

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

14 MAY 2023

PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS. The early Christian community could not remain as an enclosed, self-contained group in Jerusalem. Its members felt impelled by Christ to bring the Good News to Samaria and then to the ends of the earth. Christians in every age are called to be fully involved in the life and joys and pains of the world. At times this can be difficult but the Spirit of God is always with us to help us.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Isa 48:20

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

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. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

R. For we have sinned against you.

P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

R. And grant us your salvation.

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. Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. 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

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

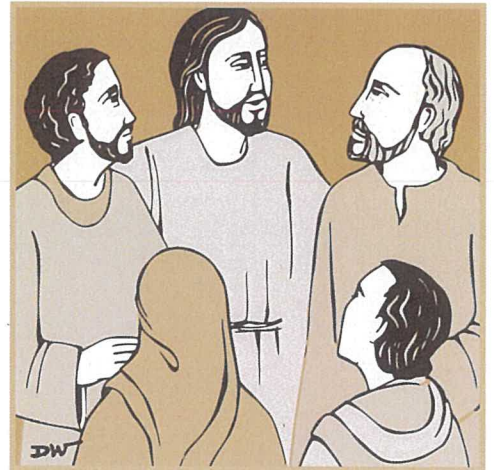
Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20. R. cf. v. 2

R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (or Alleluia!)

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth, / O sing to the glory of his name. / O render him glorious praise. / Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds! **R.**

2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow; / shall sing to you, sing to your name!' / Come and see the works of God, / tremendous his deeds among men. **R.**

3. He turned the sea into dry land, / they passed through the river dry-shod. / Let our joy then be in him; / he rules for ever by his might. **R.**



4. Come and hear, all who fear God. / I will tell what he did for my soul: / Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer / nor withhold his love for me. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 14:15-21

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

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

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,
and he will give you another Advocate
to be with you for ever,
that Spirit of truth
whom the world can never receive
since it neither sees nor knows him;
but you know him,
because he is with you, he is in you.
I will not leave you orphans;
I will come back to you.
In a short time the world will no longer
see me;
but you will see me,
because I live and you will live.
On that day
you will understand that I am in my Father
and you in me and I in you.
Anybody who receives my commandments
and keeps them
will be one who loves me
and anybody who loves me will be loved by
my Father,
and I shall love him and show myself 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 our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,
together with the sacrificial offerings, so
that, purified by your graciousness, we
may be conformed to the mysteries of your
mighty love. 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-V OF EASTER

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

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 Jn 14:15-16

**If you love me, keep my commandments,
says the Lord, and I will ask the Father
and he will send you another Paraclete,
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Almighty ever-living God, who restore us
to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ,
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this
paschal Sacrament and pour into our hearts
the strength of this saving food. 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 in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU ORPHANS

One of the most touching phrases in
John's Gospel is Jesus' promise before his
death that he would not leave his disciples
orphans. The quality of his presence
among them would change after the
resurrection. In the future the Spirit would
be the one instructing, strengthening, and
protecting disciples. Jesus promises that
whoever receives his commandments
will be loved by the Father. This promise
is fulfilled when the Samaritans become
believers through Philip's ministry of
preaching and healing. Samaritans
were considered heretical Jews, but their
positive reception of the word prompted
the Jerusalem community to think again
and to send Peter and John to welcome
them into the larger community. The gift
of the Spirit through the laying on of
hands is the sign of God's blessing and of
their full incorporation into the growing
Christian family.

The first letter of Peter was written in a
time of great trial and opposition. How
were Christians going to respond to false
charges against them? How were they
able to give a credible account of their
Christian faith? These early Christians
were urged to remain steadfast and true to
their values and belief. Like them, we are
encouraged to find our source of strength
in the example of Jesus who suffered and
died for us even though he was innocent.
It is not an easy path we are asked to
tread but we are encouraged to see that
our best defence is the quality of our lives
and the depth of our hope.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Sixth Sunday of Easter, Year A

13/14 May 2023

Parish Office:

Hours: **Mon—Fri 9.30am to 3.30pm**

Tel: **9412 8425**

Email: Doncaster@cam.org.au

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

 www.facebook.com/StGregsDoncaster

 Website: 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 (Tues & Thur 9:15 am St Kevin's)

Reconciliation: resuming on the 20th May

CHILDREN LITURGY: Sunday mornings @ 10.30am

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11, Eph 1:17-23 ; Matt 28:16-20

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 Michael Mullens, Judy Jones, Nick Morton, Luke Kakoschke, Victor, 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, Brian Croft, Chee Choong Seng, Chianna Sacco, Roy Dos Santos, Lilia Go, Maria Stone, Chee Mee Lian, Eliseo Pardillo, Siat Lin, Vincent Aloï, Margaret Dobran, Andrew Wilson, Fr Matthew Abraham CSsR, Wang Wei Qiao, Paul Materazzo, Ian Angus, Eliasari, Dennis Clarke, Marisa Rodolfo, Angel Gustavo, Margaret Hansen.

And for those who died recently Annesley Noble, Ettore Conigliaro

and for those whose anniversaries occur about now Claude & Merle De Alwis

From the desk of ... the PP,

By the time you read these words I am back in Australia – spending some time in Perth (WA) – with by brother and with friends, some of whom I have known since 1977 when Tanya and I moved there and then decided to have children.

My mother came to visit – we had lived in Perth from 1956-1960 when we emigrated to Australia – and she didn't recognise the place. So very much had changed. As I get ready for my trip to begin in just 48 hours I find myself wondering what Perth will be like now since I haven't been there for fifteen years. A lot changes.

When we lived in Perth Tanya and I experienced an earthquake and the tail end of a cyclone. An engineer pointed out that the skyscrapers were built to US West-Coast standards but the earthquakes in Perth are totally different – the movements are different – the earth shakes differently. We can think ourselves all prepared but ... things change, new things arise.

How will Perth have changed this time? I don't know. I shall find out I suppose.

How will I have changed after these weeks away? How will you have changed?

I know you've been in the capable hands of the priests who will provide supply for every weekend.

I had lunch with Fr Len Thomas and Fr Bill Gill on the Friday before I left on holiday. I know them both from before my ordination and after my ordination. Len remembers that he provided supply in St Kevin's when Gerry went on sabbatical for three months and apparently I diffidently asked him, as the newly ordained Permanent Deacon "do you mind if I preach at some of the Masses" – my memory is that he readily allowed me to. His memory is of the oddness that existed for him in not preaching. I am expecting to feel a little of that oddness in these weeks away as I shall not be preaching – at least not formally – and I love the preparation and delivery of the homily – truly a moment of grace for me.

See you in a week. God bless, Fr Charles.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15.13



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

THIS WEEK 6/7 May

Sat 6.00pm

Sun 9.00am

Sun 10.30am

Sun 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH**MONEY COUNTERS:** Mal de Alwis, Ray Lewis**LECTORS**

Joseph Philip, Lorna Philip

Ray Lewis, Kay Lewis

Jenny Tyedin, Brian Tyedin

Benedicta Wong, Jane Ma

Carole Tang, Agnes Chee

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Peter Whiting, Sharron Wilkinson

Tony Nimmo, Katica Puhaj

Robert Rukavina, Dai Sim

Viviana Pereira, Judy Ablaza

MORNING TEA: Karen Chay**COLLECTORS**

Gerard O'Donnell

FLOWERS: Connie Amalfi**NEXT WEEK 13/14 May**

Sat 6.00pm

Sun 9.00am

Sun 10.30am

Sun 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH**MONEY COUNTERS:** Maria Verrocchi, Maggie Yong**LECTORS**

Ashton Ng, Ashley Ng

Joan Dinneen, Philip Dunlop

Sauro Antonelli, Amanda Stefanovski

Natalie De Silva, Dot Haynes

Mary Wilson, Leth Go

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Noel & Cathy McClelland

Tony Nimmo, Margaret Wallace

Mary Stocco, Tony Ting

Mary Tonti-Filippini, Tina Paolino

MORNING TEA: TBA**COLLECTOR**

Alfred Lee

FLOWERS: Tessa Leung

Irene Dharmawan

AUTUMN THEN WINTER—more infectious illness (Covid, Flu, ...)! Perhaps our care with masks / sanitising will keep others safe.

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.

Transport : Don't leave people stuck at home unable to come to Mass: offer a hand or let us know at the Parish Office.

Welcoming! We have a new Welcoming Group: but still: if you see someone you DON'T know? go up and have a chat and get to know them.

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School

Next Open Day **9th Aug 9.30-11am**, or for a School Tour 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.

**INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE
DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?**

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers.

An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on **Saturday 3 June 2023**, 10:00 -11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), 278 Victorian Parade, East Melbourne.

For more information: Vocations website for the Archdiocese is now available. The links below (copy, then paste) are a source of additional information.

Watch: Melbourne's Deacons <https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTS0>

Watch: Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons and video <https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY>

Visit: Archdiocese of Melbourne permanent diaconate webpage <https://vocations.melbournecatholic.org/about/what-is-a-vocation/permanent-diaconate>

Read More: Brochure <https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate>

Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate Ph. 03 9412 3357 / Email diaconate@cam.org.au

Awaken

PENTECOST 2023

AWAKE, AWAKE, PUT ON YOUR STRENGTH!
(ISAIAH 52:1)

A REGIONAL GATHERING OF OUR CHURCH
DRAWING CLOSE TO THE PRESENCE AND POWER OF GOD

WORSHIP | PRAYER | TALKS | WORKSHOPS

27TH MAY, 1PM - 4:30PM

AVILA COLLEGE, 35 CHARLES ST, MOUNT WAVERLEY

Schedule:

12:30pm: Doors open

1pm: Rally

2pm: Workshops & afternoon tea

3:15pm: Closing Rally

Four streams available:

Adults

Youth (Year 7-12)

Children (Year 3-6)

Children (Prep-year 2)

WITH SPECIAL GUEST ROB FALZON (MEN ALIVE, BRISBANE)

Contact: info@awakenmelbourne.com.au

Free entry, but registration is essential: www.trybooking.com/C1BCN

REGISTER HERE:**HOSTED BY:**

St Benedict's Burwood | St Scholastica's Bennettwood
Holy Family Mt Waverley | St Christopher's Syndal
Holy Saviour Vermont Sth | St Francis Xavier & St Clare Box Hill
Disciples of Jesus Covenant Community

New Set of Stewardship Envelopes are Now Available!

Thank you for your support of the St Gregory the Great Parish through the Thanksgiving Program.

A new set of Stewardship Envelopes are now available in the Narthex. Please collect yours if you are contributing using the envelopes. Please note there are some changes in the numbering of the envelopes.

If you are contributing via Direct Debit or Credit Card please collect your statements from the foyer. Please contact the office if there are any changes to your banking details or expiry date. With your support and generosity we are able to plan and prepare for the future needs of our St Gregory the Great Parish, for which are all most grateful.

NEXT MEETING -19TH MAY!

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**

© ST GREGORY THE GREAT
SCHOOL HALL

Contact: Vera Arief
Doncaster@cam.org.au