

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT / A

5 MARCH 2023

OASES ON THE JOURNEY. As followers of Jesus, we have nowhere to pitch our tents. We must journey with Jesus through the hardships of life to glory. There will be oases along the way – moments of consolation which reveal the presence of God among us. We cannot remain in these moments for ever, but they give us refreshment. Remembering them will sustain us on our pilgrim way.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 26:8-9

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

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.

The Gloria is not said during Lent.

COLLECT

P. O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. 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

Gen 12:1-4

A reading from the book of Genesis

The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name

so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:

I will curse those who slight you.

All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 32:4-5, 18-20, 22. R. v. 22

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

1. 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.**

2. 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.**

3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. / The Lord is our help and our shield. / May your love be upon us, O Lord, / as we place all our hope in you. **R.**

SECOND READING

2 Tim 1:8-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

God has saved us, and called us to be holy.

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

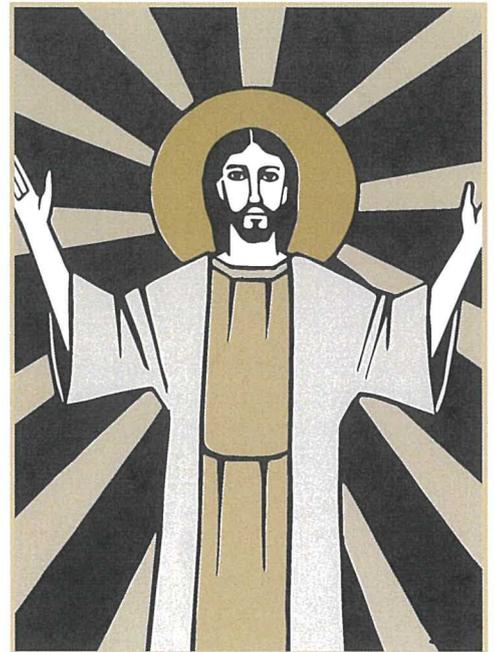
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud, the Father's voice is heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!



GOSPEL

Mt 17:1-9

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.

His face shone like the sun.

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

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 sacrifice, O Lord, we pray, cleanse us of our faults and sanctify your faithful in body and mind for the celebration of the paschal festivities. 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 2ND 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 Mt 17:5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. As we receive these glorious mysteries, we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord, for allowing us while still on earth to be partakers even now of the things of heaven.

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

TRUSTING THE PROMISE

At the beginning of Lent, it is not uncommon for people to feel discouraged or dissatisfied. Another year has come and gone and there is still much to be done as we get our spiritual house in order. Today's readings converge as they give reasons not to lose heart in God or, perhaps more importantly, in ourselves because we are loved by God. Abraham and Sarah were prepared to set out on the greatest adventure of their lives in their old age. Such willingness to trust in God's promises, despite the difficulties that lie before us, is at the very heart of the life of faith.

Prior to setting out for his final journey to Jerusalem, Jesus instructed the disciples that a brutal death awaited him. They were discouraged and bewildered, fearful both for Jesus and themselves. In the midst of this Jesus takes some of them aside and goes up the mountain and is transfigured before them. Their fear is now replaced by terror, but Jesus comes and touches them, encouraging and empowering them for the road that lies ahead.

In a similar fashion, the second letter to Timothy invites him not to be disheartened by the challenges and difficulties that beset him. God's grace and power have already been poured freely into our hearts. Since this is the case there is no need to be disheartened or fearful. Jesus' death has already won the victory, all that is needed is for us to take heart and trust in the new life that has been promised to us

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

PILGRIMAGE IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL THROUGH GREECE AND TURKEY

11-23 SEPTEMBER 2023

Chaplain: Fr Michael Goonan SSP,
Editor of *God's Word* and *St Pauls Sunday Bulletins*

Organised by Harvest Journeys

For more info scan the QR code, or phone
1800 819 156, www.harvestjourneys.com



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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Second Sunday of Lent, Year A

