

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

30 JULY 2023

**FINDING A TREASURE.** A treasure is not something we earn but something we find. We can spend a lot of our lives wishing and hoping that some treasure will come our way. We can forget that we already possess a wonderful treasure in our loved ones and in the gift of life itself. And the greatest treasure of all is the kingdom of heaven which Jesus freely offers to us. May we have the wisdom to seek our treasure in God, and not in the glittering goods of a passing world.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** cf. Ps 67:6-7, 36

**God is in his holy place, / God who unites those who dwell in his house; / he himself gives might and strength to his people.**

## 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.**

## 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, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure. 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

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings  
*You have asked for wisdom.*

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this', the Lord said, 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**RESP PS** Ps 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130. R. v. 97

**R. Lord, I love your commands.**

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, / is to obey your word. / The law from your mouth means more to me / than silver and gold. **R.**

2. Let your love be ready to console me / by your promise to your servant. / Let your love come to me and I shall live / for your law is my delight. **R.**



3. That is why I love your commands / more than finest gold. / That is why I rule my life by your precepts: / I hate false ways. **R.**

4. Your will is wonderful indeed; / therefore I obey it. / The unfolding of your word gives light / and teaches the simple. **R.**

### SECOND READING

Rom 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*He predestined us to become true images of his Son.*

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Mt 11:25

**Alleluia, alleluia! / Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, / you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. / Alleluia!**



## GOSPEL

Mt 13:44-52

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.**

*He sells everything he owns and buys the field.*

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Shorter form 13:44-46.*

## 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. Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings which we bring from the abundance of your gifts, that through the powerful working of your grace these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life and lead us to eternal gladness. 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: 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

Ps 102:2

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament, the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son; grant, we pray, that this gift, which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling, may profit us for salvation. 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

### FINDING OUR TREASURE

As a young king, Solomon knew that he had much to learn to be the ruler the people of Israel needed him to be. When God invited him to ask for whatever he needed he asked for the gift of discernment between good and evil. Wealth might come and go, but the treasure he needed most of all was the gift of wisdom.

Matthew concludes the parabolic discourse with four parables that emphasise the wisdom that is required to not only recognise what is of lasting value but to hold on to it when we find it. It can be that what is of value is often hidden like the treasure in the field, or needs to be discovered like the pearl, or sorted like the catch that the dragnet brings in. While Jesus spoke of the treasure of the kingdom of God, Matthew has come to see that the pearl of great price is Jesus himself who is the source of our hope and the wisdom we need to live life to the full. Throughout the eighth chapter of the letter to the Romans, Paul encourages his readers to take heart during the struggles and difficulties that they face as Christians. Our faith itself is a pearl of great price, a gift and treasure that gives us the strength to deal with the struggles and complexities of our lives. God can transform even the darkest moments and our faith helps us to live with hope in the future glory God has prepared for us.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

## Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

29/30 July 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

 [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

(Tues & Thur 9.15 am St Kevin's)

**Reconciliation:** Saturdays 9.30-11am

**CHILDREN LITURGY:** Sunday mornings @ 10.30am

**Common sense hygiene please: Masks, sanitising, isolating if testing positive for Covid-19, etc..**

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:** 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dan: 7:9-10, 13-14, 2Pet:1:16-19, Mat: 17:1-9

**BAPTISMS:** Please ring the Parish Office for bookings

**ST GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC PRIMARY**

**SCHOOL:** Principal: Michelle Verna Tel: (03) 9848 4483

Email: [principal@srgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@srgdoncaster.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 Tom Moleta, Rosa Aloï, Diana Carnell, Umberto Gianello, Michael Mullens, Judy Jones, 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 Aloï, Margaret Dobran, Andrew Wilson, Fr Matthew Abraham CSsR, 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 .**

From the desk of the PP ...

**Caritas / Thanksgiving receipts for FY 2023:** sorry for the delay!! The (unavoidable) change of software systems has led to ongoing complications that we did not anticipate which means a delay in providing Thanksgiving Receipts and the associated Caritas receipts.

They are coming. The data is all entered and we now know how to generate each receipt. A change will be that the Caritas receipt will come from Caritas (not via us) so we aren't sure how that process will play out.

Thank you for your patience as we struggle with learning and adapting to new computer systems.

**Gates/Seniors Parking:** we are on the home stretch. The gates are practically operational. The computer systems and links are all working. We just need to finalise the connections between the physical gates and the IT, and do some final setting up – and then we will make the gates operational.

We will be closing the two seniors parking spaces and creating two new ones down the slope towards the car-park and at the same time we will adjust the two seniors spaces on the school side of the drive and create two new general spaces where currently we have 'no parking' along the kerb. The 'accessibility' spaces in the middle will remain and the ability to make a u-turn will remain.

### Multi-cultural Festival:

It looks as though our joint St Greg's / St Kevin's multicultural festival this Sunday is set to be a great success. The number of people who have indicated they are coming, from both parishes, is most encouraging. The range of gifts donated for silent auctions is amazing. We have our children lined up to help with the Mass and to present in the hall. Our school children and parishioners have provided Prayers of the Faithful in various languages. It will be a marvellous demonstration of our one-ness in Jesus Christ and our diversity and difference in culture, ethnicity, social group, geographic origin. It will be a wonderful day indeed!

