OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

7 MAY 2023

I AM THE WAY. In every age there are people who claim to know the way to a full and happy life. Often their ideas flourish for a while and then fade. But there is one way to the fullness of life that has stood the test of time – and that way is Jesus. If we follow Jesus, the Way, we will come to the fullness of life and truth, and communicate this life to others.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 97:1-2 O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

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. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy. R. Christ, have mercy.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: 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. Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective

care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. 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

Acts 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

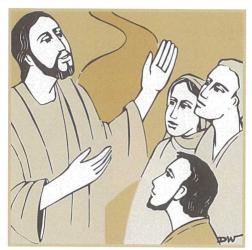
The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19. R. v. 22

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (*or* Alleluia!)

- 1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; / for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. / Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, / with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. R.
- 2. For the word of the Lord is faithful / and all his works to be trusted. / The Lord loves justice and right / and fills the earth with his love. R.
- 3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, / on those who hope in his love, / to rescue their souls from death, / to keep them alive in famine. **R**.



SECOND READING

l Pet 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; / no one comes to the Father, except through me. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

In 14:1-12

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.

I am the way, the truth, and the life. Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father's house;

if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place,

I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am

you may be too.

You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe

that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

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

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

everlasting. Amen.

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 God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life. 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-V OF EASTER

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.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Jn 15:1, 5 I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of 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 in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

OPEN TO CHANGE

Living with change is often uncomfortable and unsettling. Ways of acting and seeing things no longer work as they once did. We look for direction and a sure guide, to know how to act in the present, and plan for the future. It may be a source of comfort to know that the early Church faced many challenges and needed to adapt to changing situations and contexts. The very growth of the community in Jerusalem had created its own problems and the apostles were stretched thin. Consequently, some groups were disadvantaged. It was a moment of tension and decision which led the apostles to call for deacons to be appointed so that the needs of the poor, and the need for the word to be proclaimed, would both be satisfied.

When Jesus spoke of his coming departure the disciples were rightly fearful. How would they manage without Jesus' presence to guide them? They felt ill-prepared for such change and distrustful of their own ability to find the right path. Addressing this dilemma, Jesus reminds them that his departure is how God will open the way to a future that they have not yet dared to imagine.

To deal with changes creatively we need a solid core on which we can rely. Peter stresses that steadfastness in the face of opposition and misunderstanding is an essential requirement in the life of a disciple. For others Jesus is a stumbling block, but for believers he is a precious stone. In a constantly changing world, there is one firm foundation, and we are called to trust in him and sing his praises.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A 6/7 May 2023

Parish Office:

Hours: Mon-Fri 9.30am to 3.30pm

9412 8425

Email: Doncaster@cam.org.au Follow us on: @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: (This Week) -

Sat: Vigil 6.00pm; Sun 9:00am, 10.30am & 5.00pm

No Weekday Masses.

Words & Communions followed by Rosary & Adorations at St Greg's on Wednesdays,, 9.00 am

Words & Communions at St Kevin on Thursdays ,9.15am

Reconciliation / Confessions: No Confessions this

weekend

CHILDREN LITURGY: Sunday mornings @ 10.30am Common sense hygiene please: Masks, sanitising, isolating if testing positive for Covic-19, etc..

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 6th Sunday of Easter Acts 8:5-8, 14-17, 1 Pet 3:15-18; Jn 14:15-21

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

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: 4th Fridays 7:15pm—9.30pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE: 3rd Mondays

7.30pm in the School Parish Room

month from 7.00pm-9.00pm

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, Judy Jones, Nick Morton, Luke Kakoschke, Victor, 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, Brian Croft, Chee Choong Seng, Chianna Sacco, Roy Dos Santos, Lilia Go, Maria Stone, Chee Mee Lian, Eliseo Pardillo, Siat Lin, Vincent Aloi, Margaret Dobran, Andrew Wilson, Fr Matthew Abraham CSsR, Wang Wei Qiao, Paul Materazzo, Ian Angus, Eliasari, Dennis Clarke, Marisa Rodofo, Angel Gustavo, Margaret Hansen.

And for those who died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur about now From the desk of ... the PP,

May 7th – if all has gone well as you read this I shall be walking around in the Lake District. I have always wanted to visit here – my mother praised the beauty of the area and Jane Austen and Beatrix Potter were enamoured also.

I feel a bit like St Thomas in the Gospel this weekend 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' As I prepare these words May 7th is still three weeks away and I am embarking on my holiday trusting that the Lord is the way and will lead me to the places I need to be around the Lake District – places

that touch my heart and soul and help me see a little of the path ahead. I have no idea how but as my life has wound its way from mathematics to coal mines to married life and father hood to the oil

industry to parish life to death to life to ordained life to country parish to two city parishes all I ever see is the next step ahead – the Spirit always guides me.

I am hoping, that as I clear my mind and my heart and allow my body to relax, these weeks will help me be open to just resting in Jesus Christ and open to the Spirit helping me, with you, discern how best to lead St Greg's and St Kevin's into the things that go beyond the beauty that already subsists in these communities that gather each Saturday/Sunday.

God bless, Fr Charles.

INFORMATION SESSION FOR THE PERMANENT DIACONATE DO YOU FEEL LIKE BEING CALLED TO SERVE?

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers.

COME & SEE! An Information Session about the Permanent Diaconate will be held on Saturday 3 June 2023, 10:00 -11.45 am at the Catholic Theological College (CTC), 278 Victorian Parade, East Melbourne.

For more information: Vocations website for the Archdiocese is now available. The links below (copy, then paste) are a source of additional information.

