

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

15 OCTOBER 2023

COME TO THE BANQUET. Our God invites all people to the banquet of the kingdom, a banquet characterised by joy, integrity, and true peace. Sometimes, however, we decline this invitation preferring the lesser banquets that we know. May God enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Ps 129:3-4

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
O God of Israel.

GREETING

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

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

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. Lord Jesus, you have revealed yourself as
the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You have poured out on your people the
Spirit of truth: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to
eternal life: 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. May your grace, O Lord, we pray, at all
times go before us and follow after and make
us always determined to carry out good

works. 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

Isa 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
*The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away
the tears from every cheek.*

On this mountain,
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.
On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.
The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.
We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22. R. v. 6

**R. I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is
nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are
the pastures / where he gives me repose. /
Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive
my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path; / he
is true to his name. / If I should walk in the
valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. /
You are there with your crook and your
staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**
3. You have prepared a banquet for
me / in the sight of my foes. / My head
you have anointed with oil; / my cup is
overflowing. **R.**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me / all the days of my life. / In the
Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and
ever. **R.**



SECOND READING

Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to
be rich too. I have been through my initiation
and now I am ready for anything anywhere:
full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or
plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with
the help of the One who gives me strength. All
the same, it was good of you to share with me
in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil
all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as
only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for
ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Eph 1:17, 18

**Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of
our heart, / that we might see how great
is the hope / to which we are called. /
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Mt 22:1-14

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.

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of
the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may
be compared to a king who gave a feast for
his son's wedding. He sent his servants to
call those who had been invited, but they
would not come. Next he sent some more
servants. "Tell those who have been invited"
he said "that I have my banquet all prepared,
my oxen and fattened cattle have been
slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the

wedding.” But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants. “The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding.” So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, “How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?” And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Shorter form, Mt 22: 1-10

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. Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful with the sacrificial offerings, that, through these acts of devotedness, we may pass over to the glory of heaven. 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 33:11

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. We entreat your majesty most humbly, O Lord, that, as you feed us with the nourishment which comes from the most holy Body and Blood of your Son, so you may make us sharers of his divine nature. 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

CALLED TO HOPE

The readings for today are both comforting and unsettling. Isaiah's vision of the whole human family gathered in peace on the mountain of the Lord is one that all people of goodwill hope will one day come to pass. The Gospel, on the other hand, introduces a discordant and unsettling note as Jesus continues to confront his opponents with the disturbing parable of the wedding feast. It seems hardly fair that a poor man dragged off the street to make up the numbers at a wedding feast should then be cast out because he was improperly dressed. If Matthew is compared with Luke 14:15-24 it quickly becomes apparent that Matthew has combined two parables of Jesus regarding weddings. One spoke of guests who were invited but refused, the other spoke of someone who came to a wedding improperly dressed. Since Matthew's community comprised both Jewish and Gentile Christians it seems his aim was to make sure both groups avoided complacency and taking God's gracious invitation for granted.

As Paul reflects on his experience as an apostle, one thing he learned was that there was no room for complacency. The ministry he had received to preach the gospel was one which entailed many risks, poverty and plenty, acceptance and rejection. In order to preach the gospel, he worked to support himself but was often assisted by communities that he had established. As he nears the conclusion of the letter to the community in Philippi, he thanks them for their generosity and support.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

14/15 October 2023

Parish Office:

Hours: Mon—Fri 9.30am to 3.30pm

Tel: 9412 8425

Email: Doncaster@cam.org.au

Follow us on: @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 (Tue/ Thur 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: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isa 45:1, 4-6, 1 Thess 1:1-5, Mt 22:15-21

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 Jason Khoo, Michael Mullens, Liam Fitzpatrick, Anne Credlin, Nola Tibaldi, Brian Cork, Vladimira Sabolic, Maria Tomasello, Brian Croft, John Shew, Rena Sacco, Clifford Bunardi, Umberto Gianello, Judy Jones, Luke Kakoschke, Natalie, Max Passarella, Teresa Yong, 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 and Eliseo Pardillo.

**and for those who died recently
and for those whose
anniversaries occur about now**
Vincenzo Lamanna, Il Yoo, John Bumford, Tim Doherty



From the desk of the Parish Priest,

Parish Assembly November 13th 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Gather, register, Pizza, salad, wine, tea, coffee then from 7:00 pm we will discuss our parish. Where we're at today, what our finances look like, where we could head with Jesus Christ, what our Parish Pastoral Council should be for the future, and your thoughts for the future.

Please put this date in your diary and come along.

International Visitor: Ron Huntley November 22nd 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm. A meal at 6:00 pm followed by time to listen to Ron, to think about his words in small groups and to share thoughts and questions.

Ron is a friend of mine and an amazingly inspiring Catholic who has lived the experience of helping parishes to become more alive in Christ, to be energised with the call to be disciples who both follow Christ and seek to share their faith gently and consistently, welcoming the grace of the Holy Spirit leading us.

Please make the time to come along—these discussions will help inform how we move forwards after our parish assembly.

Proclaim!!! 16-18 November: Have a look at joining. The 2018 Proclaim conference I went to was inspiring, I encourage you to sign up. The parish will cover the registration costs—you get a discount by using the code **parishmember** when you register.

