

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

24 SEPTEMBER 2023

MY WAYS ARE ABOVE YOUR WAYS. Those who had laboured in the vineyard all day were angry when the owner paid the latecomers the same wage. Like the story of the prodigal son, this parable reminds us that the kingdom of heaven is not characterised by our limited concepts of justice but by a compassion that knows no limits. May we not be envious at the good fortune of others but rejoice that we too are loved deeply by God.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

### ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

**I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.**

**Should they cry to me in any distress,  
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord  
for ever.**

### 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. O God, who founded all the commands  
of your sacred Law upon love of you and  
of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your  
precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life.  
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 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*My thoughts are not your thoughts.*

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,  
call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way,  
the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take  
pity on him,

to our God who is rich in forgiving;  
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who  
speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth  
as my ways are above your ways,  
my thoughts above your thoughts.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### RESP PSALM

Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18. R. v. 18

**R. The Lord is near to all who call him.**

1. I will bless you day after day / and praise  
your name for ever. / The Lord is great,  
highly to be praised, / his greatness cannot  
be measured. **R.**

2. The Lord is kind and full of  
compassion, / slow to anger, abounding  
in love. / How good is the Lord to all, /  
compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

3. The Lord is just in all his ways / and  
loving in all his deeds. / He is close to all  
who call him, / who call on him from their  
hearts. **R.**

### SECOND READING

Phil 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Philippians

*For me to live is Christ.*

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether  
by my life or by my death. Life to me, of  
course, is Christ, but then death would bring



me something more; but then again, if living  
in this body means doing work which is  
having good results – I do not know what I  
should choose. I am caught in this dilemma:  
I want to be gone and be with Christ, which  
would be very much the better, but for me to  
stay alive in this body is a more urgent need  
for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that  
would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Acts 16:14

**Alleluia, alleluia! / Open our hearts,  
O Lord, / to listen to the words of your  
Son. / Alleluia!**

### GOSPEL

Mt 20:1-16

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.**

*Why are you jealous because I am generous?*

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom  
of heaven is like a landowner going out at  
daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He  
made an agreement with the workers for one  
denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard.  
Going out at about the third hour he saw  
others standing idle in the market place and  
said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and  
I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At  
about the sixth hour and again at about the  
ninth hour, he went out and did the same.  
Then at about the eleventh hour he went out  
and found more men standing round, and he  
said to them, "Why have you been standing  
here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired  
us" they answered. He said to them, "You



go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

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. Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray, the offerings of your people, that what they profess with devotion and faith may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries. 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 Ps 118:4-5

**You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Graciously raise up, O Lord, those you renew with this Sacrament, that we may come to possess your redemption both in mystery and in the manner of our life. 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.**

## BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

### GOD'S WAYS ARE NOT OURS

One of the misconceptions that Christians often have about the Old Testament is that God is portrayed as harsh and unforgiving. We are all too used to contrasting the Old Testament view of God and the loving Father of Jesus that emerges in his teaching and ministry. It is important to remember that it was the Hebrew Scriptures that shaped Jesus' own understanding of God as a loving father.

The first reading from Isaiah clearly challenges misconceptions we might have that the God of Israel is not merciful. Isaiah encourages the wicked to change their ways precisely because God's ways are not ours. While we might tend to punish, God's mercy reveals a sovereignty that is often beyond our grasp and understanding. Jesus' parable of the owner of the vineyard who deals with all the workers in an even-handed and generous manner is, or can be, just as challenging for us to comprehend. Sinners who repent, and those who have always been devout, will all receive the same reward. Indeed, God's ways are far from those of our world.

