

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

19 NOVEMBER 2023

WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT! We all have our unique gifts and talents. When we use them well, we enrich our community. We bring joy to ourselves and to others. Let us encourage each other to develop our gifts. Then, together, we will hear our Master say: 'Well done, good and faithful servants. Come and join in my happiness forever.'

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Jer 29: 11, 12, 14

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. / You will call upon me, and I will answer you, / and I will lead back your captives from every place.

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. Lord Jesus, you are the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the first born of all creation: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the head of the body, the Church: 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. Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good. 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 Prov 31: 10-13, 19-20, 30-31

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

Give her a share in what she has worked for:

A perfect wife – who can find her?

She is far beyond the price of pearls.

Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit.

Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life.

She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands.

She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle.

She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy.

Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise.

Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,

and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

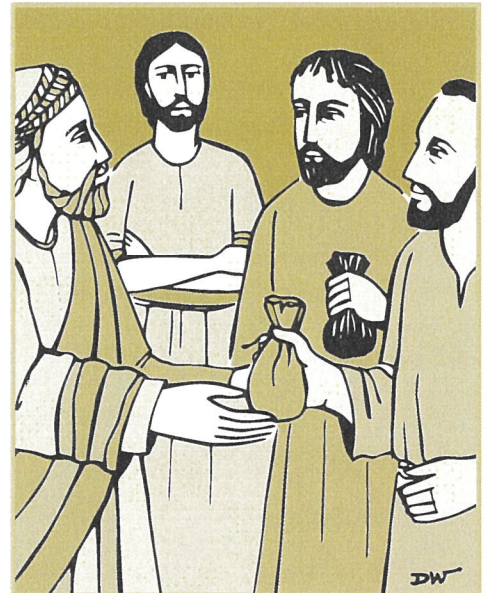
The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 127: 1-5. R. v. 1

R. Happy are those who fear the Lord.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper. **R.**
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **R.**
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Thess 5: 1-6

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

The day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night.

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 15: 4, 5

Alleluia, alleluia! / Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord; / my branches bear much fruit. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 25: 14-15, 19-21

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.

Because you have been faithful over a few things; enter into the joy of the Lord.

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Longer form, Mt 25: 14-30.

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. Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness. 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: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection 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

Ps 72: 28

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son commanded us to do in memory of him may bring us growth in charity. 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

BEING READY FOR THE DAY OF THE LORD

At first sight, it seems hard to make sense of the choice of readings for this Sunday. How are we to understand and appreciate the combination of the description of the perfect wife from the book of Proverbs, Paul's advice on the coming of the Day of the Lord, and the warning contained in Jesus' parable of the talents?

The first reading comes from a world where the role and possibilities for a woman were solely defined by her responsibility for the home. The key to understanding the reading is not the cultural expectations of the woman, limited as they were, but the qualities which mark her life – generosity, diligence, care for the poor and openness to the needy.

Paul sets out to help his community to prepare for the Lord's return by reminding them that they had no need to fear the coming of the Lord if they live good Christian lives. The most important thing is to live in the present moment well to be ready for the Lord's return.

Matthew's community is encouraged to prepare for the Day of the Lord by focusing on the need to make use of the talents and opportunities which the Lord had given them. One of the striking elements of the parable is that the tenants are judged in accordance with what they have been given on an individual basis. Like the woman in the first reading, it is not what you have but how you use it that is most important.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

18/ 19 November 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 9.30-10am. 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:

Ezek 34:11-12, 15-17, 1 Cor 15:20-26, 28, Mt 25:31-46

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 Enzo Galota, 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, Gilbert De Claro, Gabrielle Byrne, Chee Choong Seng, Chianna Sacco, Roy Dos Santos, Lilia Go, Maria Stone, Chee Mee Lian and Eliseo Pardiolo. **and for those who died recently** Patricia McLeod **and for those whose anniversaries occur about now** Fr Michael Sheehy, Elizabeth Anne Glynn, Ho & Nguyen Family, Clemente & Ivano Gatti, Cecilia See Kim Hua, Thanh Ho



From the desk of the PP ...

Parish Assembly:

Thank you to all those (about 45 people) who came along last Monday evening representing all sorts of parts of the parish: St Greg's school, many of our ministry groups,

Thank you doubly to the Parish Pastoral Council members who made the evening happen and the Social Group members who ensured the food and drinks were served.

The evening generated quite a lot of thoughts and questions. To me there seemed a good general acceptance of the path forward: a path that nurtures the existing community and seeks at the same time to reach out to others to invite people to hear the Good News, the Joy of the Gospel, the truth of Jesus Christ and his love for us.

A report is being prepared from the Assembly, including most of what was presented on the night. We hope to issue this report quite soon.

Ron Huntley:

Don't forget please to sign up for next week's discussions with Ron Huntley 22/11 6:00 pm start for food. There is no charge for the evening.

The Lovely new Gates:

There have been a few relatively minor issues with the gates. These are all being rectified as quickly as possible.

Traffic / Accidents:

There was a nasty accident on Thursday afternoon—on the corner of Williamsons Road and Bordeaux Street. A car and a van collided—it looked as though one tried to rush the turn. The van ended up on its side—traffic was almost completely blocked for about 40 minutes.

The turns from Williamsons Road into the service road and from the service road into Manningham Road are quite awkward. Please, take your time, be patient—I don't want any of you injured because you were rushing to get to church.

God bless, Fr Charles



Vibrant and Vital Parish Communities

An evening with Ron Huntley

Wednesday, 22 November 2023

6 pm – 8 pm

Dinner provided.

St Gregory the Great

71 Williamsons Rd, Doncaster



Ron Huntley is an international expert on parish renewal. He has helped parishes worldwide to build passion and get results.

