

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

10 SEPTEMBER 2023

I SHALL BE THERE WITH THEM. Every Christian community experiences difficulties in one form or another. Misunderstandings occur, divisions arise. Today's Gospel reminds us that Christ is present in our communities even when they are broken, when only two or three meet in his name. Healing occurs when we seek to embody in our communities the qualities of Christ, especially forgiveness and mutual love.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** Ps 118: 137, 124

**You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.**

## GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**R. Amen.**

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**R. And with your spirit.**

## PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.

**R. Christ, have mercy.**

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**R. Amen.**

## 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.

## COLLECT

P. O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption, look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters, that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom and an everlasting inheritance. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

Ezek 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel  
*If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### RESP PSALM

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

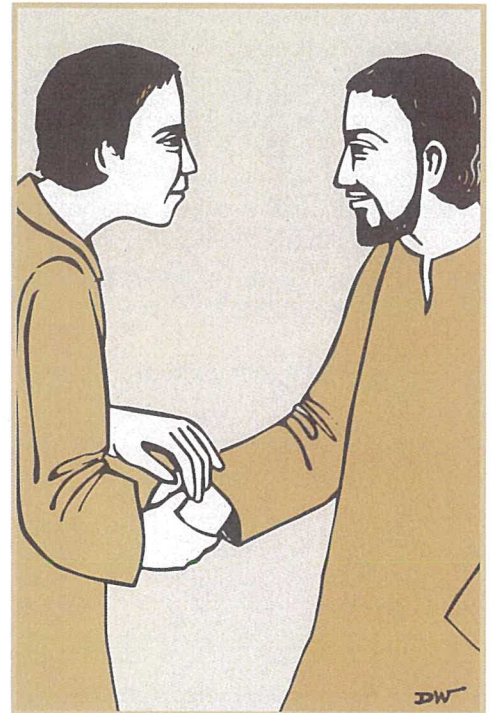
**R. O that today you would listen to his voice!**

**Harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; / let us kneel before the God who made us / for he is our God and we / the people who belong to his pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! / 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on that day at Massah in the desert / when your fathers put me to the test; / when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**



### SECOND READING

Rom 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*Love is the fulfilment of the Law.*

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Cor 5:19

**Alleluia, alleluia! / God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; / and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. / Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL

Mt 18:15-20

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

*If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If



he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you; the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## HOMILY

### PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

*Or the Nicene Creed may be said.*

**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.**

### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

## LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

*After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:*

**R. Blessed be God for ever.**

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

### PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and of peace, graciously grant that, through this offering, we may do fitting homage to your divine majesty and, by partaking of the sacred mystery, we may be faithfully united in mind and heart. Through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. Lift up your hearts.

**R. We lift them up to the Lord.**

P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**R. It is right and just.**

## PREFACE I-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

*After the Preface, we sing or say:*

**All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he**

**who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## THE MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

P. The mystery of faith.

**All: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.**

## COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

**All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

**R. Amen.**

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*All exchange a sign of peace*

## LAMB OF GOD

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**R. Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Ps 41:2-3

**Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Grant that your faithful, O Lord, whom you nourish and endow with life through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament, may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts that we may merit an eternal share in his life. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

## THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

**R. Amen.**

P. Go in peace.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

## BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

### CONCERN FOR OTHERS

From time to time, we hear family counsellors speaking of the need for 'tough love', the sort of love that expresses itself by dealing head-on with the problems we are tempted to ignore. Often, we would do anything to avoid the risk of upsetting the other person. Of course, we all know that the problems are there but how do you go about confronting them in a constructive way? The readings for today give us some useful and powerful orientations.

As the people of Israel set up sentries to warn of the impending invasion by the Babylonians, Ezekiel was reminded of his own moral obligations as a sentry. His role was to speak the hard words of warning that would cause his contemporaries to rethink their values and get their inner house in order.

Matthew's own community had a process for naming issues and correcting them that respects both the individual and the community. If there is a problem in the community, its resolution needs to start on an individual level. Later, if it is necessary, the problem can be dealt with at the group level.

Paul highlights the obligation we have to each other in mutual love. Whether we warn each other as Ezekiel was called to do or correct someone, as was necessary in Matthew's community, it must come from our concern and love for the person. As he knows all too well it is only love that will not cause our brother or sister harm.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

## Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

### 9/10 September 2023

#### Parish Office:

Hours: **Mon—Fri 9.30am to 3.30pm**

Tel: **9412 8425**

Email: [Doncaster@cam.org.au](mailto:Doncaster@cam.org.au)



Follow us on: [@StGregsDonny](https://twitter.com/StGregsDonny)



[www.facebook.com/StGregsDoncaster](https://www.facebook.com/StGregsDoncaster)

Website: [www.stgregs.org.au](http://www.stgregs.org.au)

