

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

PASSION SUNDAY (PALM SUNDAY) / A

2 APRIL 2023

THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS. We see ourselves in the crowds who cried 'Hosanna to the Son of David' one day and 'Crucify him' just a few days later. Like Peter and the other disciples we can be fickle followers of Jesus. We should not, however, imitate Judas and despair at our infidelity. Rather, we should look to Jesus who allowed his blood to be poured out for many 'for the forgiveness of sins'. Let us praise him with grateful hearts.

COMMEMORATION OF THE LORD'S ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM

THE PROCESSION

The faithful, carrying palm branches, assemble either in front of the church or inside the church.

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Jn 12:1; Ps 23:9-10

Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice cried out:

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy! O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher, ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy!

The Gloria is omitted.

COLLECT

P. Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the Cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. 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

Isa 50:4-7

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah
I did not cover my face against insult and
I know I will not be ashamed.*

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied, he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24. R. v. 2

R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

1. All who see me deride me. / They curl their lips, they toss their heads. / 'He trusted in the Lord, let him save him: / let him release him if this is his friend.' **R.**

2. Many dogs have surrounded me, / a band of the wicked beset me. / They tear holes in my hands and my feet, / I can count every one of my bones. **R.**

3. They divide my clothing among them. / They cast lots for my robe. / O Lord, do not leave me alone, / my strength, make haste to help me! **R.**

4. I will tell of your name to my brethren / and praise you where they are assembled. / 'You who fear the Lord give him praise; / all sons of Jacob, give him glory. / Revere him, Israel's sons.' **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 2:6-11

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians*

*He humbled himself to become like us and God
raised him on high.*

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Phil 2:8-9

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of
endless glory! / Christ became obedient
for us even to death, / dying on the
cross. / Therefore God raised him on
high / and gave him a name above all
other names. / Praise to you, Lord Jesus
Christ, king of endless glory!**



GOSPEL

Mt 27:11-54

N. The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

(N. Narrator J. Jesus O. Other single speaker C. Crowd, or more than one other speaker)

N. Jesus, then, was brought before the governor; and the governor put to him this question:

O. Are you the king of the Jews?

N. Jesus replied:

J. It is you who say it.

N. But when he was accused by the chief priests and the elders he refused to answer at all. Pilate then said to him:

O. Do you not hear how many charges they have brought against you?

N. But to the governor's complete amazement, he offered no reply to any of the charges.

At festival time it was the governor's practice to release a prisoner for the people, anyone they chose. Now there was at that time a notorious prisoner whose name was Barabbas. So when the crowd gathered, Pilate said to them,

O. Which do you want me to release for you: Barabbas or Jesus who is called Christ?

N. For Pilate knew it was out of jealousy that they had handed him over. Now as he was seated in the chair of judgement, his wife sent him a message,

O. Have nothing to do with that man; I have been upset all day by a dream I had about him.

N. The chief priests and the elders, however, had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. So when the governor spoke and asked them:

O. Which of the two do you want me to release for you?

N. They said:

C. Barabbas.

N. Pilate said to them:

O. What am I to do with Jesus who is called Christ?

N. They all said:

C. Let him be crucified!

N. Pilate asked:

O. Why? What harm has he done?

N. But they shouted all the louder,

C. Let him be crucified!

N. Then Pilate saw that he was making no impression, that in fact a riot was imminent. So he took some water, washed his hands in front of the crowd and said:

O. I am innocent of this man's blood. It is your concern.

N. And the people, to a man, shouted back:

C. His blood be on us and on our children!

N. Then he released Barabbas for them. He ordered Jesus to be first scourged and then handed over to be crucified.

The governor's soldiers took Jesus with them into the Praetorium and collected the whole cohort round him. Then they stripped him and made him wear a scarlet cloak, and having twisted some thorns into a crown they put this on his head and placed a reed in his right hand. To make fun of him they knelt to him saying:

C. Hail, king of the Jews!

N. And they spat on him and took the reed and struck him on the head with it. And when they had finished making fun of him, they took off the cloak and dressed him in his own clothes and led him away to crucify him.

On their way out, they came across a man from Cyrene, Simon by name, and enlisted him to carry his cross. When they had reached a place called Golgotha, that is, the place of the skull, they gave him wine to drink. When they had finished crucifying him they shared out his clothing by casting lots, and then sat down and stayed there keeping guard over him. Above his head was placed

the charge against him; it read: 'This is Jesus, the King of the Jews'. At the same time two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left.

