

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT / A

19 MARCH 2023

'NOW I CAN SEE!' In today's Gospel it is the man born blind who gradually comes to see that Jesus is Lord. Meanwhile the Pharisees, the custodians of the traditional faith, fall steadily into blindness. Self-confident in their own knowledge, the Pharisees refuse to see the workings of God in Jesus. Let us humbly ask Christ to open our eyes that we may see his presence in our Eucharistic community and in our world.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** cf. Isa 66:10-11

**Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.**

## GREETING

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**R. Amen.**

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**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.**

*The Gloria is not said during Lent.*

## COLLECT

P. O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

A reading from the first book of Samuel  
*In the presence of the Lord God, they anointed David king of Israel.*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he

caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed one stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 22. R. v. 1

**R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**

2. He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**

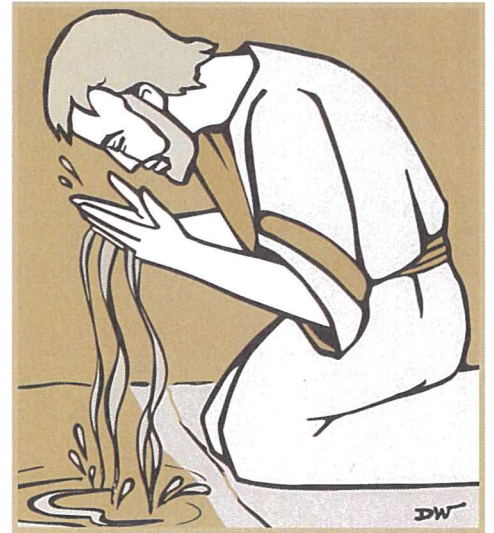
3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Eph 5:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians  
*Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.*

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try



to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,  
rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Jn 8:12

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life.**

**Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**GOSPEL** Jn 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

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.**

*The blind man went off and washed himself and came away with his sight restored.*

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth.

He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man



who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him'. The man himself said, 'I am the man'.

They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see'. Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man.

Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you'. The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Longer form, 9:1-41*

## 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. We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. 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 OF 4TH SUNDAY 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: 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. Jn 9:11, 38*

**The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy

and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. 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, glorifying the Lord by your life.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

#### CHRIST'S TRANSFORMING LIGHT

Learning to read between the lines is not a skill that comes naturally to most of us. Today's readings show just how difficult and challenging it can be to look into the heart of things to see them as God does. Samuel knew that he had been commissioned to anoint one of Jesse's sons as the new king, but which one? As Samuel is reminded, we tend to look at appearances but God looks at the heart. Ultimately, it is the Lord who will teach Samuel that David is the chosen one.

The letter to the Ephesians invites us to join in the journey of discovering what the Lord wants of us. It requires honesty and trust, to bring ourselves as we are to the light of Christ. While fear might hold us back, there is the encouraging reminder that what is brought to the light of Christ is not condemned, but transformed and turned into light.

The episode of the man born blind is a marvellous example of how difficult and yet freeing, it is to come into the light of Christ. The man gradually moves from seeing Jesus as a man, then as a prophet, and finally coming to believe in him as Lord. He was originally treated as an outsider because of his disability. After being questioned three times, his growing insight and faith lead him to be cast out yet again, but now he is no longer alone; now the Lord stands beside him.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

## Fourth Sunday of Lent, Year A

### 18/ 19 March 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://www.instagram.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: (This Week)****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)**CHILDREN LITURGY:** Sunday mornings @ 10.30am**Common sense hygiene please: Masks, sanitising, isolating if testing positive for Covid-19, etc..****NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:** 5th Sunday of Lent

Eze 37:12-14, Rom: 8:8-11 ; John 11:1-45

**RECONCILIATION: Saturday 9.30-11.00am**

By request before/after any Mass (come 15-20 mins early)

**BAPTISMS:** Please ring the Parish Office for bookings**ST GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC PRIMARY****SCHOOL:** Principal: Michelle Verna Tel: (03) 9848 4483Email: [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

**PRAYER GROUP:** Thursday of every fortnight in the

School Parish Room

**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 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, Chee Mee Lian, Chianna Sacco, Roy Dos Santos, Lilia Go, Maria Stone, Eliseo Pardillo, Siat Lin, Vincent Aloï, Margaret Dobran, Andrew Wilson, Fr Matthew Abraham CSsR, Wang Wei Qiao, Paul Materazzo, Ian Angus, Eliasari, Dennis Clarke, Marisa Rodolfo, Angel Gustavo, Margaret Hansen.