4/ 5 March 2023

Parish Office:

Hours: Mon—Fri 9.30am to 3.30pm

Tel: 9412 8425

Email: Doncaster@cam.org.au

Follow us on: [@StGregsDonny](https://www.instagram.com/StGregsDonny)

www.facebook.com/StGregsDoncaster

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

From the PPs desk:

Formation Sessions:

Lectors: Thank you to all who came along to the Lectors Formation Sessions on 25th February and 2nd March. The extent of questions and discussion led me to think that these sessions were well worthwhile. I will arrange another session after my return from holidays in mid-May—to allow those who were unable to attend these sessions to catch up.

Ministers Assisting at Holy Communion:

- Option 1: 10 am Saturday 11th March
- Option 2: 7 pm Wednesday 15th March

I look forward to seeing you there.

Holy Week—Assistance:

Holy Week, the Easter Vigil, the Resurrection: all rushing upon us.

There is much that needs organising for our Holy Week celebrations to be meaningful.

Do you have some time to help?

Please let me know. The more hands the better.

Things like: putting the purple cloths over the statues/crucifix; setting up for the reconciliation service; helping ensure candle-lighting happens swiftly at the Easter Vigil; helping with the towels/water during the washing of feet.

There are lots of things that need doing.

Welcoming New Members (RCIA)

Cathy and Noel have been working and praying and journeying with eight people and their children, guiding them through the preparation needed for adults before becoming full members of our St Gregory the Great Community or of the St Kevin's community during the Easter Vigil.

Some final decisions will be needed by our candidates about who is welcomed at which parish but it is certain that we shall be Welcoming / Baptising / Confirming at least two new disciples and perhaps as many as six disciples of Jesus Christ as full members of our St Gregory the Great community.

The full list of candidates Noel and Cathy (and team) are guiding: Behnaz, Tina, Ali, Nafi, Romina, Amir, Shenye, Sienna, Flynn, Clare, Roy, Aidan, Candia. Please pray for them in these final weeks.

These beautiful people attended the Rite of Election at St Patrick's Cathedral last Sunday afternoon so they are now formally entering the last phases of joining our faith and our church. We will present the Creed and the Our Father formally to them and pray the prayers of The Scrutinies with them at the 5 pm Mass this Sunday (5th March).

Pray for them.

God bless, Fr Charles.

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: 3rd Sunday of Lent

Exo 17:3-7, Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-16, 19-26, 39-42.

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 4483

Email: principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS:

Contact Margaret O'Donnell at DoncasterRE@cam.org.au

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP:

Wednesdays at 9.45am in the church meeting room.

Contact Terry Morton 0402 307 384.

CORNERSTONE YOUTH GROUP: Third Friday of the month from 7.00pm-9.00pm

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, Shirley Fitzgerald, 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, Michael Mullens, 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 Aloj, 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: Wijono Patrick Tsjin

and for those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Maria Doddato, Elena Toh, Praema & Jovita Fernando

What's ahead for our Compassion

Several Social Justice issues challenge our Lenten spirit, and here's a brief preview of some initiatives to come shortly apart from Lenten 2nd Collections. Working collaboratively between St Gregory's / St Kevin's to the extent we can at this stage we'll soon announce details of a joint parish *online evening Visit via Zoom* to the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry. There we'll learn about the Ministry, the Opening The Doors Foundation (to give Koori kids an education of their choice), and share discussion on an 'Indigenous Voice'. For those preferring day activities we're also arranging a similar daytime visit in person to the ACM in Thornbury. As well we're arranging a meeting of St Gregory's and St Kevin's people who have already expressed an interest in potentially supporting refugees together. We're further arranging a *prominent* guest presentation later this year on the diverse works done by St Vincent de Paul Society. We'll also shortly advertise the Annual Palm Sunday 'Justice For Refugees' Walk on Sunday 2 April at 2pm. - John Costa, St Kevin's Parish Social Justice Action (who spoke at St Gregory's last year about about sharing Social Justice activities) 0409 967 207, or your Parish Office.

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: N/A	LECTORS Rebecca Law, Gerard O'Donnell Philip Dunlop Luisa Yambao, Chris Anggoro Francis Yim, Viviana Pereira Andrew Khalil, Yvonne Tan	MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST Margaret O'Donnell, Iris O'Farrell Joan Dinneen, Rachael Kay Tony Ting, Pierre Tanzimat Tina Paolino, Seleana Ng MORNING TEA: Seleana Ng, Stephanie Ong, Karen Chay	COLLECTORS Seleana Ng, Gerard O'Donnell FLOWERS: Lent-No Flowers
NEXT WEEK 11//12 March Sat 6.00pm Sun 9.00am Sun 10.30am Sun 5.00pm CARE OF THE CHURCH MONEY COUNTERS: Ray Lewis, Bill Taylor	LECTORS Loran Philip, Joseph Philip Rachael Kay, Tony Nimmo Sauro Antonelli, Aditya Hendarto Jane Ma, Stephanie Ong Andrew Khalil, Yvonne Tan	MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST Peter Whitting, Queenie Wood Tony Nimmo, Katica Puhaj Edith Ma, Maggie Wong Mary Tonti-Filippini, Judy Ablaza MORNING TEA: Mary Liew, Karen Chay	COLLECTORS Stephanie Ong FLOWERS: Lent-No Flowers

SANITISING/DISTANCING/MASKS/ISOLATING !!!! Maybe with our care we can keep ourselves and those around us healthy

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. We have new people from at least Italy, Iran, Ireland.

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School
Next Open Day **8th Mar 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.

Parish Ministry Forum: PLEASE SIGN UP
Wed.8th March 6:30—8:30 pm: Dinner provided—Everyone invited.
During 2022 we held ministry forums to start to grow our of Covid-19 time and rejuvenate all our ministries and our whole parish with the aim to be more effective in how we live our faith and also seeking to grow our capacity to Reach Out: Bring People to Jesus. Please join me, join us as we continue this journey at this forum in March. RSVP via the Sign Up Sheets in the Church foyer or email doncaster@cam.org.au

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




Tereesa is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. Through the Baabayn Young Mums and Bubs Group, Tereesa was able to reconnect with her culture and create a better future for her children. **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.





Aid to the Church in Need is asking for support to provide sisters in Romania with a new heating system. The Sisters of the Mother of God are the oldest congregation of sisters in the Romanian Greek Catholic Church. The history of their community has long been one marked by persecution, particularly when Romania was under communist rule. Today the sisters continue to aid their local community with youth groups, spiritual support and counselling, as well as providing the poor with basic necessities. But they are facing a major problem. Their ancient heating system has finally broken down and needs to be replaced, but they cannot afford the cost. The sisters need your help! To make an offering and learn more visit www.aidtochurch.org/monthlyproject or scan the QR code.



The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver will be holding a Book and Plant Sale, Saturday 18 March 9 am – 2 pm. 154 Cotham Road Kew. Proceeds from the Sale will go to assist the many needs of the missions. Enquiries: 9817 3715.



Enrolments are still open for Semester 1 at Catholic Theological College. We have many areas of study that may be of interest such as **John Henry Newman and the Church in the Nineteenth Century, Pastoral Leadership for a Safe Church and many online options** For more information contact: registrar@ctc.edu.au or visit ctc.edu.au

St Gregory's & St Kevin's Invitation

PARISH PIZZA & WINE CELEBRATION

All parishioners and friends are warmly invited to St Gregory's Parish Pizza & Wine gathering on **Saturday 18th March** after the 6pm Mass in the Church Narthex

Register via Sign-up Sheets
Please add your name to sign up sheets if you intend to join the celebration. We look forward to seeing you.