My background contains a lot of English, some Scottish and some German. But ... in practice I am Australian – this is the place that feels like home for me. I love my origins but here is 'right' for me. I was asked once, by an Aboriginal person "what is your country?" After pondering I decided that the question was actually about belonging to, being part of the Land, in that deep Aboriginal sense. As near as I can tell, after some thought and discussion I had to say – my place, my land in that sense, is Jesus Christ. Which intrigues me. I like it. But it seems different from how my Aboriginal friends experience 'place.'

Enjoy the day. Enjoy relishing the diversity and difference amidst our one-ness in Christ.

### Planning for the Future:

My support group met with Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils from both parishes, with the three School principals present. We discussed a proposal for how to enable our parishes to focus on outreach and mission more effectively. The proposal was received positively with many questions and suggestions. The proposal helps give more focus for existing roles and includes the potential to employ some more people to help provide the effort needed to be intentional, conscious and deliberate, in how we enact our mission to be among the people helping, and at the same time inviting people to come to meet and get to know Jesus.

*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

**CARE OF THE CHURCH**

**MONEY COUNTERS:** Marion See, Maria Verrocchi

**LECTORS**

Alvin Priyana, Gerard O'Donnell  
 Queenie Wood, Sauro Antonelli  
 Aidan Leung, Karen Chay  
 Thomas Ong, Isabelle Hii

Andy Ng, Yvonne Tan

**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

Neol & Cathy McClelland  
 Rachel Kay, Katica Puhali  
 Fred & Agnes Fulia  
 Judy Ablaza, Mary Tonti-Filippini

**MORNING TEA:** Multicultural Day

**COLLECTORS**

Alfred Lee  
**FLOWERS:** Geraldina Donato  
 Mary Piccoli

**NEXT WEEK 29/30 July**

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

**CARE OF THE CHURCH**

**MONEY COUNTERS:** Sharron Wilkinson, Mal de Alwis

**LECTORS**

Ashley Ng, Ashton Ng  
 Angela Molinari, Peter Molinari  
 Rebecca Raymond, Paola Villanueva  
 Jane Ma, Viviana Pereira

Andy Ng, Yvonne Tan

**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

Margaret O'Donnell, Iris O'Farrell  
 Ray & Kay Lewis  
 Tony Ting, Pierre Tanzimat  
 Caterina Gioffre, Seleana Ng

**MORNING TEA:** TBA

**COLLECTOR**

Seleana Ng, Gerard O'Donnell  
**FLOWERS:** Tessa Leung

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.



### ARISE: A WYD Retreat for Young Adults

Are you unable to make it to Portugal for World Youth Day this year? Join DOJ and other young adults for a weekend full of formation, prayer, and fellowship! Open to all young adults aged 18 - 35 years, so invite along your friends!

**When:** Friday 4 Aug 6pm - Sunday 6 Aug 2pm

**Where:** Belgrave Heights Convention Centre, 3 Convention Avenue, Belgrave Heights

**Price:** \$130

**Registrations:** <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1079039>

**Promotional Video Here:** [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vtftfntyp\\_z84PqIY36h1cJBCGKYeqqH/view?pli=1](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vtftfntyp_z84PqIY36h1cJBCGKYeqqH/view?pli=1)

**Retreat in Everyday Life – Moments of Grace – over five weeks, beginning Monday, 31 July and concluding 28 August** (at Heart of Life, Malvern, or via Zoom) Flexible timing.

The Retreat in Everyday Life involves a commitment to daily prayer and weekly spiritual accompaniment for an hour per week over five weeks with this year's theme 'Moments of Grace'. This is an ideal opportunity for a Parish or spiritual community to retreat together, as well as for individuals who would like to experience an opportunity to recognise God's presence in their everyday lives in a more intentional way. Register your interest <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/retreat-in-everyday-life-moments-of-grace/> or [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) and we will be in touch to have a conversation. Cost: Donation

**Mindfulness & Meditation – Saturday, 28 Aug 23, 10 am – 3.30 pm**

When we are present to the 'now', centredness and relaxation become a natural part of life, and we know how to act from a heart of love. Facilitated by Paola Cheng who is a Spiritual Director, mental health social worker and meditation teacher, this is a day of prayer in the practice of Mindfulness and Meditation. We invite you to bring an open mind and heart to journey with others and within oneself. Bookings via <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/mindfulness-meditation/> or email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne). Cost: \$60 (BYO Lunch)



Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation

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### 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.

### St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School

Children  
**Love**  
 to Learn



Don't miss our next Open Day to experience why children **love to learn** at St Gregory the Great Primary School  
**Wednesday 9th August 9.30-11.00am**



### Seeking Volunteers to Host for

### Morning Teas after the 10.30 AM Mass.

We are seeking volunteers to host morning tea after the Sunday 10.30am Mass. This is a wonderful ministry to be involved in, as you will be bringing smiles (and food and beverages!) to parishioners and friends after the

Mass. If you would like to help and extend our hospitality to our community, please sign up on the roster on the noticeboard in the foyer, or call Karen (0412 402 426) or Seleana (0435 080 078) or email the Office [Doncaster@cam.org.au](mailto:Doncaster@cam.org.au). Many thanks for your generous support in hosting these sessions!"

### PLENARY COUNCIL PRAYER

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land. O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council. Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road. Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth. Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying. Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. Amen