

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

11 FEBRUARY 2024

JESUS TOUCHED HIM. Jesus included the healing of lepers among the list of miracles which would authenticate his mission. He also communicated this power to his disciples (Mt 10: 8). In today's Gospel, he not only heals a leper; he lays his hand upon him. It is a gesture of acceptance (and perhaps even of solidarity) with a social outcast.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 30: 3-4

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

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.

All: 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, (striking the breast) 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.

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

R. Amen.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

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, who teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling pleasing to you. 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 Lev 13: 1-2, 44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus.

As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprous: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PS Ps 31: 1-2, 5, 11. R. v. 5

R. I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

1. Happy the man whose offence is forgiven, / whose sin is remitted. / O happy the man to whom the Lord / imputes no guilt, / in whose spirit is no guile. **R.**

2. But now I have acknowledged my sins; / my guilt I did not hide. / I said: 'I will confess / my offence to the Lord.' / And you, Lord, have forgiven / the guilt of my sin. **R.**



3. Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord, / exult, you just! / O come, ring out your joy, / all you upright of heart. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Cor 10: 31-11: 1

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 7: 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mk 1: 40-45

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

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

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

The leprosy left him and he was cured.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his

hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

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. May this oblation, O Lord, we pray, cleanse and renew us and may it become for those who do your will the source of eternal reward. 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: When we eat this Bread, and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

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

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

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 77: 29-30*

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

or

Jn 3: 16

God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Having fed upon these heavenly delights, we pray, O Lord, so that we may always long for that food by which we truly live. Through Christ our Lord.

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 and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

BE AS CHRIST

Today's Gospel brings our focus again to Jesus' healing through a person identified only as "a leper". This person is described without gender (although masculine pronouns follow), without ethnicity, family name, geography or any human connection. The title "a leper" encapsulates the stigma of separation, being unclean and having to live apart (see Lev. 13, first reading). We read that "a leper" came to Jesus pleading on his knees, "If you want to you can make me clean" (v. 40). This phrase indicates that "a leper" recognises Jesus' power and authority. Moved with the deepest gut-wrenching compassion, Jesus reaches out his hand and touches him. Simultaneously with his touch, Jesus says "I do choose. Be made clean" (v. 41). Jesus' touch is redeeming in itself. Jesus touches the untouchable. Though warned not to say anything and show himself to the priest, the person "went out and began to proclaim freely and spread the word" (v. 45). We witness "a leper" becoming a proclaimer of the Good News. In our world today there are people with titles like "a leper", as we have "homeless" or "refugee" among us bereft of identity and dignity, untouchable. How can we "touch" like Jesus?

Paul's words to the Corinthians invite us to take him as the model as he takes Christ. This invitation together with the healing of one on the margins calls us to be as Christ, open to all and to be agents of healing wounds and separation.

DR ROSEMARY CANAVAN

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

10/11 February 2024

Parish Office:

Hours: **Mon—Fri 9.00am to 3.30pm**

Tel: **9412 8425**

Email: Doncaster@cam.org.au

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

www.facebook.com/StGregsDonny

Website: www.stgregs.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Charles Balnaves

Assistant Priest: Fr. Isaac Zaki

Parish Secretary: Mon & Wed: Vera Arief

Tue, Thurs-Fri: Luisa Yambao

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 & Fri 9.00am (Tue & Thur 9.15am @ St Kevin's)

Reconciliation: Saturdays 9.30-11.00am

(or before/after any Mass by request but allow time)

CHILDREN LITURGY: Sunday mornings @ 10.30am

Communicable Diseases are around: be hygienic.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 1st Sunday of Lent

Gen 9:8-15, Ps 24:4-9, 1 Pet 3:18-22, Mk 1:12-15

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

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS:

Contact Margaret O'Donnell at 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 Clifford Bunardi, Sarina Louise Walker, Huan Sun, Nancy Au, Elsie Poon, Patricia Luk, Shirley Freeman, Balwinder Kaur, Michael Mullens, Tim Percy-Dove, Enzo Galota, Jason Khoo, Liam Fitzpatrick, Anne Credlin, Nola Tibaldi, Vladimira Sabolic, Brian Croft, Maria Tomasello, John Shew, Rena Sacco, Judy Jones, Clifford Bunardi, Umberto Gianello, Luke Kakoschke, Max Passarella, Teresa Yong, Gilbert De Claro, Alex Ablaza, Mary Grace Lim Siew Lan, Gabrielle Byrne, Mr & Mrs Tan Chai Kun, Narsis Tencic, Chianna Sacco, Chee Choong Seng, Roy Dos Santos, Maria Stone, Chee Mee Lian and Eliseo Pardillo.

