

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

PASSION (PALM) SUNDAY / B

24 MARCH 2024

THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS. We see ourselves in the crowds who cried 'Hosanna to the Son of David' one day and 'Crucify him' just a few days later. Like Peter and the other disciples we can be fickle followers of Jesus. We should not, however, imitate Judas and despair at our infidelity. Rather, we should look to Jesus who allowed his blood to be poured out for many 'for the forgiveness of sins'. Let us praise him with grateful hearts.

## COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM

### THE PROCESSION

*The priest greets the people, blesses the branches and sprinkles them with holy water; The Gospel (Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16) is then read.*

*Before the procession the priest may say these or similar words:*

P. Dear brethren (brothers and sisters),  
like the crowds who acclaimed Jesus in Jerusalem,  
let us go forth in peace.

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

cf. Jn 12: 1, 12-13; Ps 23: 9-10

**Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out:**

**“Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!**

**O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.**

**“Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!**

*The Gloria is omitted.*

### COLLECT

P. Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. 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 50: 4-7

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

*I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.*

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied, he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my

cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**RESP PSALM** Ps 21: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R. v. 2

**R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

1. All who see me deride me. / They curl their lips, they toss their heads. / 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him: / let him release him if this is his friend.' **R.**

2. Many dogs have surrounded me, / a band of the wicked beset me. / They tear holes in my hands and my feet, / I can count every one of my bones. **R.**

3. They divide my clothing among them. / They cast lots for my robe. / O Lord, do not leave me alone, / my strength, make haste to help me! **R.**

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren / and praise you where they are assembled. / 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; / all sons of Jacob, give him glory. / Revere him, Israel's sons.' **R.**

### SECOND READING

Phil 2: 6-11

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians**

*He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.*

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Phil 2: 8-9

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! / Christ became obedient for us even to death, / dying on the cross. / Therefore God raised him on high / and gave him a name above all other names. /**



**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!**

### GOSPEL

Mk 15: 1-39

(**N.** Narrator **J.** Jesus **O.** Other single speaker  
**C.** Crowd, or more than one other speaker)

**N.** The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

**N.** First thing in the morning, the chief priests together with the elders and scribes, in short the whole Sanhedrin, had their plan ready. They had Jesus bound and took him away and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate questioned him,

**O.** Are you the king of the Jews?

**N.** He answered,

**J.** It is you who say it.

**N.** And the chief priests brought many accusations against him. Pilate questioned him again,

**O.** Have you no reply at all? See how many accusations they are bringing against you!

**N.** But to Pilate's amazement, Jesus made no further reply.

At festival time Pilate used to release a prisoner for them, anyone they asked for. Now a man called Barabbas was then in prison with the rioters who had committed murder during the uprising. When the crowd went up and began to ask Pilate the customary favour, Pilate answered them,

**O.** Do you want me to release for you the king of the Jews?

**N.** For he realised it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed Jesus over. The chief priests, however, had incited the crowd to demand that he should release Barabbas for them instead. Then Pilate spoke again,

**O.** But in that case, what am I to do with the man you call king of the Jews?

**N.** They shouted back,

**C.** Crucify him!



- N. Pilate asked them,  
 O. Why? What harm has he done?  
 N. But they shouted all the louder,  
 C. Crucify him!  
 N. So Pilate, anxious to placate the crowd, released Barabbas for them and, having ordered Jesus to be scourged, handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led him away to the inner part of the palace, that is, the Praetorium, and called the whole cohort together. They dressed him up in purple, twisted some thorns into a crown and put it on him. And they began saluting him,

- C. Hail, king of the Jews!  
 N. They struck his head with a reed and spat on him; and they went down on their knees to do him homage. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the purple and dressed him in his own clothes.

They led him out to crucify him. They enlisted a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, father of Alexander and Rufus, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross. They brought Jesus to the place called Golgotha, which means the place of the skull.

They offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he refused it. Then they crucified him, and shared out his clothing, casting lots to decide what each should get. It was the third hour when they crucified him. The inscription giving the charge against him read: 'The King of the Jews.' And they crucified two robbers with him, one on his right and one on his left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said,

- C. Aha! So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself: come down from the cross!  
 N. The chief priests and the scribes mocked him among themselves in the same way. They said,  
 C. He saved others, he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, for us to see it and believe.  
 N. Even those who were crucified with him taunted him.

