

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 21/03/2024

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

Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord [Year B] 24th March 2024

My dear Brothers and Sisters,

"His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, ...even to accepting death, death on a cross", St Paul tells us in this Sunday's second reading from Philippians [2:6-11]. As we move to the end of our reflective Lenten season, engaging in actions of prayer and penance and fasting and almsgiving, we feel the mounting anticipation of the Easter celebrations. Palm Sunday sees the crowds in Jerusalem calling out "Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord [Matthew 21:9]. And yet beyond the jubilation comes the Passion of Jesus, his self-offering for our redemption by his death on the Cross. We gather together on Palm Sunday, our church decorated with palm branches, and we hold aloft our sprigs of olive trees to celebrate Jesus's triumphal entry. Let that entry be one which is real, and entry into our hearts, our homes, our families, our very lives. Let the meaning of Jesus be manifest and real to us, that he draws us into the loving embrace of God the Father, committing us to lives of love, love of God and love of neighbour.

I move towards my retirement with the Easter Sunday 10.30am Mass as my farewell Mass. I will say Mass again on Tuesday 2 April at 7.00pm, Wednesday 3 April at 4.00pm and will formally farewell the Italian community at the 9.00am Mass on Sunday 7 April before I leave for Rome that evening. Following my departure the partner parishes will move to a single newsletter which will be produced on Fridays by Liza Powell under the oversight of Fr Pritchard. From Monday 8 April the St Raphael's Parish Office at 17 Hardy Street West Preston will be open from 9.00am to 1.00pm on Mondays with Liza Powell as the new parish secretary. On Wednesdays, Thursday and Fridays Liza will work from the St Gabriel's Parish Office in Reservoir. If parishioners have Mass requests for the coming week I recommend that they get them in to Liza on the previous Monday so she can make the necessary arrangements with the priests and have the details included in the next Sunday's newsletter.

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

Fr Simon Grainger
Pax et Gratia

Who, although He existed
in the form of God, did
not regard equality with
God a thing to be grasped

Philippians 2:6



	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 Liza Powell 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	Cory Medilo 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: Peter Bourke (died 16/3, Funeral 11am Mon 25/3 at Sacred Heart Church Preston.)

ANNIVERSARIES:

Pina Zam Paro (7yrs Anni, Sun 17/3)

Erminio Ciccotelli (1month Anni, Sun 17/3)

Damiano and Nina Rando (Anni Wed 20/3 at 4pm Mass)

Antonio and Caterina Fortunato (Anni Wed 20/3 at 4pm Mass)

Nadim Ellias and Josephine Kassis Ellias (Anni Sat 23/3, Mass offered Sat 16/3 at 6pm Mass)

Connie Bonnano (1 year Anni, Sun 24/3 at 10.30am Mass)

Alberto Bettinotti (11 years Anni, Sun 31/3 at 10.30am Mass)

Pasquale Tomasiello (1 year Anni, Tues 2/4 at 7.00pm, Fr Simon's farewell Mass for the San Lupo community.)

John Michael Hardy 6 years and Michael John Lawson 24 years (on Sat 13/4 at 9am Mass)

that they may enter joyfully into God's kingdom.



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION:

Thanksgiving: \$517

Presbytery: \$396

Many thanks to all our contributors



ATTENTION: No mass at 4pm on Tuesday 2/4. Instead there will be a Mass at 7pm. It will be Fr Simon's farewell Mass for the San Lupo community

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



Glory, for God, does not correspond to human success, fame and popularity, it is not a grandiose manifestation of power to be followed by public applause. For God, glory is to love to the point of giving one's life.



† Solemnities / Feasts / Memorials of the Week †



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 at 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.

Attention: Please sign the card kept at the foyer for Fr Simon's retirement ceremony.

A VOCATION VIEW: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is she who gives her life in the name of the Lord. Blessed are they who live their united life in the name of the Lord.

HOLY WEEK

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



Piety Stall

The piety stall stocks small gifts and cards for **all Sacraments** as well as various religious items at reasonable prices. Please take the time to have a look after any of the weekend Masses.
Thank you



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

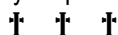


Envelopes for requests for Masses to be offered for deceased / unwell loved ones

Please note: Written requests for Masses to be offered must be given to Fr Simon at least 4 days before the Mass is requested to be offered.

Those who have requested a Mass to be offered will need to speak with Fr Simon at least 5 minutes before the commencement of that Mass so that Fr Simon knows that they are present.

Please find at the back of the Church, envelopes for your use when requesting a Mass to be offered for deceased/unwell family members. Envelopes may be placed in the collection baskets.



Children's activity pages

Please find in the foyer of the Church activity pages and pencils for young children to use quietly during Mass.



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.



HAPPINESS is

A glad heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken. Proverbs 15:13

H – Happiness is holding onto the good moments, knowing they are gifts from God, cherishing the joy they bring.

A – Appreciating the little things as blessings from God, finding beauty in simplicity.

P – Prioritising prayer for guidance and gratitude, acknowledging God's role in our lives.

P – Practicing patience and perseverance in facing life's challenges, trusting in God's plan and timing.

