

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

3 SEPTEMBER 2023

'YOU HAVE SEDUCED ME, LORD!' The prophet Jeremiah was captivated by God. His attachment meant that he suffered greatly at the hands of God's enemies but he also experienced a fire within, lit by God's love, that urged him on. We too can follow Jesus wholeheartedly only if we are captivated by him. Like Peter, we may remonstrate with Jesus as we struggle to understand his ways, but we will follow him faithfully along the way of the cross to the fullness of life.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** cf. Ps 85:3, 5

**Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.**

## 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 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. God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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** Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah  
*The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.*

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.'

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

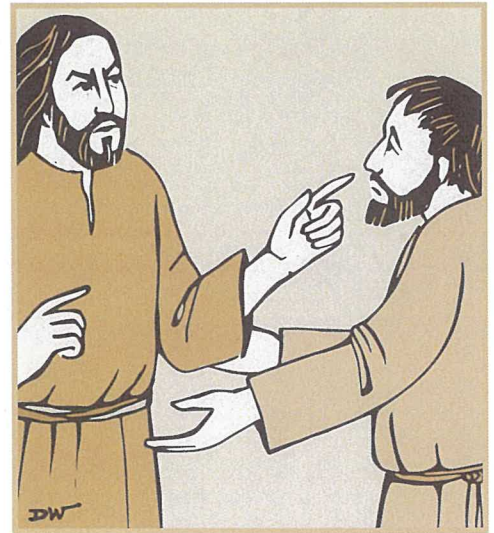
**RESP PSALM** Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v. 2

**R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; / for you my soul is thirsting. / My body pines for you / like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary / to see your strength and your glory. / For your love is better than life, / my lips will speak your praise. **R.**

3. So I will bless you all my life, / in your name I will lift up my hands. / My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, / my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**



4. For you have been my help; / in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. / My soul clings to you; / your right hand holds me fast. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.*

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** cf. Eph 1:17, 18

**Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of our heart, / that we might see how great is the hope / to which we are called. / Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** Mt 16:21-27

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.**

*Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.*

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day.

Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?'

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

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. May this sacred offering, O Lord, confer on us always the blessing of salvation, that what it celebrates in mystery it may accomplish in power. 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 30:20

**How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,

we beseech you, Lord, that, being the food of charity, it may confirm our hearts

and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.

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

### CHALLENGES OF DISCIPLESHIP

As we listen to Jeremiah pouring his heart out to the Lord, it is not unusual for us to be somewhat embarrassed by his candour. It is as though we are eavesdropping on a very personal and private conversation between the suffering prophet and the God who has commissioned him. There is an enormous battle in the heart of Jeremiah as he wrestles with the message he must proclaim and the impact his preaching has on his own life.

Last week Peter was praised because he had come to understand that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God. Now he must learn what the consequences mean for Jesus and then for those who follow in his footsteps as disciples. His well-meaning attempt to protect Jesus is misguided and like Jeremiah, he must struggle to accept the paradoxical and costly ways of God.

The Christians of Rome are encouraged by Paul to continue with the struggle to live a life of faith in a world that did not share their values and vision. In a world where there were many temples, gods and sacrificial banquets, Paul goes to the heart of the matter when he calls for an offering of one's life as a living sacrifice to God.

All the readings for today converge in laying the challenge before us of not losing heart, even though at times the difficulties might seem beyond our strength. Making our own the mind of Christ is not easy, but then again, it never was.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

## Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

### 2/3 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:** 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Ezek 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

**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 Brian Cork, Vladimira Sabolic, Maria Tomasello, Brian Croft, John Shew, Rena Sacco, Clifford Bunardi, 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 and Andrew Wilson.

**And for those who died recently**

Elva Mason, Michael Meehan, Tom

Moleta **and for those whose**

**anniversaries occur about now**

Thomas Cilmi.



From the desk of the PP ...

Last Monday I had a routine colonoscopy (my Father had bowel cancer so regular tests are recommended as a preventative measure). All was Ok, no worries!

Afterwards, I emailed a report out to my brothers and sons, because of course they share the same risk profile as me. I got a whole range of comments back that went beyond “good to hear:” “Do I hear a hint of loneliness?” “You sound worried about your mortality?” None of which was what I meant, nor do they have any basis in reality for me.

What struck me through these comments, and why I am imposing my minor health matter on you, is how easily we can misunderstand each other, especially when we are not face to face, and doubly so it seems with electronic communications compared to letters (which hardly get used these days).

We can misunderstand each other face to face too, but when we are together, most often, we can correct any misunderstandings on the spot—we can see the expressions on each other's faces and they give us clues about what lies behind the words spoken; we can see how a person is standing, we can hear a tone of voice, we have the context of a conversation ... lot's of extra cues to help understand each other.

