

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT / B

3 MARCH 2024

I AM THE LORD, YOUR GOD. The Ten Commandments are as valid today as when they were first given by God to Moses on Mt Sinai. They teach us how to live in right relationship with God and with one another. If we seek to live by the Commandments we will avoid the trap of materialism, of being more concerned with buying, selling, and making money, than with loving God and our neighbour.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 24: 15-16

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

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. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

R. For we have sinned against you.

P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

R. And grant us your salvation.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

V. Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

V. Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

The Gloria is not said during Lent.

COLLECT

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness,
who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving
have shown us a remedy for sin,
look graciously on this confession of our
lowliness,
that we, who are bowed down by our
conscience,
may always be lifted up by your mercy.
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 Ex 20: 1-3, 7-8, 12-17

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Law was given through Moses.

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

Longer form, 20: 1-17.

RESP PSALM Ps 18: 8-11. R. Jn 6: 68

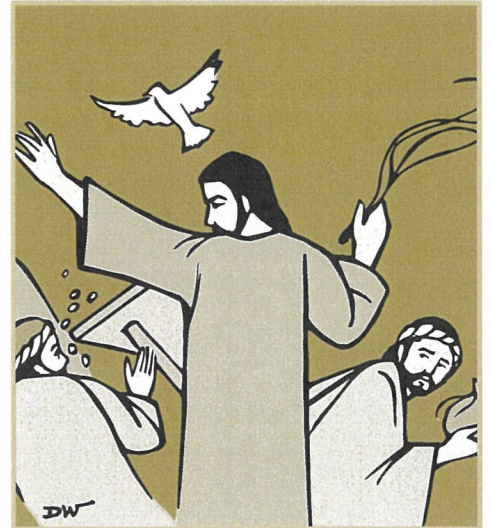
R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, / it revives the soul. / The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, / it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**
2. The precepts of the Lord are right, / they gladden the heart. / The command of the Lord is clear, / it gives light to the eyes. **R.**
3. The fear of the Lord is holy, / abiding for ever. / The decrees of the Lord are truth / and all of them just. **R.**
4. They are more to be desired than gold, / than the purest of gold / and sweeter are they than honey, / than honey from the comb. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Cor 1: 22-25

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

We are preaching a crucified Christ, a scandal to many, but to those who have been called, the wisdom of God.



While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 3: 16

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

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,

that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

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

GOSPEL Jn 2: 13-25

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the

words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up'. The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

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. Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour. 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 OR II OF LENT

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: Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

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 83: 4-5

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. As we receive the pledge of things yet hidden in heaven and are nourished while still on earth with the Bread that comes from on high, we humbly entreat you, O Lord, that what is being brought about in us in mystery may come to true completion. 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

CHRIST, THE POWER AND WISDOM OF GOD

The image of a limp, distorted body on the cross, which we know as the crucifix, has a long history of development. While its central place with the altar in our churches and its focus for personal devotion may seem normal to us, it is an anathema to others. How is this the focus of our belief and worship? A reminder of the sacrifice, its very presence points to the resurrection, salvation and the hope of everlasting life with God who loves us. Today's readings grapple with this dilemma. Paul's words to the Corinthians capture something of the complexity of those early days of preaching the Good News: "preaching a crucified Christ." Who would believe in a dead Messiah? Yet Paul insists "but to those who are called, Jews and Gentiles, a Christ who is the power and wisdom of God" (1 Cor 1:24). Paul's tussle with this is juxtaposed with John's account of Jesus cleansing the Temple where Jesus says, "Destroy this sanctuary and in three days I will raise it up" (John 2:19). This imagery made no sense to the Judeans for this Temple, the Holy of the Holies and dwelling place of God took 46 years to build. The narrator adds that the temple Jesus spoke of was his own body. The narrator also recounts that the disciples had heard Jesus' words but it made no sense to them either until the event of the resurrection. Let us contemplate Christ as the power and wisdom of God.

DR ROSEMARY CANAVAN

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Third Sunday of Lent, Year B

2/3 March 2024

Parish Office:

Hours: **Mon—Fri 9.00am 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

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: 4th Sunday of Lent

2 Chron 36: 14-16, 19-23, Ps 136, Eph 2: 4-10, Jn 3:14-21

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:

Please pray for:

Those who are **sick** at this time including 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 Bruna Nisi

and for those whose anniversaries occur about now Elias Zogheib, Maria Drakos, Joseph Briffa



Words from PP,

I am not sure the extent to which I've ever spoken about why I acknowledge our First Peoples at the beginning of our Vigil and Sunday Masses each weekend, and sometimes during the week.

My understanding of the need for recognising our First Nations had its genesis sitting around the campfire on two occasions outside (the Old) Parliament House in Canberra way back in 1971/1972. I came to the realisation then that the Aboriginal people I met had no simple pathway into university as my brother and I had: we got scholarships—the Aboriginal people had no such access. In the process I began to understand, had the glimmerings of knowing, that their idea of land was almost about being owned by the land, or of being stewards, caretakers of the land. Certainly not “ownership” in the way I understand our British Common Law sense.

This understanding lay dormant I suppose until 2004 when I became involved with the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Victoria, Vicki Clark, Sherry Balcombe, Aunty Alice Parker, Aub and Barbara Kinchela and others. And then through a journey around Alice Springs in 2006 which took me to several Sacred Sites (public ones) and to the Mass and liturgies around the 20th Anniversary of Pope Saint John Paul II's 1986 visit. And then in 2013 an immersion retreat in Lake Mungo only deepened my sense of appreciation of the Land and its First Peoples.

