# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT / A

12 MARCH 2023

THE WATER OF LIFE. Jesus is the saviour of the world. In today's Gospel he offers the water of life to a Samaritan woman who, in turn, becomes the first missionary of Jesus. She hurries to tell the people of her town about him. We, who have received the life of God in baptism, are also called to be missionaries by inviting others to come and see Jesus.

#### **INTRODUCTORY RITES**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** cf. Ps 24:15-16 My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone

and poor.

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.

The Gloria is not said during Lent.

#### **COLLECT**

P. O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. 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

Ex 17:3-7

A reading from the book of Exodus *Give us water to drink.* 

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out

of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?' Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' The Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. R.

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; / let us kneel before the God who made us / for he is our God and we / the people who belong to his pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. R.

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! / 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on that day at Massah in the desert / when your fathers put me to the test; / when they tried me, though they saw my work.' R.

#### SECOND READING

Rom 5:1-2, 5-

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. This hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God



loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Jn 4:42, 15

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! / Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world; / give me living water, that I may never thirst again. / Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Jn 4:4-5, 19-26, 39-42

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 water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied:

'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink,

you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied:

'Whoever drinks this water

will get thirsty again;

but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give

will never be thirsty again:

the water that I shall give

will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.'

'Sir,' said the woman, 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water. I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said:

'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know; for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here

when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth:

that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants.

God is spirit,

and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.'

The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.'

Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done,' so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Longer form 4:5-42

#### **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. Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour. 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 3RD 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: 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 In 4:13-14

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. As we receive the pledge of things yet hidden in heaven and are nourished while

still on earth with the Bread that comes from on high, we humbly entreat you, O Lord, that what is being brought about in us in mystery may come to true completion. 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, \( \mathbb{A} \) and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended.

R. Thanks be to God.

#### **BREAKING OPEN THE WORD**

#### LIVING WATER

Despite the floods of recent years, Australians more than many people appreciate just how precious a resource water is. There would be very few of us who would not be able to remember living through some period of drought or scarcity of water. Our experience places us in a good position to appreciate the problem faced by the people of Israel. Having been rescued from the oppression of the Egyptians the people of Israel felt betrayed - had they been saved from Egypt only to perish in the desert by thirst? Despite their lack of faith God reached out through Moses and provided them with water in the desert

When the Samaritan woman came to the well searching for water she could barely have imagined where her encounter with Jesus would lead. She came seeking water but left having come to terms with her past, and having led others to Jesus, the source of living water. As is so often the case, personal experience is the best teacher and having heard Jesus for themselves her fellow Samaritans come to see Jesus as their saviour and source of living water.

When Paul reflected on salvation history he came to see that despite the hardness of the human heart God has always been as he was with the people in the desert. The life-giving love of God has been poured into our hearts to quench our thirst and bring us to life. This love has always been freely given and undeserved. The most powerful proof of this is that Jesus died for us while we were yet sinners.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

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



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### WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

## Third Sunday of Lent, Year A 11/12 March 2023

Parish Office:

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: 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 Covic-19, etc..

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:** 4th Sunday of Lent Sam 16:1,6-7, 10-13, Eph 5:8-14; John 9:1-41.

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 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 Aloi, Margaret Dobran, Andrew Wilson, Fr Matthew Abraham CSsR, Wang Wei Qiao, Paul Materazzo, Ian Angus, Eliasari, Dennis Clarke, Marisa Rodofo, Angel Gustavo, Margaret Hansen.

and for those who died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur about now Pat La Manna.

Matters of interest from Fr. Charles:

Gates!

I received an email early this past week: We now have an actual time-line for installation of the gates that have been under discussion for three years. Construction should start on the 21st of March (yes, this year!) with completion and commissioning estimated for 10th May.

There remains a little uncertainty on the timing still but only a matter of days to allow for school needs. We think we have covered the bases so that we will have gates which provide safety, are practical for you to use and that give a visible presence to our Parish and its School as people drive past.

#### SAFEGUARDING FORUM!!!

Friday 31st march 7:30 pm—8:30 pm
Mayor Deirdre Diamante and Safeguarding Officer Brech Burgess

This is for YOU! Please make time. This forum is for All Parishioners. I asked at Masses a few weeks ago if Safeguarding Children is OUR responsibility: you answered YES!! Overwhelmingly—Thank you!

To live our safeguarding responsibility we need to learn to be conscious about how to assess safety and we need to know what to do if we think something is not right—we pray it never happens but we know it does—somewhere-everyday. This forum is for you!

Mayor Deirdre will speak to how important Safeguarding is at a public level, in Manningham City. (Its not just a "Catholic Church thing, it is societal.) And, Brech Burgess will speak to the practicalities.

And YOU will get time to discuss and 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 Almsgiving for Lent.

#### Having a Calling from God:

In a meeting the other day I heard again, what I have heard quite often "Oh no! I don't have a calling to this, I've never in my life had a calling." I think I know what is meant when people say this and I suspect that it reflects a perception that 'a calling' is something like St Paul on the Road to Damascus.