When the sixth hour came there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

- J. Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?  
 N. This means 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood by heard this they said,  
 C. Listen, he is calling on Elijah.  
 N. Someone ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink saying,  
 O. Wait and see if Elijah will come to take him down.

- N. But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

*All kneel and pause a moment*

And the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion, who was standing in front of him, had seen how he had died, and he said,

- O. In truth this man was a son of God.  
*The longer form of this passion narrative may be read: Mk 14:1-15:47*

## 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. Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord, may our reconciliation with you be near at hand, so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds, yet by this sacrifice made once for all, we may feel already the effects of your mercy. 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 OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

*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 sin 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 Mt 26: 4

**Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, just as through the death of your Son you have brought us to hope for what we believe, so by his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call. 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 forth, the Mass is ended.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

## A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year B

23/24 March 2024

### Parish Office:

Hours: **Mon—Fri 9.00am to 3.30pm**

Tel: **9412 8425**

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

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

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

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

Acts 10: 34, 37-43, Ps 117: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23, Col 3: 1-4, Jn 20: 1-9

**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 Lily Lee, Giovanna Bernadeo, Tony Aloï, Clifford Bunardi, Sarina Louise Walker, Huan Sun, Nancy Au, Elsie Poon, Patricia Luk, Shirley Freeman, Balwinder Kaur, Michael Mullens, Enzo Galota, Jason Khoo, Liam Fitzpatrick, Anne Credlin, Nola Tibaldi, Vladimira Sabolic, Brian Croft, Maria Tomasello, John Shew, Rena Sacco, Judy Jones, 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**

**and for those whose anniversaries occur about now** Agnes Conte, Winifred Perrin, Pietro Tomasello



### Words from PP,

It is always humbling to spend time with children, and I have had several opportunities to do that this week.

Two celebrations at which children from the three schools and two catechist groups participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. Two sessions of Question and Answer with children—one group was Grade 1 and one was Grades 3 & 4.

I can't tell you anything about the content of the Sacrament of course. But I can tell you that it is amazing how insightful children are about right and wrong; about knowing deep down that something happens that separates us when we sin. We used the story of Zacchaeus as the touchstone for reflecting on sin and forgiveness: and the children were able to see deeply into the story and understand the links between Zacchaeus and sin and the need for confessing our sins; doing something to start us on a new path of life (penance); and forgiveness.

The question and answer sessions showed a different insightfulness. I have never thought to ask. What did Pontius Pilate, Ananias, Caiaphas, Herod Antipas die of? (Just about the only question I've ever been asked I couldn't answer properly.) Did Jesus have to die? Why did Jesus fall (while carrying his cross)? What did Veronica say to Jesus as she wiped his face? Jesus was laid in a tomb, why did you say he was buried? (such subtle distinctions of language, but important).

And then separately, we had a session on Wednesday evening to discuss what we might say in a two page / seven point submission about the Synod on being a Synodal Church. I put forward the Q&A sessions as an example of being synodal—listening, allowing silence for God to speak, walking together searching for truth under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. That is what happened! If you reflect on it—the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a synodal journey as well: a journey with Christ Jesus, a journey of trust and openness, inspired by / guided by the Holy Spirit.

One week till Easter. A journey from Hosannah! Hosannah! to Crucify him!! From adulation through death to full belief: "He IS alive! Resurrection." We are called to walk this week listening with open ears and heart; allowing silence—time with Father, Son, Holy Spirit, allowing space for God to communicate; knowing that what we are seeking is Truth—the truth that lies in Christ Jesus our Lord. Does that sound synodal? It should because it is.

*God bless, Fr Charles*



### LENT- EASTER TIMETABLE 2024 St Gregory the Great Doncaster

Every Friday during Lent:  
**Stations of the Cross at 7.00pm**

27th March Wednesday: **Communal Penance Service (with individual absolution)** at 7.30pm (at St Greg's also for St Kevin's)

23rd/24th March: **Palm Sunday** – Masses as per usual

28th March: **Holy Thursday** – Mass at 7.30pm

29th March: **Good Friday** – Stations of the Cross at 10.00am  
**Passion of our Lord at 3.00pm**

**30th March: Easter Vigil Mass at 8.30pm**

31st March: **Easter Sunday** – Masses at 9.00am, 10.30am & 5.00pm

*St Gregory's Child Safety Culture—Got some thoughts? Let us know, we want to hear.*