Melbourne's Deacons https://youtu.be/q2RhNDbtTS0

Pope Francis' 2020 Prayer Intention for Deacons https://youtu.be/NuG99HD1LaY Visit: Archdiocese of Melbourne permanent diaconate webpage

https://vocations.melbournecatholic.org/about/what-is-a-vocation/permanent-

Read More: Brochure https://www.cam1.org.au/permanent-diaconate Contact: Office of the Permanent Diaconate Ph. 03 9412 3357 / Email diaco-

nate@cam.org.au

New Set of Stewardship Envelopes are Now Available!

Thank you for your support of the St Gregory the Great Parish through the

Thanksgiving Program.

A new set of Stewardship Envelopes are now available in the Narthex. Please collect yours if you are contributing using the envelopes. Please note there are some changes in the numbering of the envelopes which will explained in the letter inside your envelopes.

If you are contributing via Direct Debit or Credit Card please collect your statements from the Foyer. Please contact the office if there are any changes to your banking details or expiry date. With your support and generosity we are able to plan and prepare for the future needs of our St Gregory the Great Parish, for which we are all most grateful.

Reminder: No Weekday Masses at St Gregory's &St Kevin's until the 16th May Words and Communions followed by Rosaries and Eucharistic Adoration at St Gregory's on Wednesdays.

Words and Communion at St Kevins on Thursdays.

St Gregory's is committed to growing a Child Safety Culture with Love

THIS WEEK 6/7 May

Sat 6.00pm Sun 9.00am Sun 10.30am

Sun 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH

Andy Ng, Yvonne Tan MONEY COUNTERS: Mal de Alwis, Ray Lewis

NEXT WEEK 13/14 May

Sat 6.00pm Sun 9.00am Sun 10.30am Sun 5.00pm CARE OF THE CHURCH MONEY COUNTERS: Mal de Alwis, Ray Lewis

LECTORS

LECTORS

Joseph Philip, Lorna Philip Ray Lewis. Kay Lewis Jenny Tyedin, Brian Tyedin Benedicta Wong, Jane Ma Don Pavone, Lina Pavone

Queenie Wood, Rachel Kay

Thomas Ong, Dot Haynes

Brendan Pon. Aditya Hendarto

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST Robert McHugh, Gerard O'Donnell

Moira White, Lorna Philip Ray & Kay Lewis Sauro & Lilian Antonelli Caterina Gioffre, Seleana Ng

MORNING TEA: Mary Liew

Alfred Lee FLOWERS: Mary Piccoli Geraldina Donato

COLLECTORS

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST COLLECTOR

Peter Whiting, Sharron Wilkinson Tony Nimmo, Katica Puhali Robert Rukavina, Dai Sim Viviana Pereira, Judy Ablaza

MORNING TEA: TBA

Gerard O'Donnell FLOWERS: Connie Amalfi

AUTUMN THEN WINTER—more infectious illness (Covid, Flu, ...)! Perhaps our care with masks / sanitising will keep others safe.

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.

Transport: Don't leave people stuck at home unable to come to Mass: offer a hand or let us know at the Parish Office.

Welcoming! We have a new Welcoming Group: but still: if you see someone you DON'T know? go up and have a chat and get to know them.

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School

Next Open Day 9th Aug 9.30-11am, or for a School Tour 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.

In the spirit of reconciliation, Heart of Life acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia, and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

Catholic Theological College

Sign up for one of 18 online sessions.:

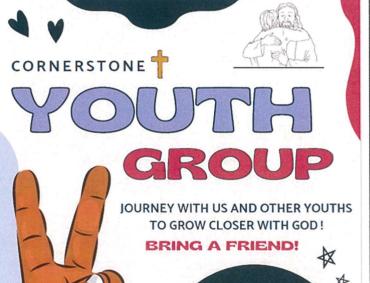
Engaging Your Faith-May 2023

Theology, Vatican II, Scripture, Spirituality, Science & Faith.

Choose what interests you from \$25 per session. For more information and to register: ctc.edu.au/ engaging-your-faith/







AT 7 PM

Contact: Vera Arief Doncaster@cam.org.au @ ST GREGORY THE GREAT SCHOOL HALL

EVERY MONTH

Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation

Rear 41 Stanhope Street, Malvern, Victoria 3144, Australia Tel: (03) 9890 1101 Email: info@heartoflife.melbourne Web: www.heartoflife.melbourne

'Dare to Dream!', via Zoom, 5x Wednesday, 3, 10, 17, 24 &

31 May, 5.00-6.30 pm (AEST). "We have had dreams and there is no one to interpret them..." and Joseph said to them, "do not interpretations belong to God?" (Genesis 40:8)

Join our director, Clare Shearman, and guests in our 'dream lab'. Based on the Dreams session previously offered as part of the Siloam Program, this five-week program will explore the significance of our dreams, include the practice of dream circles, provide guidance and practice for working with dreams—our own and others', consider the potential for our dreams to personally and collectively shape the future. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost \$130. Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

'Pondering Grief' (in-person event), Saturday 20 May 2023, 10 am - 3.30 pm (AEST)

This day offers an invitation to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. With creativity, space and gentle quiding support, this workshop will offer a sacred place for the breadth of human experiencing and spirit to guide individual exploration. Facilitated by Linda Espie a counsellor of loss, grief and bereavement for over 35 years. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost: \$80 including 'Pondering Grief' book (BYO lunch). Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

HELP WANTED!! Our small team of morning tea hosts are looking for new hosts to serve Morning Teas after our 10.30am Mass. Hosting Morning Teas is also a form of ministry to extend our welcome to our community and put smile in people's faces. Each week 2-3 persons are required to assist. So it's a great way to serve the Church with your family as well.

If you could help email doncaster@cam.org.au or ring 9412 8425. "Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love." St. Mother Teresa.