

Parish Office:

WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A 28/29th January 2023

From the desk of the PP:

Australia Day!

Congratulations to parishioner Dot Haynes awarded the OAM. Over the past 66 years (I came to Australia at the age of four) my understanding of Australia Day has changed. I started having a lovely extra day off to be able to relax and run around outside with my friends. Seriously! Even at the age of 23 even it never entered my mind to think about what Australia Day means, why we celebrate it. Then I started noticing! Because of a comment my mother made that we nearly didn't migrate to Australia at all because of how racist Australia was/is (we came in 1956 and this conversation would have happened in about 1975 I think). Mum was thinking of the White Australia Policy, the segregation and bad treatment of first nations, the discrimination against migrants that was rife. But ... in the end we came – a decade after the rest of my father's family – because of the career opportunities that were available.

Today I know many perspectives to Australia Day: I am sure there are more.

- The ca. 80,000 year custodianship & spirituality of our First Peoples
 Remembering the ways our society has grown and flourished
- Celebrating the inventiveness of all our peoples
- Mourning the tragic harm done to our first peoples by our ancestors,
- and the widespread though not universal racism that endures.
- Hopeful of a future in which we have taken the risk and travelled down the paths of reconciliation, treaty and voice to parliament.
- Giving thanks for the great graces God has given us in resources of the earth and the human creativity so abundant among us.
- Looking to the Church in Australia becoming fully what Jesus Christ wants: in part by accepting / welcoming the contribution of our First Nations peoples and the contribution of women more fully.
- Concern for the ways we will manage / adapt to the changes in climate that are affecting us more and more.

My celebration of Australia day now contains elements of sorrow mixed with joy, arrival and opportunity joined with invasion and destruction. Complicated! But I love Australia: I know it as home. It is the place where I most readily find Jesus Christ and God's love. God bless Australia! Formation for Lectors/Readers and for Ministers of Holy Communion:

I want to gather all those who help as lectors and at Communion at Mass: Would Saturday mornings suit: 9:00 am? For about an hour. Please let me know if this would work; or give me better times. *God bless, Fr Charles.*

Welcome to 2023 BBQ and Lunar New Year February 5th 11: 15 am St Gregory the Great Doncaster

St Gregory's and St Kevin's Social Group To recognise the Calendar and Lunar New Years and the start of school, we will be providing a BBQ and various, home-made, Lunar New Year foods.

A moment of fun, of joy, of celebration, of coming together. All from St Greg's and St Kevin's are welcome.

We will do the BBQ but please feel free to bring along Lunar New Year food / titbits (include a list of ingredients). Call Karen 0412 402206 if you have questions.

LENTEN PRAYER GROUPS:

We will have Lenten prayer groups this Lent. Currently we plan groups to meet Mon 7:30 pm; Wed 2:00 pm; Thurs 2:00 pm or 7:30 pm. (or 9:15 am Thurs at St Kevin's) Happy to form more groups as needed. Sign up sheets soon!!!!
I know it's not Lent yet but ... get the thought in early and maybe make some time. These discussion groups are a good way to prepare and enter into the Resurrection. There are also individual and on-line options if that suits—details later.

Hours: Mon—Fri 9.30am to 3.30pm Tel: 9412 8425

Email: <u>Doncaster@cam.org.au</u> Follow us on: @StGregsDonny

www.facebook.com/StGregsDoncaster

Website: <u>www.stgregs.org.au</u>

Parish Priest: Fr. Charles Balnaves Parish Secretary: Mon & Tue: Nadia Bolzonello Wed-Fri: Vera Arief (all day from Wed. 1st) 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 & Fri: 9:00am (plus Tues & Thur 9:15 am St Kevin's) CHILDREN LITURGY: Sunday mornings @ 10.30am

Please be alert! Covid-19 is still with us. Masks, sanitising, isolating if testing positive.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 58: 7-10, 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5, Matthew 5: 13-16.

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 9.30-11.00am

By request before/after any Mass (come15-20 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 <u>DoncasterRE@cam.org.au</u>

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: Fourth Friday of the month from 7:15pm—9.30pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE: Third Monday of the month at 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 Margaret Bath, Betty Pike, Jill Hodson, Teresa Yong, Pat & Helen La Manna, Alex Ablaza, Mary Grace Lim Siew Lan, Meredith Barnes, 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 Aloi, Margaret Dobran, Andrew Wilson, Fr Matthew Abraham CSsR, Wang Wei Qiao, Paul Materazzo, Ian Angus, Eliasari, Dennis Clarke, Marisa Rodofo, Angel Gustavo and Margaret Hansen. **and for those who died recently:** Carcy Kwok, Bernard Charnley, , Salvatore Angelico

and for those whose anniversaries occur about now: Carmelinda Spina and Benito Primo Pegorin (1st), Ted Balnaves, Brian Trusty.

