

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

27 AUGUST 2023

WHO DO YOU SAY I AM? Jesus asks his disciples this question in today's Gospel. He asks us the same question. He is not seeking a textbook response or for us to repeat what others have said about him. He wants to hear our personal response. May we answer his question as truthfully as possible, and then listen as he speaks to us.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 85:1-3

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God.

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

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 cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. 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 22:19-23

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.

Thus says the Lord of hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace:

I dismiss you from your office,
I remove you from your post,
and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah.
I invest him with your robe,
gird him with your sash,
entrust him with your authority;
and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah.

I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder;
should he open, no one shall close,
should he close, no one shall open.
I drive him like a peg into a firm place;
he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

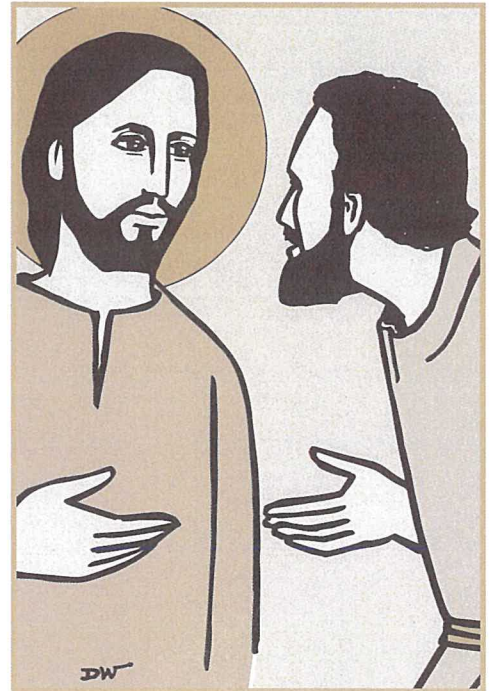
The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 137:1-3, 6, 8. R. v. 8

R. Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

1. I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, / you have heard the words of my mouth. / Before the angels I will bless you. / I will adore before your holy temple. **R.**
2. I thank you for your faithfulness and love / which excel all we ever knew of you. / On the day I called, you answered; / you increased the strength of my soul. **R.**



3. The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly / and the haughty he knows from afar. / Your love, O Lord, is eternal, / discard not the work of your hands. **R.**

SECOND READING Rom 11:33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

From him, through him, and in him are all things.

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 16:18

Alleluia, alleluia! / You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church / the gates of hell will not hold out against it. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mt 16:13-20

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.

You are Peter, to you I will give the keys of the kingdom of heaven.

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

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. O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered once for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your Church. 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 103:13-15

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you. 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

GOD CAN WORK THROUGH FRAILTY

Some years ago, a group of scholars from various Christian traditions examined the role of Peter that emerges from the New Testament. Despite the diversity in the texts and the traditions represented by the scholars themselves, there was general agreement that Peter played a critical role in the birth of early Christianity. While the New Testament writers stress his importance, they never avoid facing the complex reality of the man himself. Peter was the rock that crumbled and cracked under pressure when confronted after Jesus' arrest. Nonetheless, after the resurrection his faith did not waver, and he would justify Jesus' belief and trust in him.

In the concluding section of Romans 11, Paul is led to praise God for the unexpected ways in which God's saving plan for all humanity had come to fruition. While some in Israel had not come to believe in Jesus this had opened the way for the Gentiles. Gentile Christians had become the unforeseen means by which some of the people of Israel would be prompted to accept Jesus as the Messiah. Paul invites the Christians of Rome to join with him in wonder at the ingenious ways in which God always opens a new possibility for us, often despite ourselves.

That God can work through the frailty of Peter and the hardness of heart of some of the people of Israel can serve as a source of encouragement for us all. Rather than leave us disheartened God's word provides us with a firm basis for hope.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

26/ 27 August 2023

Parish Office:

Hours: **Mon—Fri 9.30am to 3.30pm**

Tel: **9412 8425**

Email: Doncaster@cam.org.au

Follow us on: [@StGregsDonny](https://twitter.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 (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 Covic-19, etc..