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Charles Balnaves

**Parish Secretary: Mon & Tue:** Nadia Bolzonello

**Wed-Fri:** Vera Arief

**Mon:** Bernadine De Silva (bookkeeping)

**Sacristan:** Mary Stocco - Mob: 0412 742 657

#### MASS TIMES:

**Sat: Vigil 6.00pm; Sun 9:00am, 10.30am & 5.00pm**

**Wed 9:00 am & Fri: 9:00am** (Tue/Thu 9:15 am St Kevin's)

**Reconciliation:** Saturdays 9.30-11am. Or: before/after any Mass by request but allow time.

**CHILDREN LITURGY:** Sunday mornings @ 10.30am

**Common sense hygiene please: Masks, sanitising, isolating if testing positive for Covid-19, etc..**

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:** 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Sir 27:30-28:7, Rom 14: 7-9, Mt 18: 21-35

**BAPTISMS:** Please ring the Parish Office for bookings

**ST GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC PRIMARY**

**SCHOOL:** Principal: Michelle Verna Tel: (03) 9848 4483

**Email:** [principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au)

**PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS:**

Contact Margaret O'Donnell at [DoncasterRE@cam.org.au](mailto:DoncasterRE@cam.org.au)

**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP:**

Wednesdays at 9.45am in the church meeting room.

Contact Terry Morton 0402 307 384.

**CORNERSTONE YOUTH GROUP:** Third Friday of the month from 7.00pm-9.00pm

**YOUNG ADULTS GROUP:** 4th Fridays 7:15pm—9.30pm

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE:** 3rd Mondays 7.30pm in the School Parish Room

**ST GREGORY'S TENNIS CLUB:** Membership enquiries: Gianna Alessio (President) 0438 410 506

#### Please pray for:

Those who are **sick** at this time including Nola Tibaldi, Brian Cork, Vladimira Sabolic, Maria Tomasello, Brian Croft, John Shew, Rena Sacco, Clifford Bunardi, Rosa Aloj, Umberto Gianello, Michael Mullens, Judy Jones, Luke Kakoschke, Natalie, Max Passarella, Teresa Yong, Helen La Manna, Alex Ablaza, Mary Grace Lim Siew Lan, Mr & Mrs Tan Chai Kun, Narsis Tencic, Sio Dewi, Pat McLeod, Gilbert De Claro, Gabrielle Byrne, Chee Choong Seng, Chianna Sacco, Roy Dos Santos, Lilia Go, Maria Stone, Chee Mee Lian, Eliseo Pardillo, Siat Lin, Vincent Aloj, Margaret Dobran and Andrew Wilson.

**And for those who died recently** Elina Coia, Robert Monteith KC **and for those whose anniversaries occur about now** Rosa Laruccia, Vincent Soldini



*From the pen of the Parish Priest:*

**EFTPOS:** We are in the process (much delayed) of getting two EFTPOS machines to make it easier to make your 'cash' thanksgiving donation or to buy from the Piety Stall.

We already have one temporary machine available at the Piety Stall (when it is open at 9:00 am and 10:30 am Masses on Sundays). You could make a general donation via that machine also if you wish.

**Holy Water:** If you use Holy Water at home you can either bring along a container that we can fill or if a small bottle is sufficient, you can take one of the small containers of water available in the sacristy.

**Parish Forum: November 13th, 6:30 pm dinner provided.**

The Parish Pastoral Council met last Tuesday. We want to broaden / deepen the roles/responsibilities of the council but that takes commitment by the parish as a whole—to agree to what roles are needed and for individuals in the parish to be willing to step up and be part of the council. I am keen, and the other Parish Pastoral Council members agree, that we need to grow into the future as a parish were we all take responsibility for the parish—a shared responsibility with a shared development and implementation of parish efforts to continue to be and to grow to be even more the presence of Jesus Christ for the world around us. The words used to capture these ideas is that we become synodal and co-responsible. Synodal—we walk together in faith and walk together seeking to be open to the call of the Holy Spirit. Co-responsible—we choose and set directions together and we step up and give our time, talent and treasure to achieve the things the parish needs to do.

At the forum on November 13th we want to put some flesh on these ideas, to get your comment, to get you involved.

One immediate consequence would be the refreshing of our Parish Council Membership and having someone with energy and gift and insight to come forwards able to take on being chair of the council.

**The Joy of Christ:** This week, I went to open up for a First Communion workshop. At the last moment I was asked to share something of my experience on the day of my ordination at a priest. (no Charles not 34 minutes, 3 or 4 minutes.)

I agreed readily, though I wasn't sure what to say. I spoke of five moments during the 1.5 hour ordination Mass: the moment of prostration (lying fully flat on the (cold) marble floor), waiting for the actual moment of my ordination, Archbishop Hart's hands on my head, the giving of the chalice and paten, and being at the main St Patrick's altar celebrating the Eucharist for the first time (with the Archbishop). Five specific moments of grace for me.

What astonished me after those few words was the comment by the leader "wow, did you see the joy in Fr Charles' face as he spoke of those moments? The way his face just shone with the joy of the moment: the grace remembered and brought present again?" People agreed, yes, they could see that special joy.

Please know: it's not just me—when you commit to Jesus Christ, when you allow the Holy Spirit space in your life—you will shine with that joy and that grace—not a selfish joy for self but God's grace shining for others to see. It's beautiful and it helps change the world around you.