and for those who died recently

Angelo Savino, Anna Girardi

and for those whose anniversaries

occur about now Evan Tune, Pat La

Manna, Francesco Salvatore,

Pasquale Salvatore, Gordon Weiland



Words from PP,

Raising our Tribal Voice for Justice: An Indigenous Theological Revolution

During this past week I attended some sessions of this four-day conference at the Yarra Theological Union. This missionary-oriented school in the Melbourne University of Divinity has recently created the School of Indigenous Studies. It is the first university degree capable school in the country focussed on an indigenous perspective.

It was wonderful, eye-opening, challenging, educative and spiritually uplifting.

Archbishop Peter asked me to attend in his place, to give a 'response' to the conference from a Catholic perspective (he couldn't make it). Quite an honour I must say. Unfortunately, communications had broken down, and there ended up without a slot in the program for me to speak, but it meant I got to go to a conference I would otherwise not have known of (despite my interest in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander matters).

There were over 100 participants, 50% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, 50% people of faith in Jesus Christ from various colleges and churches across the country.

I outlined some of my personal learnings below.

Don't jump to conclusions or judge on first impressions: The first talk I heard seemed to be all fire and revolution – but I listened through the whole keynote address and ... surprise – yes there are some difficult discussions that were being called for about conciliation, treaty, truth telling; but they were all framed arising from the teachings of Christ Jesus. It would have been a mistake of epic proportions to stop listening.

Be prepared to be surprised: there were several prayer moments during the sessions I attended for. The first was the opening ceremony – a smoking ceremony followed by a welcome to country – it is always moving to walk through the smoke but ... something was missing, it was almost just a token ceremony, or so I found it, maybe I was deep in thought. There is a warning to me, and to all of us there: if we become blasé about celebrating the Mass, Word and Eucharist, it could become a token, meaningless ritual (God's sacraments are always efficacious of course, but it is possible for us to hide that glory by our carelessness). Later sessions were amazing, deeply spiritual moments of encounter with God's love. But dramatically enriched by the Aboriginal element woven into the prayer.

There was a discussion of reparations and several non-Indigenous people were talking about selling their houses and giving the money to Indigenous groups – and to a person, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the room said "No, that is generous but that is not what we want. We don't want to put others in poverty as we often are. We want everyone to grow and benefit and be whole" – or words to that effect.

Overall, well worth much of my week.

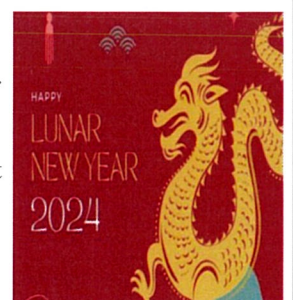
I shall be keeping a close eye on this space and asking our Social Justice Action group to get involved.

PS: There are opportunities to support the School of Indigenous Studies: You can donate via EFT: Account name: University of Divinity School of Indigenous Studies Fund; BSB 013 345 Acct # 312879608, put your full name as reference. Or go to pay.divinity.edu.au for a credit card donation.

Happy Lunar New Year 2024!

To celebrate the beginning of the Year of the Dragon, we are hosting Morning/Afternoon Teas after our Sunday, 18th Feb 10.30am Mass & 5.00pm Mass. Please stay to have some New Year's snacks with us. We will also prepare some New Year's snacks to share with you at our Saturday 17 February 6pm Mass & Sunday, 18 February 9am Mass.

Parents are requested to please supervise their children at all times.