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jer 20:7-9, Rom 12:1-2 Mt 16:21-27

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 Elva Mason, Vladimira Sabolic, Moira White, Maria Tomasello, Brian Croft, John Shew, Rena Sacco, Clifford Bunardi, Tom Moleta, Rosa Aloj, Umberto Gianello, Michael Mullens, Judy Jones, Luke Kakoschke, 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, Chee Choong Seng, Chianna Sacco, Roy Dos Santos, Lilia Go, Maria Stone, Chee Mee Lian, Eliseo Pardillo, Siat Lin, Vincent Aloj, Margaret Dobran, Andrew Wilson, Wang Wei Qiao, Paul Materazzo, Ian Angus, Eliasari and Dennis Clarke.

And for those who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur about now Ettore Conigliaro, Giuseppe & Enza Spera, Lance Batchelder, Carlito Gonzalez, Carmela Giordano, Giovanni Li Rossi, John Bey

From the keyboard of Fr Charles:

Hello and welcome again to St Greg's!

Why am I welcoming you to your parish?

Because as the leader, the parish priest, I want to say I love that you respond to God's call, to Jesus Christ calling you. I love that you come together seeking to be the community that is the presence of Jesus Christ. And I welcome you to his table.

It is so easy to become accustomed to each other, to cease truly seeing each other.

So welcome and thank you for your faith.

Gates: you will have noticed the small typo last week. An intended 'pm' came out as 'am'. Once operational, and for some months after the beginning of operation, the gates will be open:

6 am to 10 am and 2 pm to 10 pm during the week and 6 am to 10 pm on weekends. These times may shift just a little but this is what we plan. We are working through who needs access codes/keys, and the final programming—then we will go LIVE. There is one item still to be completed: the signage—but that is getting close.

Second Collections EFTPOS:

Second Collections: I have been caught out again assuming something. Second collections don't just happen, they need clear announcement ahead of time. We can fix up the collections we missed. In future, we will have announce ahead and make sure they happen.

We have an EFTPOS machine, so if you want to make a Credit Card donation, or when buying from the Piety Stall: just ask and we can get the machine and receive your donation. We simply need your card and the amount you wish to give. Catch me or the sacristan and we can organise things. It will take a few goes to get everyone knowledgeable but hopefully this option will make things easier if you are not on envelopes or direct giving.

God bless, and thank you for your care for me, *Fr Charles*

Social Justice Action

St Kevin's Parish, Templestowe

Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement for 2023-2024 released - what do you think of it? This weekend we celebrate Social Justice Sunday. The Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement for 2023-2024, *Listen, Learn, Love: a New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples* is being distributed to church communities, and among other things will give more background to the Referendum on the Voice. The Statement will be available in Parishes and is also available on St Kevin's Parish website Social Justice Action Page together with a 6 minute video of its Foreword, but here is a quick summary: At the heart of the Social Justice Statement is a section by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Community, NATSICC, explaining why the Uluru Statement is asking for a Voice to parliament as a further positive step to help overcome acute disadvantage and promote progressive engagement with our First Peoples. The bishops well know there are differences of view about the referendum and that Australians are free in good conscience to vote as they see fit. At the same time the bishops are highlighting the urgent moral issues involved, so as to allow our Indigenous people the same rights and opportunities other Australians enjoy, as we also collectively look ahead to a more unified and productive future for Australia.- *John Costa*

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, Alvin Priyana
Philip Dunlop, Queenie Wood
Brian Tyedin, Jenny Tyedin
Stephanie Ong, Alfred Ablaza

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Andy Ng, Yvonne Tan

MONEY COUNTERS: Surin Fernando, Ray Lewis

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Moira White, Lorna Philip
Ray & Kay Lewis
Fred & Agnes Fulia
Seleana Ng, Judy Ablaza