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1131232>

To be held at the Catholic Leadership Centre, 576 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne More details at www.melbournecatholic.org.au

Over three days, the Catholic Leadership Centre will become a vibrant sojourn to inspire, engage and equip ourselves to go out and proclaim the joy of the Gospel into our local communities. Hear inspiring local and international speakers Encounter Jesus through prayer, music and fellowship. Workshops to equip ourselves for mission. Connect and celebrate our shared faith together

God bless, Fr Charles

PS: I can't be present for confessions this Saturday but you can come to the presbytery in the afternoon or before Mass.

Catholic Mission Collection: We will have a **second collection next weekend**. Please be generous. There will be a representative of Catholic Mission present after our Masses to answer your questions.



In the smallest villages around the world ... even there, you will find local missionaries who live to serve their communities. Missionaries who, led by the Holy Spirit, walk with those in most need. Missionaries like Sr Carolina.

Next week Catholic Mission will offer you the opportunity to partner with Sr Carolina and the Salesian Sisters in Venilale, Timor-Leste, where your gift can help continue a life-saving program to help address the health and well-being of this community.

We hope you will take next week's opportunity to make an incredible impact for those in need.



Free call: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/timor

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, Chris Perera
 Paul Williams, Rita Williams
 Viviana Pereira, Isabelle Hii

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Stephen Ma, Boris Klaric**MONEY COUNTERS:** Sharron Wilkinson, Iris O'Farrell**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

Robert & Dianne McHugh
 Rachel Kay, Katica Puhaj
 Maggie Yong, Nuccia La Rocca
 Margaret O'Donnell, Judy Ablaza

MORNING TEA: Maggie Yong & Agnes Fredericks**COLLECTORS**

Stephanie Ong

FLOWERS: Geraldina Donato
Mary Piccoli**NEXT WEEK 21/22 Oct**

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

LECTORS

Frances Cannizzo, Frank Ryan
 Angela Molinari, Peter Molinari
 Paola Villanueva, Luisa Yambao
 Enza Scaffidi, Alfred Ablaza

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Andy Ng, Yvonne Tan**MONEY COUNTERS:** Mal De Alwis, Anne McGrath**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

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

MORNING TEA: Maggie Yong & Agnes Fredericks**COLLECTOR**

Seleana Ng, Gerard O'Donnell

FLOWERS: 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.

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School

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.

**World Youth Day Recap**

In early August, we (Jane and Alfred) went on a pilgrimage to Fatima and participated in World Youth Day (WYD) which was held in Lisbon this year. WYD was formed by Saint John Paul II in 1984 and it is a gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope.

Reflection from Alfred

The gospel of the final mass was the transfiguration and for me, WYD was the mountain that I had climbed with Jesus. For two weeks, I visited churches, went to mass, and did daily reflections and when it was time to go home, I wanted to stay and spend every day like this. But of course, I had to come down and return to my normal routine, so amid the busyness and distractions, it becomes a challenge to remember God in my daily life. However, our Holy Father understood the challenges that we will face, so when I remember his homily, calling us to shine, to listen and to be unafraid, it gives me hope because I am not alone in my struggle and my prayer is that the Holy Spirit can guide me to be with God every day.

I also want to encourage those who have children in grade 5 and above to consider sending them to World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul because they will be able to meet more than a million young people who share the same faith. While the young adults could plan their own schedule, the archdiocese prepared a structured program so that the high school students could experience a range of WYD activities in an organised way, and I saw that a great deal of thought and care went into the planning. Guided by an adult leader, they did everything in small groups and the leaders put in a lot of TLC to make sure their charges were alright, hydrated and coping with the crowd. The leaders carried extra water for their groups, reminded them to stay under the shade and the first aiders circled the groups checking on everyone. Because I've received so much grace from WYD, and I pray that if finances and time permit, the young people of St Gregory can discover a personal meaning of being Catholic and carry this conviction into adulthood.

Please know that at Fatima, we offered up the prayers that you had given to us by burning candles in the pyre and we would also like to thank Fr Charles and you, the parish community for your prayers and encouragement, your support means a great deal to us.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) has resumed Thursday, October 12th, 7.45pm, at St Gregory's Church's. Are you, or is someone you know, interested to learn about Catholicism? About Jesus?

For more information, phone Cathy (0431 748 898) or email nmcclell@bigpond.net.au. Warm welcome assured

A Message from CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal

On behalf of everyone at CatholicCare Victoria, I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude for supporting this year's CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. We are very grateful for the **donation of \$720** from your parish. The kind and generous support from St Gregory the Great Doncaster Parish Community helps those who are most vulnerable to overcome the challenges they face, and rebuild their lives for the better. The compassion of your parish community enables CatholicCare Victoria to continue our mission to empower communities, build strength and resilience, and help everyone reach their full potential. **Thank you!**

Join us for our Combined Parishes Annual BBQ after the 10.30am Mass on the 29th October at St Gregory's, Doncaster.

There will be sausage sizzle and other fun activities for young and young at hearts. Please RSVP by the Sign Up Form at the Church Narthex or email the office Doncaster@cam.org.au. We look forward in seeing you all there! Parents please note to supervise your children at all times.

**HOUR of GRACE****Eucharistic Adoration**

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

4th SUNDAY of THE MONTH
 (22 Oct, 26 Nov 2023)
06.00 - 07.00 PM
 (after 5.00 PM Sunday Mass)

ST GREGORY THE GREAT CHURCH
 71 WILLIAMSON'S ROAD, DONCASTER

INFO Vera. doncaster@cam.org.au

Supported by



HOLY TRINITY COMMUNITY