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

| THIS WEEK | LECTORS | MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST | COLLECTORS |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sat 6.00pm | Robert McHugh, Frances Cannizzo | Iris O'Farrell, Sharron Wilkinson | |
| Sun 9.00am | Ray Lewis, Kay Lewis | Rachael Kay, Joan Dinneen | |
| Sun 10.30am | Chris Perera, Frank Ryan | Sauro Antonelli, Lucy Giardino | |
| Sun 5.00pm | Francis Yim, Michael Ong | Margaret O'Donnell, Tina Paolino | Francis Yim, Alfred Lee |
| CARE OF THE CHURCH | Stephen Ma, Lisa Moule | MORNING TEA: N/A | FLOWERS Irene Dharmawan |
| MONEY COUNTERS: Bori | s Klaric and Ana Klaric | | |
| NEXT WEEK 4/5 Feb | LECTORS | MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST | COLLECTORS |
| Sat 6.00pm | Frank Ryan | Moira White, Peter Whiting | |
| Sun 9.00am | Peter Molinari, Angela Molinari | Ray Lewis, Kay Lewis | |
| Sun 10.30am | Amanda Stefanovski, Mary Stocco | Fred & Agnes Fulia | |
| Sun 5.00pm | Jane Ma, Stephanie Ong | Mary Tonti-Filipini, Judy Ablaza | Seleana Ng, Judy Ablaza |
| CARE OF THE CHURCH | Andrew Khalil, Yvonne Tan | MORNING TEA: N/A | FLOWERS Tessa Leung |
| | rron Wilkinson and Iris O'Farrell | | |

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.

A Journey to Freedom

Thursdays 8-9:30 pm 23 Feb. 2, 9, 23 March

A FREE four week Zoom based Bible Study, with daily reflections. Presented by The Way Prayers Group, Greensborough North. This course forms part of the works of the Catholic School of Evangelisation. To learn more: Contact Emilia 0418 120 902 or Emilia.sacchetta@bigpond.com

Book so that you can get the Zoom link and the course booklet. <u>https://www.trybooking.com/CFNKH</u>

Pastoral Care / Chaplaincy Appeal: 11th/12th February There will be a **special collection** after all Masses for this most worthy appeal for chaplaincy for our prisons, hospitals, and youth justice. Please be generous.

SCHOOL IS BACK! KNOW CHILDREN READY FOR THEIR NEXT SACRAMENT? Sacramental Preparation Classes 2023

Catholic children who do not attend our parish school are invited to participate in programs to prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion or Confirmation.

All information and registration/payment forms are available from our website. For further information parents may contact the parish office: **9412 8425 or via email: DoncasterRE@cam.org.au**

An Information Evening will be held on Tuesday, 14th February at 5pm in St Gregory the Great School—Parish Room.

Please bring this information to the attention of any families you know who may wish to avail of this opportunity.

Sacramental Dates in 2023 for Catechist Children are:

Reconciliation: Tuesday, 14th March

(for children from Grade 3 onwards) **First Eucharist:** the weekend of Saturday/Sunday 4/5th June (for children from Grade 4 onwards)

Confirmation: Sunday, 23rd July (for children from Grade 6 onwards)

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School

For future Open Day or 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.

Morning Tea Roster: We resume morning tea after the Sunday 10.30am Mass and we warmly invite volunteers to host after Mass. We would love you to be one of our small team of hosts, please sign up on the roster on the noticeboard in the foyer. Any



questions, please call Karen on 0412 402 426. Thank you

Parish Ministry Forum:

Wed.8th March 6:30—8:30 pm: Dinner provided—Everyone invited. Please put this in your diary and come along on the day.

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.

Christian meditation meetings resume on Wednesday 1st February and we'd love to welcome more of you into our community. Let this practice change your life. Discuss it with Terry Morton on 0402 307 384

> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" -Matthew 11:28

CHARISMATIC MASS AND EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

St Gregory the Great Church 71 Williamsons Rd, Doncaster

Friday, 3rd February 2023 7.00PM- 8.15PM

ALL ARE WELCOME

FOR INFO: Vera: Doncaster@cam.org.au