**and for those who died recently** James Gregory and Rajee, Peter William Hughes, Jean Lawrey-York **and for those whose anniversaries occur about now** Giuseppe Cannizzo, Maria Ferraro, Winifred Perrin, Nicholas Walsh, Members of the Fernandes and Hughes families.

From Fr Charles:

**Week four of six! Can you believe it?**

Lent is like life: it happens during the moments of the days as they pass.

How are you progressing with your Lenten observances?

I must admit that I am struggling.

Giving up Netflix—easy, tempting to watch things because Netflix sends me advertisements every day and they are increasing as I don't watch. My other intention of making more time for contemplation—that is proving very difficult because my days are so very busy. But I keep trying—and succeeding as far as possible.

I am not excusing myself from keeping on trying and seeking to improve but I think it is in the continual trying without beating ourselves up that we grow and find God's presence more and more journeying with me, journeying with you.

**St Joseph:** One moment in Lent I don't want to let pass without action is the Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. So!!!

Mass on Monday evening at 7:00 pm if you wish to join me.

Joseph is a key piece of our salvation history. His response was Lenten: through his yes to the angel (prayer), in humbly giving up his plans (fasting), and in devoting his life to Jesus (alms giving). That outrageous intervention by the Father through his Holy Spirit leading to Mary's pregnancy and Joseph's (step-)fatherhood enabled Jesus to be fully a part of the history of how God has revealed God's self to us: throughout all of time.

So, if you are available, please join me for **Mass at 7 pm on Monday 20th March.**

**Holy Week:** Over the page, you will see the calendar for Holy Week, including the Reconciliation service (with individual absolution if you wish it).

We will need your help. There are sign up sheets in the narthex.

Someone asked "how can I read or help with communion when someone has put their name down for lots of Masses that week.)

Please: they will be delighted to have someone to join in. On many occasions they will have found that no-one else volunteers their gifts so they've become used to just adding their names.

Write your name down beside theirs for the Mass(es) you would like to assist at. Then when we come to settle on who is to do what we have choice and we can clarify who and when.

There are other roles not listed on the sheets: put your name down on the relevant sheet and write the job you'd like to do, the help you'd like to give. Lots of things:

- Setting up for the blessing of the palms
- Distributing palms / clearing up after / resetting for the next Mass
- Helping with organising the children and the washing of feet
- Helping set up and clear up for the washing of feet
- Singing in the choir / ensuring slides & music work at 6 pm / 5pm
- Helping lead the Stations of the Cross on Good Friday
- Organising baskets and small crosses for people on Good Friday at the Solemn Celebration
- Helping get the candles lit (twice) at the Easter Vigil.

And that is just some. There are lots of roles (ministries we can use your help for. Please: put your name forward.

God bless, Fr Charles.

**Stations of the Cross:**

Every Friday during Lent at 7pm at St Gregory the Great Doncaster  
Every Tuesday during Lent after 9.15am Mass at St Kevin Templestowe



*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:** Marisa Maiolo, Anne McGrath**LECTORS**

Peter Whiting, Rebecca Law  
Ray Lewis, Kay Lewis  
Erin Djukiadmodjo, Chris Perera  
Stephanie Ong, Viviana Pereira  
Lisa Moule, Carole Tang

**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

Moira White, Sharron Wilkinson  
Rachael Kay, Tony Nimmo  
Sauro Antonelli, Lucy Giardino  
Seleana Ng, Margaret O'Donnell  
**MORNING TEA:** TBA

**COLLECTORS**

Seleana Ng  
**FLOWERS:** Lent-No Flowers

**NEXT WEEK 25/26 March**

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

**CARE OF THE CHURCH****MONEY COUNTERS:** Philip Dunlop, Josie Masters**LECTORS**

Ian Barnes, Robert McHugh  
Peter Molinari, Angela Molinari  
Aidan Leung, Karen Chay  
Enza Scaffidi, Alfred Ablaza  
Agnes Chee, Boris Klaric

**MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST**

Margaret O'Donnell, Iris O'Farrell  
Joan Dinneen, Margaret Wallace  
Fred & Agnes Fulia  
Caterina Gioffre, Judy Ablaza  
**MORNING TEA:** Angelo Lee & Thomas Kim

**COLLECTORS**

Francis Yim, Alfred Lee  
**FLOWERS:** Lent-No Flowers

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

**Weekday Mass times in the coming week:** Tue/Thurs: 9:15 am St Kevin's Lower Templestowe; Wed/Fri: 9:00 am St Greg's Doncaster.