The evening discussions around camp fires and at other times enhanced my understanding of the connection to land. I am not an expert, indeed I never could be. But the deep, deep, deep sense of belonging, of being called to be with the land, being responsible for the land has struck me deeply again and again.

I begin Masses with words like “We acknowledge the Wurundjeri People, traditional custodians of the land with which we live and pay our respects to their elders, past, present, and emerging.” When I do this I am speaking to an underlying truth about the reality of our First Peoples.

These words are explicitly about custodianship, not ownership. Looking after someone else's land, the land of the Creator Spirit (Bunjil, Rainbow Serpent, Daramalan, Father-Son-Holy Spirit), not possessing the land. It's not Stewardship either where there is a greater sense of being in the place of the owner. My words don't try to argue a case for Truth Telling or Treaty, though both are indeed necessary. Rather they speak of respect and recognition.

Our First Peoples have demonstrably walked this land for at least 60,000 years, possibly longer. Even the areas were our knowledge goes back the least the arrival of our First Peoples happened well before Abraham. And these spiritual people have cared for the land as its custodians all that time. I don't claim they were perfect, they like all of us are ‘fallen’ as part of the actions of humankind captured in the story of Adam and Eve. But they have carefully and actively cared for and continue to care for this land and with their care they bring a deep spiritual connection which I have come to see and appreciate.

I begin our Masses with recognising these wonderful people because it is natural, polite, like saying when I visit people ‘hello, thank you for allowing me to share your home.’ I hope this explanation is of use.

God bless, Fr Charles

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

Cathy McClelland, Gerard O' Donnell
 Kay Lewis, Ray Lewis
 Karen Chay, Aidan Leung
 Thomas Ong, Jane Ma

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Stephen Ma, Boris Klaric**MONEY COUNTERS:** Don & Lina Pavone**NEXT WEEK 9/10 March**

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

LECTORS

Robert McHugh, Frances Cannizzo
 Philip Dunlop, Margaret Wallace
 Brian Tyedin & Jenny Tyedin
 Dot Haynes, Natalie De Silva

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Mary Wilson**MONEY COUNTERS:** Bill Taylor, Ray Lewis**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

Moir White, Lorna Philip
 Katica Puhali
 Maggie Yong, Lucy Giardino
 Judy Ablaza, Margaret O'Donnell
MORNING TEA: Amanda Stefanovski
 Karen Chay

COLLECTORS

Gerard O' Donnell, Viviana Pereira

FLOWERS: N/A**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

Noel & Cathy McClelland
 Ray & Kay Lewis
 Edith Ma, Dai Sim
 Caterina Gioffre, Seleana Ng
MORNING TEA: N/A

COLLECTORS

Alfred Lee

FLOWERS: N/A

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 us direct your contributions effectively!

We have noticed some miscellaneous donations in the Parish Church Account To assist us to credit your donation to your name, we ask that contributors include their name as a reference. Thank you for your continued support.

New No Parking Area

To reduce traffic hazard /congestion in front of the church, we have designated that area "No Parking". Please observe the change.

Note: We created 2 new spaces to allow for this loss so there is no net loss of parking places.

**MORNING TEA ROSTER**

We have resumed our morning tea service after the Sunday 10.30am Mass but we do need more hands on deck to host them! Hosting is a great way to be involved within our community, to get to know more parishioners and to share some food and beverages (and smiles!) with others. We warmly invite volunteers to sign up in the roster on the noticeboard in the foyer (and you are welcome to host as many sessions as you like). Thank you for your participation in this ministry!

**Liturgical Roster April 2024 onwards**

There were many movements within our Parish in the past months and this impacted our roster scheduling and roster attendance at Mass. We apologise for missing several past requests. We tried to accommodate any changes as best as we could. We would like to take this opportunity to ask you to send us any unavailability throughout the year. This will help us reduce errors and double ups as we work with a large number of people, days and times.

We are blessed with many volunteers in our Parish particularly for the 1030am Mass. We struggle to find Readers and Special Ministers for 9am Mass. If you usually attend the 1030am Mass and would love to come to 9am at times to help us please let us know. We also need more Special Ministers for 5pm Mass. Please let us know if you are no longer able to take part in our Liturgical Rosters. We do not remove anyone unless we are requested to. We understand that there are unexpected events that may occur prior to Mass. If you cannot make it and unable to find any replacements, please contact our Sacristan, Mary Stocco on weekends or the Office on weekdays.

Thank you for your understanding and support throughout the years!



Welcome to the family of Luciana Isabel Saavedra Heredia and Sebastian Jacob Saavedra Heredia who will be baptised at St. Gregory The Great Church this Sunday.

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 and Jess will get back to you.

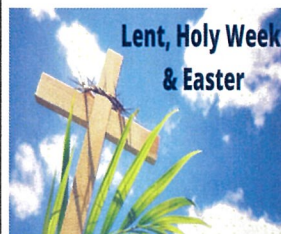
Tennis club use for tennis playing: contact Gianna on 0438 410 506.

Vocations News from the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne

Thank you for your prayers for Vocations over the years. We were delighted to accept eight men to the Seminary for Melbourne this year:

Chinh Tran, Rohan Prince, Luke Kennedy, Luke Emslie, Tung Phan, Joseph Maae, Patrick Harris and Mathews Noble.

Many of you have personally helped and encouraged these men along their journey to apply to the join the Seminary; it truly is a team effort! Please continue to pray for them!

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

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

27th March: **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

**Third Sunday of Lent
2 & 3 March**

Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leaia and her family. But with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **for all future generations.**

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