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

THIS WEEK

Sat 6.00pm
 Sun 9.00am
 Sun 10.30am
 Sun 5.00pm

LECTORS

Rebecca Law, Patrick Soosay
 Tony Nimmo, Rachel Kay
 Paul Williams, Rita Williams
 Viviana Pereira, Isabelle Hii

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Mary Wilson**MONEY COUNTERS:** Iris O'Farrell, Sharron Wilkinson**NEXT WEEK 17/18 Feb**

Sat 6.00pm
 Sun 9.00am
 Sun 10.30am
 Sun 5.00pm

LECTORS

Frances Cannizzo, Frank Ryan
 Joan Dinneen, Tony Nimmo
 Brendan Pon, Gril Job
 Enza Scaffidi, Alfred Ablaza

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Carole Tang, Agnes Chee**MONEY COUNTERS:** Lina Pavone, Don Pavone**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

Robert & Dianne McHugh
 Rebecca Raymond
 Maggie Yong, Nuccia La Rocca
 Margaret O'Donnell, Judy Ablaza

MORNING TEA: N/A**COLLECTORS**

Stephanie Ong
FLOWERS: Geraldina Donato
 Mary Piccoli

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Margaret O'Donnell, Iris O'Farrell
 Ray & Kay Lewis
 Fred & Agnes Fulia
 Caterina Gioffre, Seleana Ng

MORNING TEA: St. Greg's Parish**COLLECTORS**

Seleana Ng, Gerald O'Donnell
FLOWERS: N/A

For those who are Coeliac, we can provide low gluten (<20 ppm) hosts or a separate chalice. Please let the priest or 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 Notice – Lenten Groups 2024

Thank you to those parishioners who have offered to lead Lenten Groups this year. We now invite you to join one of these groups to assist you to prayerfully journey through the season of Lent.

The sessions available are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings as well as Friday morning. Please sign your name and contact details on the sheets in the foyer for the session that is most convenient for you.

**PARISH CENSUS**

Over the next three weeks, we invite each member of our parish to participate in our census process. By completing the census form which will be made available during Mass, we can register the number of our parish members and better understand the needs of our community. Data from this census will also enable the parish to strategically plan for important events, ministries, and other future endeavours. Your privacy is essential, and all information will be treated with confidentiality.

**Southern Stars Social Club**

Party for Single Catholics—28 to 60 age group
 Saturday 24th February at 8.00pm
 Location: School Hall at St Scholastica's Parish Corner of Burwood Hwy & Stirling St East Burwood, Melway Map 60 D6
 Cost: \$13 includes Supper and Lucky Door Prizes

Hour of Grace

Eucharistic Adoration

Spend a moment in front of Blessed Sacrament with hymns and worship

Every 3rd Sunday of the month after 5PM Mass

Schedule for 2024:
 18 Feb, 17 Mar, 21 Apr, 19 May, 16 Jun, 21 Jul

St Gregory the Great Church
 71 Williamsons Rd, Doncaster

Info: Vera - doncaster@cam.org.au



HOLY TRINITY COMMUNITY

melbourne.holytrinitycarmel.com

#Sharethejoy



Anna Girardi's funeral will be on Tuesday, 13th February at St Gregory the Great Church at 10.15am

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School

Open Day Tuesday, 9.30– 11am, 13th February 2024. For a School Tour or next Open Day dates please contact the School Office on 98484483.

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 and Jess will get back to you.

Tennis club use for tennis playing: contact Gianna on 0438 410 506.

Ash Wednesday Mass Schedule

14 February

St Gregory Church: 9.00am and 6.00pm
 St Kevin's Templestowe: 11.45am and 7.30pm

Sacrament Commitment Mass

28 February 2024, Wednesday 5.00pm

There is a commitment mass for all children preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation on Wednesday, 28 February at 5.00pm.

Everyone is invited to join the mass.

Inner Eastern Region Parish Forum

Interpreting your Parish Social Profile for Mission

<https://www.trybooking.com/COYRW>

The Episcopal Vicar for the Eastern Region invites parish leaders, parish councillors and interested parishioners from parishes in the inner eastern region to an information session on Tuesday 20 Feb, 5.00pm-7.30pm, at The Friars Room, adjacent to St Francis Xavier Church, 1087 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill (Parking behind the Church off Dorking Rd). We will look at how best to interpret the parish profile from the 2021 census and the trends revealed and then share suggestions about how this will inform our efforts in Mission. Inquiries: phone. 9401 6371

Project Compassion Sunday

10 & 11 February



Please take home a Project Compassion box or a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations. With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations.



PROJECT COMPASSION
 FOR ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS