibius of Mogrovejo, Bishop

Saturday 24 March The Annunciation of the Lord



MASS & RECONCILIATION

9am Weekday Mass at

St Gabriel's: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

St Stephen's: Wednesday 9.30am

Saturday St Stephen's 5pm Reconciliation 6pm Vigil Mass

Sunday St Gabriel's 9am Reconciliation 10am Mass

St Raphael's Preston West

Weekend Masses: Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass Sunday 9am Italian
and 10.30am Masses

Weekday Masses:

Tuesday & Wednesday: 4pm

Thursday & Friday 8.30am

Saturday: 9am

Holy Rosary: Wednesday 3.30pm

Reconciliation Saturday 9.30am



STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Fr Aurelio Fragapane will be leading Stations of the
Cross on the Fridays of Lent as follows:-

St Raphael's West Preston-Stations of the Cross in
English and Italian 7.00pm each Friday of Lent until
Palm Sunday then 9.30am on Good Friday.



Attention Ministers of Communion and Readers

NEW ROSTERS and updated phone lists have been
emailed. Please check your junk mail folder if you haven't
received yours in your inbox. For those who do not receive
an email copy please check the church foyer for your copy.
Thank you all for your faithful service.

LENT 2024

WEDNESDAYS OF LENT: Holy Rosary

St Stephen's Reservoir East 9am

St Raphael's Preston West 3.30 pm

FRIDAYS OF LENT: Way of the Cross / Via Crucis

St Gabriel's Reservoir 8.30am

St Raphael's Preston West 7pm English / Italian

NEW LIFE IN GOD'S SPIRIT

8 week seminar presented by Living Gospel Prayer Group

Wednesdays 1.30pm at St Raphael's Church Preston West

Inquiries: Marijana 0422 340 675

MERCY MELBOURNE PRAYER & CONFESSION

Tuesday 19 March 6pm—9pm

Solemnity of St Joseph: The partnered Parishes offer the following program as our participation in Mercy Melbourne, along with Parishes across the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

7pm Mass / Eucharistic Adoration / Reconciliation

St Gabriel's Reservoir & St Raphael's Preston West

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday Weekend 23-24 March

St Stephen's Reservoir East Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass

St Gabriel's Reservoir Sunday 10am Mass

St Raphael's Preston West Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 9am Italian Mass 10.30am Mass

Includes Blessing of palms and procession

Holy Thursday 28 March

St Gabriel's 7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

9.30pm Night Prayer

St Raphael's Preston West

7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday 29 March

Way of the Cross

St Stephen's Reservoir East 10am

St. Raphael's Preston West 9.30am

The Lord's Passion

St Gabriel's Reservoir 3pm

St Raphael's Preston West 3pm

Holy Saturday 30 March

The Vigil of Easter

St Gabriel's Reservoir 8pm The Vigil of Easter

St Raphael's Preston West 8pm The Vigil of Easter

Easter Sunday 31 March

St Gabriel's Reservoir 10am Mass

St Raphael's Preston West

9am Mass Italian 10.30am Mass

† † †

GLORY OF EUROPE TRIP:

We invite you on a remarkable journey to explore the *Glory of Europe*. Immerse yourself in the rich history and profound spirituality of this

journey as we embark on a tour from Lisbon to Rome.

Fr Simon Grainger will be the Chaplain of the tour. The package cost is 5300 AUD exclusive of Airfare. The tour commences on 21 September 2024.

For enquiries or booking, please phone on 0459 726 360 or nativitytoursau@gmail.com.

† † †

DINNER DANCE:

Sacred Heart social committee presents

Dinner Dance on Saturday 13th of April 2024.

Venue: Sacred Heart Hall 85 David St Preston

Tickets: \$50 for adults and \$35 for children

Under 12 years.

Dress Code: Smart Elegant

Bookings Close on 24/3/2024.

For Reservations: 0406777986



STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

"I will be their God and they shall be my people." - Jeremiah 31:33.
What does it mean to be God's people? It means we recognize that everything we have and everything we are belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given us. It means we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for our family, our neighbors and for people we don't know, just as God cares for each of us.