Paul finds himself in a quandary. He knows that God is a loving God, and his ultimate desire is to be with God. On the other hand, he knows how his fledgling community in Philippi needs his presence and support. Caught between the good of caring for the Philippian community and that of wanting to finish his journey to be with the Lord, he wrestles and struggles with what is best. In the end, the problem is resolved because he knows his reward lies before him. In the meantime, there is still much work to be done.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

23/ 24 September 2023

## Parish Office:

Hours: **Mon—Fri 9.30am to 3.30pm**

Tel: **9412 8425**

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



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



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

Website: [www.stgregs.org.au](http://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/Thu 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:** 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Ezek 18:25-28; Phil 2:1-11; Mt 21:28-32

**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 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**  
Angelo and Maria Bandiera.  
And we pray for Sr. Maria Perera on her  
Birthday Remembrance.



From the Desk of the PP:

Since March 2022 we have been praying for Ukraine for the end of the unjust invasion and war perpetrated by Russia. We have also included a sampling of other countries at war. Several people have reasonably asked why their country is not included. I have re-written the prayer to more explicitly cover all violent conflicts, reverting to listing only Ukraine because it is by far the largest war and most threatening to the world as a whole.

To cover 'your country', all countries where conflict abounds, remember that our prayer includes those listed here and any I have missed:

**10,000 or more combat deaths in past year**

Ukraine, Myanmar, Maghreb area, Mexican drug war, Ethiopia, Sudan

**1—9999**

Columbia, Afghanistan, Somalia, Congo/Uganda insurgency, Nigeira communities, Ituri, Iraq, Kivu/Congo-Rwanda, South Sudan/Sudan nomads, Boko Haram Nigeria, Syria, Nigerian Bandits, Yemen, FRG9 Haiti.

**100-999,**

Kurdish separatism in Iran, Jamaica politics, Indo-Pakistan Kashmiri insurgency, Israeli-Palestine (antisemitic terrorism), Balochistan insurgency, NE India insurgencies, Papua, Phillipines New People's Army and drugs, Kurdish-Turkish, Nagorno-Karabakh, Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Pakistan, Lybia, Sinai Egypt, Centra African Republic, Northern Chad, Cabo Delgado, Cameroon anglophone crisis, Bangladesh drug war, Salvadoran gangs, Las Anod Somaliland.

And there are 14 other countries with "skirmishes and clashes."

Plus there are religious oppression conflicts such as in Iran where to follow a faith other than Islam is strongly suppressed. And then if one wishes we can include the seeming war on life itself with deaths through euthanasia and the millions through abortion.

Total combat deaths 2023 so far: >200,000 combatants, ~60% Ukraine.

We pray for those affected by natural disasters, most recently Morocco and Lybia. But there are many disasters and the fall out of the news but should not fall out of our prayers:

China Floods, Atlantic Hurricanes, NE US Floods, Nth American wildfires, Cyclone Mocha (Myanmar/Bangladesh), US Tornadoes, California storms, Turkiya-Syria Earthquake, Pakistan Floods, Humanitarian Crises due to natural and human factors: Sudan, Syria, Horn of Africa, Ukriane, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Venezuela, Yemen. Other complex emergencies.

Yes, we pray for the people of Ukraine. Yes we pray for the people of Morocco and Lybia. But when we make this prayer we ask God to be generous and loving for all who are suffering. *God bless, Fr Charles*

Father Charles and a number of St Gregory's and St Kevin's Liturgical Ministers are heading to the Liturgical Conference in Brisbane next week.

The conference theme speaks to the reality that liturgy, well-celebrated, leads to an encounter with Christ in the liturgical event, and thereby inspires members of the Body of Christ to continue the mission of the Church through dynamic expression in their daily lives.

Let us pray for them that will be nourished and inspired to learn, to grow, to expand their horizons to better serve our Church Communities.