<b><u>THIS WEEK</u></b> Sat 6.00pm Sun 9.00am Sun 10.30am Sun 5.00pm		<b><u>LECTORS</u></b> Rebecca Law, Patrick Soosay Tony Nimmo, Ray Lewis Aditya Hendarto, Mary Stocco Stephanie Ong, Viviana Pereira	<b><u>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</u></b> Robert & Dianne McHugh Rebecca Raymond Fred & Agnes Fulia Margaret O'Donnell, Judy Ablaza <b><u>MORNING TEA:</u></b> Karen and Amanda	<b><u>COLLECTORS</u></b>  Maggie Yong Stephanie Ong <b><u>FLOWERS:</u></b> N/A
<b><u>CARE OF THE CHURCH:</u></b> Andy Ng, Yvonne Tan <b><u>MONEY COUNTERS:</u></b> Surin Fernando, Maggie Yong				
<b><u>HOLY WEEK</u></b> Thu 7.30pm    Holy Thursday Fri 3.00pm    Good Friday		<b><u>LECTORS</u></b> St Gregory School Children <b>1st Reading:</b> Margaret Wallace <b>2nd Reading:</b> Michael Ong <b>Passion:</b> Sauro A, Gril Job, Chris Perera, Erin Djukiadmojo <b>Veneration of The Cross:</b> Gerard & Margaret O'Donnell, Mary Tonti, Rob Rukavina,	<b><u>MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST</u></b> Caterina Gioffre, Lorna Philip, Edith Ma Iris O'Farrell, Lilian Antonelli, Dai Sim, Fred & Agnes Fulia	<b><u>Collectors:</u></b> Iris O'Farrell
Sat 8.30pm    Easter Vigil		Peter Whiting, Noel Anthony, Dot Haynes, Natalie De Silva	Lorna Philip, Robert McHugh Sharron Wilkinson, Dianne McHugh	<b><u>Collectors:</u></b> Robert & Dianne McHugh, Peter Brandon
Sun 09.00am    Easter Sunday		Michael See, Rachel Kay	Katica Puhali, Tony Nimmo	<b><u>Collectors:</u></b> Philip Dunlop
Sun 10.30am    Easter Sunday		Amanda Stefanovski, Karen Chay	Dai Sim, Lucy Giardino	<b><u>Collectors:</u></b> Michael Wong, Teresa Wong
Sun 5.00pm    Easter Sunday		Dot Haynes, Jane Ma	Robert Rukavina Alfred Lee, Mary Tonti-Filippini	
<b><u>CARE OF THE CHURCH:</u></b> Stephen Ma, Boris Klaric <b><u>MONEY COUNTERS:</u></b> Christopher Lim, Marisa Maiolo		<b><u>MORNING TEA:</u></b> TBA		<b><u>FLOWERS:</u></b> Geraldina Donato Mary Piccoli

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.

Help is needed to keep our church looking clean and welcoming. If you would like to become a "heavenly duster" please contact the parish office on 9412 8425 or [doncaster@cam.org.au](mailto:doncaster@cam.org.au). We only have 2-3 persons on the Roster and would love to have extra hands on Friday or Saturday mornings. It usually takes around 2 hours. If you can't make those days please let the Office know and we can open the Church on different days.



**Palm Sunday  
23 & 24 March**

As Project Compassion 2024 comes to an end, we want to thank you for your incredibly generous support throughout Lent.

This year, we shared with you the story of three inspiring women from across the globe, who overcame challenges to complete their education, access water and find secure employment. With the support of compassionate people like you, they are now forging a path to a better future for their families and their communities. There is still time to donate! Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow, for all future generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or by calling 1800 024 413.



### St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School

**School Open Day 26th March 2024, 9.30-11am.** 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](mailto:st.gregoryhall3108@gmail.com) and Jess will get back to you.

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

### EASTER VIGIL MASS

We will serve Hot Cross Bun and Sherry after the 8.30 pm Easter Vigil Mass on the 30th of March, Saturday.

**Note:** Parents please supervise your children at all times and be mindful of any food allergens.



### HOLY LAND COLLECTION GOOD FRIDAY 29th April 2024

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, 29th March 2024. Each year, the Good Friday Holy Land Collection supports

Christian people living difficult lives in countries far from our shores, and also provides for the upkeep of sacred places of pilgrimage. This year we are once again invited to give generously to the collection, which will be taken up in our parishes on Good Friday. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing. The annual collection

for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, 29th March 2024. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday. Thank you.