The passers-by jeered at him; they shook their heads and said:

C. So you would destroy the Temple and rebuild it in three days! Then save yourself! If you are God's son, come down from the cross!

N. The chief priests with the scribes and elders mocked him in the same way, saying:

C. He saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down from the cross now, and we will believe in him. He put his trust in God; now let God rescue him if he wants him. For he did say, 'I am the son of God'.

N. Even the robbers who were crucified with him taunted him in the same way.

From the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour, Jesus cried out in a loud voice:

J. Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?

N. That is: 'My God, my God, why have you deserted me?' When some of those who stood there heard this, they said:

C. The man is calling on Elijah,

N. and one of them quickly ran to get a sponge which he dipped in vinegar and, putting it on a reed, gave it him to drink. The rest of them said:

C. Wait! See if Elijah will come to save him.

N. But Jesus, again crying out in a loud voice, yielded up his spirit.

All kneel and pause a moment.

N. At that, the veil of the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom; the earth quaked; the rocks were split; the tombs opened and the bodies of many holy men rose from the dead, and these, after his resurrection, came out of the tombs, entered the Holy City and appeared to a number of people.

Meanwhile the centurion, together with the others guarding Jesus, had seen the earthquake and all that was taking place, and they were terrified and said:

C. In truth this was a son of God.

Longer form, Mt 26:14-27:66

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

P. Pray, brethren . . .

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. Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord, may our reconciliation with you be near at hand, so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds, yet by this sacrifice made once for all, we may feel already the effects of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

PREFACE OF THE LORD'S PASSION

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God . . .

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 26:42

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, just as through the death of your Son you have brought us to hope for what we believe, so by his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call. 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.

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday), Year A

1/2 April 2023

Parish Office:

Hours: Mon—Fri 9.30am to 3.30pm

Tel: 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

Wed 9:00 am (Tues 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: Easter Sunday

Acts: 10:34, 37-43; Col 3: 1-4; John: 20: 1-9

RECONCILIATION: Reconciliation not on Sat Apr 1

Please contact Office or Fr Charles for times

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, 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 Fr John Toolan, Fr Salvatore Dimattina, Agnese Conte **and for those whose anniversaries occur about now** Ernesto Rocca, Gisla Rocca, Kiki Alimwidjaja, Rose Sunanta, Guido Antonini, Pat Maher.

Parish Priest Ponderings:

Time has flown: Easter is upon us! Just a week to go. Thank you to all those who are helping to make sure that we are prepared: Palms large and small to help us 'get into the groove' of that amazing procession of Jesus into Jerusalem and the contradictions it exposes as the week proceeds.

I issued a "Progress Report" last week, outlining the work done by the small group helping me to think and discern about the future of our parishes. A copy is available in the entry of the church and on parish websites. So far, the feedback I've received is positive although also questioning. But, I am pleased to say, it is uniformly constructive questioning. We have had two consultation sessions, with another to come next week. The feedback given at those sessions points towards many ways in which our parishes of St Gregory's and St Kevin's can and should work together, beyond the ways that have already started.

There are already some fruits from all this thinking we are doing: a "Welcoming Group" has been started (or perhaps re-established) at St Greg's, saying hi to everyone as they arrive but also seeking to do more to draw new people into our community. The "Men's Group" at St Kevin's has deepened in providing a safe space for discussion and sharing. Three parishioners are seeking to begin a "Landing's" program which is intended to gently help people come back into more active attentiveness to and engagement with their faith. A youth group is being formed at St Kevin's, with some hope to share some efforts with St Greg's. Small things? Maybe. But the Holy Spirit is active, drawing us day by day further into being the Salt of the Earth and Light to the World that is core to being disciples. In case you hear rumours: Bulleen Parish will be needing a new Parish Priest after Easter as Mgr. Franco Cavarra has decided that this is his moment for retiring. Also, East Doncaster and Donvale Parishes will be needing a new Parish Priest as Fr Jerald Mariadas has been asked to move elsewhere later this year (he doesn't know where yet). The Archdiocese will be seeking priests to take up the leadership of those parishes.

My holidays will start a week after Easter, 17th April to 17th May. I shall be travelling overseas to visit a number of friends in various places, to relax, to sleep (despite jet lag), to see new things (I am going to the Lake District in England). I have been looking at the weather as it is early Spring so most places I am going will be cool with daytime maxima of 12-15C but not much rain (though who knows these days). I am hoping to keep things quiet and gentle along the way so that I come back relaxed and renewed.