God bless, *Fr Charles.*

*St Gregory's is committed to growing a Child Safety Culture with Love*



<b>THIS WEEK</b> Sat 6.00pm Sun 9.00am Sun 10.30am Sun 5.00pm <b>CARE OF THE CHURCH:</b> Mary Wilson, Leth Go <b>MONEY COUNTERS:</b> Ana Klaric, Boris Klaric	<b>LECTORS</b> Ashton Ng, Ashley Ng Rachel Kay, Tony Nimmo Amanda Stefanovski, Sauro Antonelli Alfred Ablaza, Enza Scaffidi
<b>NEXT WEEK 1617 Sep</b> Sat 6.00pm Sun 9.00am Sun 10.30am Sun 5.00pm <b>CARE OF THE CHURCH:</b> Stephen Ma, Boris Klaric <b>MONEY COUNTERS:</b> Lisa Pavone, Don Pavone	<b>LECTORS</b> Ian Barnes, Peter Whiting Peter Molinari, Angela Molinari Gril Job, Aditya Hendarto Stephanie Ong, Natalie De Silva

<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b> Robert & Dianne McHugh Mary Stocco, Margaret Wallace Edith Ma, Lucy Giardino Mari Tonti-Filippini, Viviana Pereira <b>MORNING TEA:</b> TBA	<b>COLLECTORS</b>    Gerald O'Donnell <b>FLOWERS:</b> Connie Amalfi
<b>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</b> Karen D'Souza, Iris O'Farrell Rachel Kay, Joan Dinneen Fred & Agnes Fulia Margaret O'Donnell, Judy Ablaza <b>MORNING TEA:</b> TBA	<b>COLLECTOR</b>    Stephanie & Michael Ong <b>FLOWERS:</b> Tessa Leung

**For those who are Coeliac**, we can provide low gluten (<20ppm) hosts or a separate chalice. Please let the priest of sacristan know your need.

**Anointing of the Sick**, can be provided before, during or after any Mass. Just let the Sacristan or the Priest know ahead of time.

**Parish Facilities:** The Tennis Club Room and Courts and the Hall and the Parish Room are available. Room bookings can be made: [st.gregoryhall3108@gmail.com](mailto:st.gregoryhall3108@gmail.com) and Jess will get back to you. Tennis club use for tennis playing: contact Gianna on 0438 410 506.

**St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School**  
For a School Tour or next Open Day dates please contact the School Office on 98484483.

*Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation is offering a short series of contemplation and reflection this October.*

*Waiting at the Well - 4 Thursdays, 5, 12, 19 & 26 Oct, At 10am-12.30pm (in-person event) with Carole Carmody rsm, Julie Adam*

This series offers an opportunity for those waiting to have their thirst quenched at the Well of Life to explore the depths of wisdom in their own heart, to recognise wisdom in the encounter with another, and to dwell in the Heart of Contemplation. Places limited. Bookings via <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/waiting-at-the-well-series/?> or email [fo@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:fo@heartoflife.melbourne). Cost \$100 for the series or \$30 per session.


**Heart of Life**  
Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation  
Rear 41 Stanhope Street, Malvern, Victoria 3144, Australia  
Tel: (03) 9890 1101 Email: [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) Web: [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne)

**40<sup>TH</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY  
1983 - 2023

**Memorial Wall Plaques**

As in previous years at the end of September we will place a parish order for new plaques to be mounted on the wall of the Memorial Garden. The plaques are 135mm x 75mm & have standard printing limited to 6 lines. The cost of the plaque is \$250.00. If you would like to order one, please email the parish office to obtain an order form [Doncaster@cam.org.au](mailto:Doncaster@cam.org.au).

The order need to be placed by **15th September 2023**.



**ST CHARLES TURNS 40!**

We invite St Charles Families and Friends to come and celebrate with us.

Saturday, 14th October 2023 at St Charles School, 230-234 Serpells Road, Templestowe.  
Starts 10am until 4pm.  
There will be Sausage sizzle and Kaboom Sports, DJ in the Hall.  
RSVP by scanning the QR Code.





**COME AWAY DAY AT PASSIONIST HOLY CROSS RETREAT CENTRE, TEMPLESTOWE**

The Come Away Days program resumes at Holy Cross on **Wednesday, 13th September**. The theme of the day is *"Invitation to new beginnings."*

The day's program provides opportunities for prayer, reflection and fellowship in the peaceful grounds and facilities of Holy Cross Centre at 207 Serpells Road, Templestowe. Registration starts at 9.30am and concludes at 2pm with the celebration of the Eucharist. All are welcome. BYO lunch. You are invited to support these days financially according to your means (\$25.00 per person as a guide). For further info: Frank Burke on 0407998781 or [burke.frank942@yahoo.com.au](mailto:burke.frank942@yahoo.com.au)

**NEXT MEETING -15th SEP!**

CORNERSTONE 

**YOUTH GROUP**

JOURNEY WITH US AND OTHER YOUTHS TO GROW CLOSER WITH GOD!  
**BRING A FRIEND!**

**3RD FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 7 PM**

**CONTACT: Vera Arief**  
[Doncaster@cam.org.au](mailto:Doncaster@cam.org.au)

@ ST GREGORY THE GREAT SCHOOL HALL