MORNING TEA: Brian & Jenny Tyedin

COLLECTORS

Alfred Lee

FLOWERS: Tessa Leung

NEXT WEEK 2/3 Sep

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

LECTORS

Alvin Priyana, Frank Ryan
Philip Dunlop, Margaret Wallace
Tony Ting, Paola Villanueva
Dot Haynes, Thomas Ong

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Carole Tang, Agnes Chee

MONEY COUNTERS: Surin Fernando, Ray Lewis

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Noel & Cathy McClelland
Joan Dinneen, Tony Nimmo
Pierre Tanzimat, Lucy Giardino
Seleana Ng, Tina Paolino

MORNING TEA: Mike & Luisa Yambao

COLLECTOR

Alfred Lee

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.

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School

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

Ageing and Living Well

109 Wood St, Templestowe
Manningham Uniting Church & Community Centre
August 26, 2023, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm.
Cost is \$10 (including Morning Tea)

How can we, in the 21st Century, take advantage of the vast amount of knowledge around healthy ageing? Come and hear from experts in the fields of Geriatric Health and Rehabilitation, Nutrition, Exercise and Legal Considerations as we encourage ourselves and our family members to age well and to live well.

Keynote speaker is Dr Kwong Teo who has expertise in Rehabilitation Consultation and Geriatric Health. Dr Teo is the Rehabilitation Medicine Consultant at Alfred Health and Cabrini Health. Previously, Staff Geriatrician and Deputy Medical Program Director of Aged Care and Rehabilitation at Monash Health.

More info 03 9846 2012 or info@manninghamuc.org.

Memorial Wall Plaques

As in previous years at the end of September we will place a parish order for new plaques to be mounted on the wall of the Memorial Garden. The plaques are 135mm x 75mm & have standard printing limited to 6 lines. The cost of the plaque is \$250.00. If you would like to order one, please email the parish office to obtain an order form Doncaster@cam.org.au. The order need to be placed by **15th September 2023**.



The Sisters of Saint Joseph have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" commencing in Melbourne on 17 October, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on 28 October 2023. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. Brochure is available on the Notice Board in the Church Foyer. Further information: national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au or on 02 89124818.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP



Fathers' Day Appeal:

Next Sunday being Father's Day there will be a second collection at all Masses for the support of the retired priests of the Archdiocese or Melbourne. There are envelopes on the seats and on the tables in the foyer. Please take an envelope home & bring it back next week with a considered donation. Or you can do so electronically by logging on to: www.melbournecatholic.org.au/foundation and make your donation through Paypal. Thank you for your generous support of the Retired Priests.



The Rosters are out!!

The Liturgical Ministries, Flowers and Care for the Church Rosters are out and sent out to volunteers. Please contact the Office if you haven't receive yours or need to update your details. Thank you for your Ministries.



TOBIN BROTHERS
FUNERALS
Celebrating Lives
FOR OVER 80 YEARS

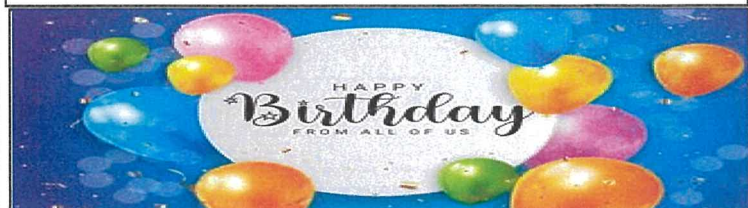
Have you ever wondered what is involved with pre-arranging a funeral?...

You are invited to a Q&A: Pre-Paid and Pre-Arranged Funerals to assist you in making an informed decision and to answer all your questions about the process and benefits of pre-paying and pre-arranging a funeral

Please join us for an information session and high tea on Wednesday 13th September at 2:30pm

at Tobin Brothers Funerals, 816 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

Registration required before 8th September to: info@tobinbrothers.com.au or phone (03) 9373 7000



We wish Bishop Les a birthday filled with God's blessings. We thank God for the gift of your faith-filled life, and we pray that the Holy Spirit will strengthen you as you continue to serve God. Have a blessed Birthday Bishop Les!!