Yes, some callings are that: startlingly clear. I suppose my own call to the priesthood was like that. But it seems to me that is the exception. Most callings from God flow from the things that come our way, where there is a need, and we take it up and follow it for year or a decade or a lifetime. One example: those who prepare the Music/PowerPoints for our Masses each week: some have been doing it for years. Through illness and difficulty: they deliver. They could say "Not this week!" They don't—the deliver! Not for themselves—for you, for Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God's calling: to you! Too Simple? That is how God works. See and give thanks for your calls from God.

God bless, Fr Charles

Compassion in Action: "If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts" Ps 94:1–2
As we already reach the third Sunday of Lent, we hear of Priscilla from the Hwange District of Zimbabwe. Caritas helped her learn conservation farming, and it changed her life from starvation to resilience and helped her family grow. Compassion in action!
Compassion of course is not just a Lent thing, but this period helps highlight opportunities throughout the year to better understand and support others in need. In response to interest expressed both within St Gregory's and St Kevin's Parishes we can now confirm an online Zoom presentation on i) the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM), ii) Opening the Doors Foundation (OtDF) supporting Koori Kids with an education of their choice) and iii) Indigenous Voice discussion. This online event will be from 7:30pm - 8:30pm on Wednesday 12 April. In similar response we also now confirm for those wanting to directly visit the ACM in Thornbury an excursion there from 12:30pm on Thursday 20th April. Online bookings for either or both events will be available with further details later, but for those interested do mark these in your diaries now. - John Costa St Kevin's SJA

THIS WEEK

**LECTORS** Sat 6.00pm Lorna Philip, Joseph Philip Sun 9.00am Rachael Kay, Tony Nimmo

Sun 10.30am Sun 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH

Andy Ng, Yvonne Tan MONEY COUNTERS: Ray Lewis, Bill Taylor

NEXT WEEK 18//19 March **LECTORS** Peter Whiting, Rebecca Law

Sat 6.00pm Sun 9.00am Sun 10.30am

Ray Lewis, Kay Lewis Erin Djukiadmodjo, Chris Perera Sun 5.00pm Stephanie Ong, Viviana Pereira CARE OF THE CHURCH Lisa Moule, Carole Tang MONEY COUNTERS: Marisa Maiolo, Anne McGrath

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Peter Whitting, Queenie Wood Tony Nimmo, Katica Puhali Edith Ma. Maggie Wong Mary Tonti-Filippini, Judy Ablaza

MORNING TEA: Mary Liew, Karen Chay

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Moira Wihite, Sharron Wilkinson Rachael Kay, Tony Nimmo Sauro Antonelli, Lucy Giardino Seleana Ng, Margaret O'Donnell

**MORNING TEA:** TBA

COLLECTORS

Stephanie Ong

COLLECTORS

Seleana Ng

FLOWERS: Lent-No Flowers

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.

Sauro Antonelli, Aditya Hendarto

Jane Ma, Stephanie Ong

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.

Zimbabwe is experiencing an intense drought, exacerbated by climate change.



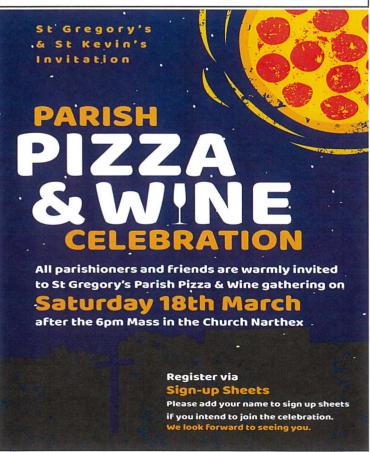
With the support of Caritas Hwange, Priscilla learnt con-

servation farming skills to grow drought-resistant crops and started poultry farming to support her family during the current food crisis.

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.



#### 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.



#### Nightfever-Join with the Youth of Melbourne to Pray

Friday, March 24, 2023, 6pm - Midnight Sacred Heart Church, Rathdowne St & Pelham St, Carlton

Archbishop Peter A Comensoli has called for a weekend of prayer throughout the whole Archdiocese on Friday 24 to Sunday 26 February 2023. Fiat - A Weekend of Prayer coincides with the Feast of the Annunciation. As we continue to walk the journey of Take the Way of the Gospel. Archbishop Comensoli has asked us to begin the year in prayer together as one local Church community meditating on Mary's total 'yes' - as individuals, as parish communities and as a local Church of Melbourne. We are excited to announce that the Fiat weekend of prayer will begin at the heart of our city in Sacred Heart Church, Carlton. Join young people as they gather from across the Archdiocese for a night of prayer, praise, and intercession. The light of *Fiat* will then travel outwards into our parishes and communities throughout the weekend. Bring your youth group &/or young adult group for an hour or the whole evening as we pray together.

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 doncaster@cam.org.au or ring 9412 8425. Thank you for your support.

#### Rosters!

We will also begin our new roster for Readers, Special Ministers, Flowers, Morning Tea and Care for the Church, Communion for the Sick, Ushers in a few weeks. Please let us know if you are interested to take up any of the above ministries especially for our Sunday 9am & 5pm Masses. Training is provided. If you are currently on the Roster and planning to go away between April (after Easter)- August please let us know.

#### 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