**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!** 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 **3rd May 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.

**The Young Adults Group** extend a warm invitation to all between 18 and 30 to join our gathering in the parish room on Sunday 19th March 6:30pm to 9pm. Dinner will be provided & we will be watching **"The Bible Timeline"**. Looking forward to seeing you



Thu lost his leg after stepping on a land mine in Vietnam. With the support of the Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Thu can now earn extra income and care for his wife as she recovers from a stroke. Please donate to Project Compassion 2023. 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/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.



**God gave all children the right to feel safe at all times**



I asked at Masses a few weeks ago if Safeguarding Children is OUR responsibility: you answered YES!! To live this responsibility, today, we need to learn to be conscious about how to assess what a safe situation is. Then we need to know what to do if we think something is not right—we pray it never happens but we know it does. This forum is

for you!

**Mayor Deirdre** will speak about how important Safeguarding is in Manningham City. (Its not a "Church Thing", it is societal.) And, **Brech Burgess** will speak to the practicalities. And **YOU** will get time to discuss, ask questions.

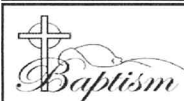
Please! Fill the hall at St Greg's and join this important moment for learning and discussion. Make it an element of your Prayer and Charity for Lent.

Church or School, Parent or Relative: this is for you!! Please come along, God bless, Fr Charles

**SAFEGUARDING FORUM!!!**

Friday 31st march 7:30 pm—8:30 pm  
Guest Speaker: Mayor Deirdre Diamante plus Safeguarding Officer Brech Burgess  
Please make time for this Forum.

**HELP WANTED!!** We are in need for volunteers to help us to keep our church clean and beautiful The task involves dusting furniture and windows, clean the seats and tables in the church, narthex, sacristy and narthex. You will be rostered on with another person. It usually takes place on a Saturday morning. If you could help please email *"Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love."* **St. Mother Teresa.**



Welcome to the family of **Evie Carmelina Finley-Day** who will be baptised at St Gregory's Church this Sunday

**Türkiye-Syria Earthquake Disaster**

A 7.8 magnitude earthquake has unleashed devastation on Türkiye and Syria. Over 50,000 people have been killed, with many more injured and left homeless. After 12 years of war, Syria is at breaking point and desperately needs assistance. We must act NOW and help those affected by this catastrophe.



Your generous donation means our partners in Türkiye and Syria can respond swiftly to support the survivors of this unimaginable tragedy. Visit: [www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey](http://www.caritas.org.au/syria-turkey) or call 1800 024 413 toll free to donate now.

**Social Justice**

The Indigenous Voice should be able to show how it has helped Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with very practical measures in their lives.

**St Kevin's Parish Social Justice Action & St Gregory's Parish Online Forum – via Zoom:**  
**Wednesday 12 April 2023, 7:30pm – 8:30pm.**

- i) *Aboriginal Catholic Ministry,*
- ii) *Opening The Doors Foundation (OtDF – helping Koori kids get an education of their choice), and*
- iii) *Indigenous Voice*

*Further Details & Registration* <<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=1034753&>>

**Zoom link will be emailed to registrants just before the event. Enquiries:** john Costa, [templestowe@cam.org.au](mailto:templestowe@cam.org.au)

**Easter and Holy Week Timetables**

**Communal Penance Service** (30<sup>th</sup> March) at 7.30pm  
**Palm Sunday** (1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> April): Masses as per usual  
**Holy Thursday** (6<sup>th</sup> April): Mass at 7.30pm  
**Good Friday** (7<sup>th</sup> April): Stations of the Cross at 10.00am  
Passion of our Lord at 3.00pm  
**Easter Vigil** (8<sup>th</sup> April): Mass at 6.30pm  
**Easter Sunday** (9<sup>th</sup> April): Masses at 9.00am, 10.30am, 5pm