Registration on templestowe@cam.org.au, or ring 98505983
doncaster@cam.org.au, or ring 94128425
20 November, 2023

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

Frank Ryan, Margaret O'Donnell
 Chris Perera, Tony Nimmo
 Amanda Stefanoski, Brendan Pon
 Jane Ma, Mary Tonti-Filippini

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Andy Ng, Yvonne Tan

MONEY COUNTERS: Maggie Yong, Christopher Lim

NEXT WEEK 25/26 Nov

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

LECTORS

Rebecca Low, Patrick Soosay
 Angela & Peter Molinari
 Bryan and Jenny Tyedin
 Stephanie Ong, Viviana Pereira

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Carole Tang, Agnes Chee

MONEY COUNTERS: Marisa Maiolo, Philip Dunlop

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Karen D'Souza, Iris O'Farrell
 Nuccia La Rocca, Margaret Wallace
 Sauro & Lilian Antonelli
 Seleana Ng, Alfred Lee

MORNING TEA: Don & Lina Pavone

COLLECTORS

Seleana Ng, Gerard O'Donnell

FLOWERS: Tessa Leung

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Robert & Dianne McHugh
 Tony Nimmo, Rachel Kay
 Tony Ting, Edith Ma
 Margaret O'Donnell, Mary Tonti Filippini

MORNING TEA: TBA

COLLECTOR

Stephanie Ong

FLOWERS: Irene Dharmawan

For those who are **Coeliac**, we can provide low gluten (<20ppm) 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.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Parish Secretary: For Job description please go to: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies/parish-secretary-st-gregory-the-great-catholic-parish>. Opens until Nov. 27th.

Mission Support Leader Operations: <https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies/mission-support-leader-operations-st-gregorys-the-great-doncaster-and-st-kevins-templestowe>

**2023 VINNIES CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

Each year we ask you, the parishioners to donate to the St Vincent de Paul Christmas appeal. As we enter Advent, we focus our thoughts prayers & actions on preparing for the coming of Jesus & the joy of Christmas. Inspired by the joy of the Gospels and our Catholic social teachings, donating to the Vinnies Christmas appeal is something we can do that will make a difference to people in need. If you are able to contribute to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal, you may do so in one of the following ways: -

- donate online by visiting vinnies.org.au - Donors can allocate donations to St Gregory the Great, Doncaster, by putting the conference name in the comments field. Receipts will be automatically emailed out to donors and all donations are tax deductible.
- donate over the phone using a credit card by calling 13 18 12 - Donors can allocate donations to St Gregory the Great, Doncaster, by giving the name of the conference over the phone.
- make a cash donation using one of the Vinnies envelopes or placing cash in the Vinnies Appeal Donation Box at the back of the church.
- donate a toy or gift card for a needy family by taking a request label from the Christmas tree & buying a gift relevant to that label. Please do not wrap gifts.

This year the appeal will take place on November 25th & 26th. Members of our Conference will be available after each Masses to collect donations or answer any questions about the Vinnies & their work. We are looking to recruit new members so if you have a few hours a month to spare & you would like to directly help those in need, please speak to one of our members. We would welcome you to the Conference meeting and invite you to see if this work is something you might consider.

Landings Program begins February 2024!

If you or someone you know is thinking of returning to church regularly after a time away, please let us know. **LANDINGS** is an eight-week program that offers "a safe place to land," a place for listening and for being heard, a place for asking questions and for reconnecting with the faith as

an adult. We begin our first session at St Kevin's on 21 February 2024. If you or someone you know are interested, please leave a message for the Landings Team at the parish office on 03 9412 8425 or doncaster@cam.org.au for more information.

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.



Global Gifts Christmas cards are a great way to spread joy and hope this Christmas season and to make a life-changing impact.

www.globalgifts.org.au

Give a gift card that represents a donation



Welcome to the family of *Sylvia Choon Yan Lee* who will be baptised at St Gregory The Great Church this Sunday.

COME AWAY DAY AT HOLY CROSS RETREAT CENTRE, TEMPLESTOWE

The Come Away Days program resumes at Holy Cross on **Tuesday 28 November**. The theme of the day is, "**Bring forth hope.**" The days program provides opportunities for prayer, reflection and group interaction in the peaceful grounds and facilities of Holy Cross. What a wonderful opportunity such days offer us to prepare for the Advent season and the gift of Christmas. You are invited to support the day financially according to your means, using \$25.00 per person as a guide. All are welcome. BYO lunch. Registration is from 9.30am. The day concludes after lunch with a celebration of the Eucharist. For further details contact Frank Burke, burke.frank942@yahoo.com.au or 0407998781.



ST GREGORY THE GREAT
 DONCASTER &
 ST KEVIN'S TEMPLESTOWE
 INVITE YOU TO
 JOIN US FOR OUR



Christmas
Party **3 DEC**

AFTER THE SUNDAY 5PM MASS
 AT THE PARISH HALL, CHURCH OF
 ST GREGORY THE GREAT DONCASTER

FOOD AND DRINKS ARE PROVIDED. PARENTS AND CARERS ARE REQUESTED TO PLEASE SUPERVISE YOUR CHILDREN AT ALL TIMES.

RAFFLE TICKETS WILL BE SOLD BEFORE THE EVENT AND DRAWN ON THE NIGHT. PROCEEDS GO TO NUNGALINYA THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE.

PROGRAM FOR THE NIGHT INCLUDES SING-ALONG CAROLS AND FUN ACTIVITIES PLUS A SPECIAL APPEARANCE BY SANTA WITH TREATS FOR KIDS!

RSVP: Please use sign up sheets at church or email doncaster@cam.org.au or templestowe@cam.org.au.