All of these cues are missing from texts and emails and tweets and Instagram and Facebook.

I suspect part of the reason for confusion and mis-interpretation is that we can do the electronic communications so quickly: type, glance back, hit ‘send’ - no time for real reflection before sending. Perhaps if I had waited a day instead of sending my health-report to my brothers—perhaps that would have allowed the after effects of the anaesthetic to dissipate and I would have been able to phrase my words more accurately or clearly. Perhaps if I called around my brothers and spoke with them more often we would have been more in tune and my words would have been clear.

I remember getting a hand written phone message after a long morning at an intense management workshop. All the message said was “Hit by a truck, all ok, Tanya.” WHAT!!! How could my wife be hit by a truck and all ok? ... I took the message at face value that all was Ok since I trust Tanya. I called: her CAR had been hit a glancing blow by a truck—she was shaken but not injured. Four words extra by the person taking the message would have helped wouldn't they “My car has been hit by a truck, all ok, Tanya” would have been so much better.

Let's all try and be more careful in our words and more charitable in our interpretations of what we hear and read and how we respond.

It occurs to me that if I am / we are rushing so much in our communications with each other—perhaps we're doing that with God too. Maybe this is a gentle call to me to put a little more time into talking with and listening to God's words to me. And so maybe a call to you also in your lives.

A quick prayer is great when that is all time permits—but maybe, just maybe, make an extra five minutes or ten minutes (or dare one even imagine thirty minutes) each day—to stop ... to listen ... to allow ourselves to be present with God so that we can better understand his words to us: because we listen we have the sense of God within us: the smell and sound and feel and touch and look of God surrounding us as we receive his guidance.

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**

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:** Christopher Lim, Iris O'Farrell

**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

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

**MORNING TEA:** Mike & Luisa Yambao

**COLLECTORS**

Alfred Lee  
**FLOWERS:** Tessa Leung

**NEXT WEEK 9/10 Sep**

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

**LECTORS**

Ashton Ng, Ashley Ng  
Rachel Kay, Tony Nimmo  
Amanda Stefanovski, Sauro Antonelli  
Alfred Ablaza, Enza Scaffidi

**CARE OF THE CHURCH:** Carole Tang, Agnes Chee

**MONEY COUNTERS:** Ana Klaric, Boris Klaric

**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

Robert & Dianne McHugh  
Mary Stocco, Margaret Wallace  
Edith Ma, Lucy Giardino  
Mari Tonti-Filippini, Viviana Pereira

**MORNING TEA:** TBA

**COLLECTOR**

**FLOWERS:** Connie Amalfi

For those who are Coeliac, we can provide low gluten (<20ppm) hosts or a separate chalice. Please let the priest of 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.

*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](mailto:Doncaster@cam.org.au).



The order need to be placed by **15th September 2023.**



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**02 9560 5333 [palms@palms.org.au](mailto:palms@palms.org.au)**



**COME AWAY DAY AT PASSIONIST HOLY CROSS RETREAT CENTRE, TEMPLESTOWE**

The Come Away Days program resumes at Holy Cross on **Wednesday, 13th September.**

The theme of the day is *"Invitation to new beginnings."*

The day's program provides opportunities for prayer, reflection and fellowship in the peaceful grounds and facilities of Holy Cross Centre at 207 Serpells Road, Templestowe. Registration starts at 9.30am and concludes at 2pm with the celebration of the Eucharist.

All are welcome. BYO lunch.

You are invited to support these days financially according to your means (\$25.00 per person as a guide).

For further info: Frank Burke on 0407998781 or [burke.frank942@yahoo.com.au](mailto:burke.frank942@yahoo.com.au)

**St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School**

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

**Fathers' Day Appeal**

Fathers' Day Appeal: This Sunday being Father's Day we shall have a second collection at all Masses for the support of the retired priests of the Archdiocese. There are envelopes on the seats and on the tables in the foyer. We thank you for your support and generosity. Or you can do so electronically by logging on to:

[www.melbournecatholic.org.au/foundation](http://www.melbournecatholic.org.au/foundation) and make your donation through Paypal. Thank you for your generous support of the Retired Priests.



*A FATHER'S DAY BLESSING*

*Blessed is the Father  
who lets the Lord  
be his guiding hand,  
Whose faith brings  
his family courage,*

*Whose wisdom comes from God,  
And whose children  
still stand and honor him.*

St Gregory the Great Feast Day Mass will be celebrated on Monday, 4th September at 9.30am together with the School Children.

All are welcome.



The proof of love is in the works. Where love exists, it works great things. But when it ceases to act, it ceases to exist.

- St Gregory the Great -  
3rd September