I – Interacting with others with empathy and understanding, finding fulfillment in acts of generosity and compassion.

N – Nurturing our relationships with family and friends, recognising the blessings in life.

E – Embracing positivity as a reflection of God's light, focusing on what uplifts and inspires.

S – Spreading kindness as an expression of God's love, making the world a brighter place.

S – Seeking forgiveness for any wrongs committed, both to others and to oneself, allowing it to mend wounds and restore inner peace.

God, fill my days with joy, my heart with gratitude and my soul with peace. Help me find happiness in Your love, purpose in Your plan and strength in Your presence. Lead me to share kindness, embrace hope and live with faith. Amen." Sourced from www.majellan.media

😊😊 SHARE A JOKE😊😊

A farmer lived alone near a country town with a small dog that he loved and doted on. After many long years of faithful service, the dog finally died so the farmer went to his parish priest and said, "Father, my dear dog has died. Could you possibly offer some prayers at Mass for him on Sunday?" The priest replied, "I'm so very sorry for your loss but unfortunately I can't pray for your dog at Mass." The farmer said, "I understand Father, really I do. I guess I'll have to go to the new church down the road. No telling what they believe. Do you think \$1000 is enough to donate for the service?" The priest piped up, "Why didn't you tell me that your dog was Catholic."



Gospel **Mark 11:1-10**

When they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, and said to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat; untie it and bring it. If any one says to you, "Why are you doing this?" say, "The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately."' "

And they went away, and found a colt tied at the door out in the open street; and they untied it. And those who stood there said to them, 'What are you doing, untying the colt?' And they told them what Jesus had said; and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus, and threw their garments on it; and he sat upon it. And many spread their garments on the road, and others spread leafy branches which they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed cried out, 'Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is coming! Hosanna in the highest!'

FIRST READING *Isaiah 50:4-7*

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 21(22):8-9,17-20,23-24

The Response Is:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

All who see me deride me.

They curl their lips, they toss their heads.

'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;

let him release him if this is his friend.'

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

Many dogs have surrounded me,

a band of the wicked beset me.

They tear holes in my hands and my feet

I can count every one of my bones.

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

They divide my clothing among them.

They cast lots for my robe.

O Lord, do not leave me alone,

my strength, make haste to help me!

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

I will tell of your name to my brethren

and praise you where they are assembled.

'You who fear the Lord give him praise;

all sons of Jacob, give him glory.

Revere him, Israel's sons.

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

SECOND READING *Philippians 2:6-11*

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus 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

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Christ became obedient for us even to death, dying on the cross.

Therefore God raised him on high

and gave him a name above all other names.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

GOSPEL *Mark 15:1-39*

Key: N. Narrator. ✠ Jesus. O. Other single speaker. C. Crowd, or more than one speaker.

Gospel

Gospel

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Key: N. Narrator. ✠ Jesus. O. Other single speaker. C. Crowd, or more than one speaker.

N. First thing in the morning, the chief priests together with the elders and scribes – in short, the whole Sanhedrin – had their plan ready. They had Jesus bound and took him away and handed him over to Pilate.

Pilate questioned him:

O. Are you the king of the Jews?

N. He answered,

✠ It is you who say it.

N. And the chief priests brought many accusations against him. Pilate questioned him again:

O. Have you no reply at all? See how many accusations they are bringing against you!

N. But, to Pilate's amazement, Jesus made no further reply.

At festival time Pilate used to release a prisoner for them, anyone they asked for. Now a man called Barabbas was then in prison with the rioters who had committed murder during the uprising. When the crowd went up and began to ask Pilate the customary favour, Pilate answered them

O. Do you want me to release for you the king of the Jews?

N. For he realised it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over. The chief priests, however, had incited the crowd to demand that he should release Barabbas for them instead.

Then Pilate spoke again:

O. But in that case, what am I to do with the man you call king of the Jews?

N. They shouted back,

C. Crucify him!

N. Pilate asked them,

O. Why? What harm has he done?

N. But they shouted all the louder,

C. Crucify him!

N. So Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, having ordered Jesus to be scourged, handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led him away to the inner part of the palace, that is, the Praetorium, and called the whole cohort together. They dressed him up in purple,

twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on him.

And they began saluting him,

C. Hail, king of the Jews!

N. They struck his head with a reed and spat on him; and they went down on their knees to do him homage. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the purple and dressed him in his own clothes.

They enlisted a passer-by, Simon of Cyrene, father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull.

They offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he refused it. Then they crucified him, and shared out his clothing, casting lots to decide what each should get. It was the third hour when they crucified him. The inscription giving the charge against him read: 'The King of the Jews.' And they crucified two robbers with him, one on his right and one on his left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said,

C. Aha! So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross!

N. The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. They said,

C. He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, for us to see it and believe.

N. Even those who were crucified with him taunted him.

When the sixth hour came there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

✠ Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?

N. which means, 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this, they said

C. Listen, he is calling on Elijah.

N. Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink, saying:

O. Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down.

N. But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

All kneel and pause for a moment.

And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion, who was standing in front of him, had seen how he had died, and he said,

O. In truth this man was a son of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