Toil

"Whatever your task, put yourself into it, as if you were working for the Lord, not for human masters." (Colossians 3:23) **Work. It can evoke feelings of duty, exhaustion, or even drudgery. Yet, within the act of work lies a potent source of purpose, growth, and contribution. We are wired to create, to solve problems, to build. Humans have toiled for millennia, leaving behind not just products and services, but a legacy of innovation and progress. Every bridge built, every line of code written, every meal served is a testament to the power of human effort.**

Through our labour, we not only provide for ourselves and our loved ones, but we also contribute to the greater good. The doctor who heals, the teacher who inspires, the baker who nourishes – they all play a vital role in the intricate tapestry of society. The world thrives on the collective effort of individuals who bring their unique talents and passions to their work. So let us find inspiration in the daily tasks, big and small. Let us see them as opportunities to build, to serve, and to express the gifts God has given us. Whether we are fixing a leaky tap, writing a complex software program, or caring for a loved one, our work has the power to make a difference. Let us approach it with a spirit of dedication and excellence, knowing that we are contributing to something larger than ourselves.

Prayer: Almighty God, grant me the grace to find purpose in my work. May my efforts contribute to your will and bring blessings to others. Amen. Sourced from www.majellan.media

☺ SHARE A JOKE ☺

Paddy and Mick were standing at the base of a flagpole, looking up. A woman walked by and asked what they were doing. "We're supposed to work out the height of the flagpole," said Paddy. "but we don't have a ladder." The woman took a spanner from her purse and loosened a few bolts. She then laid the pole down, took a tape measure from her pocket, and measured the pole. She proudly said, "Six metres, fifteen centimetres." She then walked away. Mick shook his head and laughed. "Well now! Ain't that just dandy! We ask for the height and she gives us the length!"

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation
that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue
me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

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.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

See, the days are coming – it is the
Lord who speaks – when I will make a
new covenant with the House of Israel
(and the House of Judah), but not a
covenant like the one I made with
their ancestors on the day I took them
by the hand to bring them out of the
land of Egypt. They broke that
covenant of mine, so I had to show
them who was master. It is the Lord
who speaks. No, this is the covenant I
will make with the House of Israel
when those days arrive – it is the Lord
who speaks. Deep within them I will
plant my Law, writing it on their
hearts. Then I will be their God and
they shall be my people. There will be
no further need for neighbour to try to
teach neighbour, or brother to say to
brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No,
they will all know me, the least no less
than the greatest – it is the Lord who
speaks – since I will forgive their
iniquity and never call their sin to
mind.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 50(51):3-4,12-15

The Response Is:

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your
kindness. In your compassion blot out
my offence. O wash me more and
more from my guilt and cleanse me
from my sin.

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your

presence, nor deprive me of your holy
spirit.

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your
ways and sinners may return to you.

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 5:7-9

During his life on earth, Christ offered
up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in
silent tears, to the one who had the
power to save him out of death, and he
submitted so humbly that his prayer
was heard. Although he was Son, he
learnt to obey through suffering; but
having been made perfect, he became
for all who obey him the source of
eternal salvation.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gospel

Acclamation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

***Glory to you, Word of God, Lord
Jesus Christ!***

If you serve me, follow me, says the
Lord; and where I am, my servant will
also be.

***Glory to you, Word of God, Lord
Jesus Christ!***

GOSPEL

John 12:20-33

Among those who went up to worship
at the festival were some Greeks. These
approached Philip, who came from
Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this
request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to
see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew,
and Andrew and Philip together went
to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:
‘Now the hour has come for the Son of
Man to be glorified. I tell you, most
solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on
the ground and dies, it remains only a
single grain; but if it dies, it yields a
rich harvest. Anyone who loves his
life loses it; anyone who hates his life
in this world will keep it for the
eternal life.

If a man serves me, he must follow
me, wherever I am, my servant will be
there too. If anyone serves me, my
Father will honour him. Now my soul
is troubled.

What shall I say: Father, save me from
this hour? But it was for this very
reason that I have come to this hour.
Father, glorify your name!’ A voice
came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it,
and I will glorify it again.’ People

standing by, who heard this, said it
was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It
was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus
answered, ‘It was not for my sake that
this voice came, but for yours.

‘Now sentence is being passed on this
world; now the prince of this world is
to be overthrown. And when I am
lifted up from the earth, I shall draw
all men to myself.’

By these words he indicated the kind
of death he would die.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ.**

PROFESSION OF FAITH

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.

RESPONSE TO PRAYERS OF THE

FAITHFUL: Lord, hear our prayer.

THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection,
until you come again.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a
grain of wheat
falls to the ground and dies, it remains
a single grain.
But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