Thank you for your help and support and care, God bless, Fr Charles

EASTER TIMETABLE 2023

St Gregory's Doncaster

Communal Penance Service (30th March) at 7.30pm

Palm Sunday (1st/2nd April) - Masses as per usual

Holy Thursday (6th April) - Mass at 7.30pm

Good Friday (7th April)

Stations of the Cross at 10.00am

Passion of our Lord at 3.00pm

Easter Vigil (8th April) Mass at 6.30pm

Easter Sunday (9th April)

Masses at 9.00am, 10.30am and 5pm



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

THIS WEEK		LECTORS	MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST	COLLECTORS
Sat 6.00pm		Anne Davine, Gerard O'Donnell, Ashley Ng	Robert & Dianne McHugh	
Sun 9.00am		Michael See, Peter Molinari, Angela Molinari	Rachael Kay, Joan Dinneen	
Sun 10.30am		Jenny Tyedin, Brian Tyedin, Karen Chay	Dai Sim, Rob Rukavina	
Sun 5.00pm		Michael Ong, Stephanie Ong, Benedicta Wong	Tina Paolino, Viviana Pereira	Seleana Ng
CARE OF THE CHURCH		Stephen Ma, Louise Moule	MORNING TEA: Lina & Don Pavone	FLOWERS: Lent-No Flowers
MONEY COUNTERS:	Ray Lewis, Surin Fernando			
NEXT WEEK		LECTORS	OFFERTORY	MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST
Thu 7.30pm		Natalie De Silva, Luisa Yambao	St Gregory's School Children	Sauro & Lillian Antonelli, Edith Ma
Fri 3.00pm	Good Friday	1st Reading: Margaret Wallace 2nd Reading: Luisa Yambao Passion: Sauro A, Cathy & Noel M, Marcello D, Mary T, Erin D Veneration of The Cross: Stephanie Ong, Thomas Ong, Erin Djukiadmodjo Collectors: Philip Dunlop, Iris O'Farrell		Katica Puhaj, Lillian Antonelli, Margaret O'Donnell, Sharron Wilkinson, Fred & Agnes Fulia
Sat 6.30pm	Easter Vigil	Gerard O'Donnell, Natalie De Silva Stephanie Ong, Alfred Ablaza Collectors: Iris O'Farrell, Robert & Dianne McHugh, Peter Brandon	Ian Barnes	Iris O'Farrell, Peter Brandon, Ika Hardjosantoso (Ctrs)
Sun 09.00am		Margaret Wallace, Philip Dunlop Collectors: Philip Dunlop	Diamante Family	Queenie Wood, Sharron Wilkinson
Sun 10.30am		Ordinaka Ekwunife, Brian Tyedin Collectors: Stephen Ma	Children's Liturgy Participants	Maggie Yong, Sauro & Lillian Antonelli
Sun 5.00pm	N/A	Jane Ma, Isabelle Hii Collectors: Alfred Lee	Dot Haynes and volunteer	Mary Tonti-Filippini
CARE OF THE CHURCH		Andy Ng, Yvonne Tan	MORNING TEA: No Morning Tea	FLOWERS: Tessa Leung
MONEY COUNTERS:	Tony Aldridge, Ray Lewis			

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 9:15 am St Kevin's Lower Templestowe; Wed 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! 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 **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.



Every day, more than 200 million children miss out on school, around 690 million people go hungry and 2.2 billion people cannot access clean drinking water. With your generosity, Caritas Australia has been able to help millions of vulnerable people around the world, through the Project Compassion appeal. Please donate to Project Compassion 2023 to help continue empowering vulnerable communities around the world to lift themselves and their communities out of poverty. 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, or visit caritas.org.au/project-compassion or phone 1800 024 413.







Cornerstone Youth Group


Friday Night Bowling & Lasertag

COME JOIN OUT
FIRST OUTING OF
THE YEAR!

21ST APRIL AT 7PM

@ ZONE BOWLING FOREST HILL
\$26PP

**RSVP BY 10th APRIL
WITH VERA
Doncaster@cam.org.au**



HOLY LAND COLLECTION GOOD FRIDAY 7th APRIL 2023

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, 7th April. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment and housing, Parishes, schools, orphanages and medical centres. Whilst life in the Holy Land is returning to some new sense of normality the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world. In 2022, Australia Catholics were extremely generous and we were able to send \$1.4 million (compared to: 1,126,098 (2021), \$406, 023 (2020) and \$1.3 million (2019)). The reality for the Holy Land Mission is that they will continue to face challenges financial and spiritual and so we again ask Catholics around to world be as generous as possible, with their financial support as well as the spiritual support. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday. Thank you.