**Please note there will be NO Reconciliations on Saturday, 30th September and NO Weekday Masses on Thursday (28th September at St Kevin's) and Friday (29th September at St Gregory's next week.**

*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**

Robert McHugh, Frances Cannizzo  
 Rachel Kay, Philip Dunlop  
 Brendan Pon, Rob Rukavina  
 Isabelle Hii, Benedicta Wong

**CARE OF THE CHURCH:** Andy Ng, Yvonne Tan**MONEY COUNTERS:** Philip Dunlop, Marisa Maiolo**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

Moir White, Katica Puhaj  
 Ray & Kay Lewis  
 TBA  
 Alfred Lee, Seleana Ng

**MORNING TEA:** TBA**COLLECTORS**

Alfred Lee  
 Geraldina Donato  
 Mary Piccoli

**NEXT WEEK 30Sep/ 1 Oct**

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

**LECTORS**

Joseph Philip, Lorna Philip  
 Ray Lewis, Kay Lewis  
 Jenny Tyedin, Brian Tyedin  
 Thomas Ong, Jane Ma

**CARE OF THE CHURCH:** Carole Tang, Agnes Chee**MONEY COUNTERS:** Maria Verrochi, Marion See**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

Robert McHugh, Sharron Wilkinson  
 Tony Nimmo  
 Robert Rukavina, Dai Sim  
 Judy Ablaza, Viviana Pereira

**MORNING TEA:** TBA**COLLECTOR**

Gerard O'Donnell

**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.

**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.

### ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT CATHOLICISM? LEARNING MORE ABOUT JESUS?

*Are you, or is someone you know, curious about this?*  
 The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) will soon begin its next series of meetings for St Gregory's & St Kevin's parishes at St Gregory's Church. For more information, phone Cathy (0431 748 898) or leave contact details with the parish office (9412 8425) or speak with Fr Charles. Warm welcome assured.



### MARCH FOR THE B/ BIES 2023

Come join thousands in our peaceful walk through Melbourne's CBD, to protest against the horrors of full-term abortion in Victoria. Help us speak out against this law and celebrate all life!

OCTOBER 7TH, 1PM START

Meeting at Treasury Gardens,  
 corner of Spring Street and  
 Wellington Parade



### St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School

For a School Tour or next Open Day dates please contact the School Office on 98484483.

## ST PETER CLAVER'S MISSION FAIR

SATURDAY 14 October

9.00 am – 2.30 pm

MISSIONARY SISTERS OF ST PETER CLAVER

154 COTHAM ROAD, KEW VIC. 3101

COME AND ENJOY THE DAY  
 WHILE SUPPORTING THE MISSIONS

For further information please telephone: 9817 3715

### World Day of Migrants and Refugees is on Sunday, 24 September.

The theme of Pope Francis; message for this year is:  
**Freedom to choose whether to migrate or to stay.**



Are you interested in thinking a little more deeply about your faith?

Evangelisation Brisbane's 'Going Deeper' weekly podcast is all about getting to the heart of what it means to be Catholic. "Beneath what we do and what we say (as Catholics), and beneath all the tenets of the Catholic faith... at the core of it is a 'why', and a reason, and the reason is a person and the person is Jesus"

The last four podcast conversations have been with Bishop Tim Norton (Auxiliary Bishop of Brisbane). Bishop Tim originally trained as a physiotherapist. The podcast conversations, hosted by Shane Dwyer, are relaxed and organic and most enjoyable!  
<https://podcasts.apple.com/au/podcast/going-deeper/id1632984729>

## HOUR OF GRACE



### Eucharistic Adoration

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

4th SUNDAY of THE MONTH  
 (24 Sept, 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

### We Need Altar Servers!!

Do you know that your child doesn't have to be a student at St Gregory the Great school to become one of our Altar Servers? We are recruiting new & previous Altar Servers for our Masses at St Gregory the Great. Training will commence in October.

#### Why Altar Serving!

Serving God as an altar server is a wonderful way for a child to grow in faith as well as in responsibility, friendship, and other virtues. As well as to grow in respect and understanding of the Mass.

If your children have received their First Communion and would like to take part in this very special Ministry please email the office Doncaster@cam.org.au.

