

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER / A (OF DIVINE MERCY)

16 APRIL 2023

I AM SENDING YOU. When we gather for Eucharist each Sunday the risen Christ comes among us and offers us his gift of peace. Our celebration gives us joy and strengthens our faith. But we cannot stay inside the church with its doors locked. At the end of Mass we are sent out, commissioned to bring the love and mercy of Christ to all who continue to bear in their bodies the wounds of crucifixion.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

1 Pet 2:2

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

GREETING

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

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

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. Lord Jesus, you are the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the first born of all creation: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the head of the body, the Church: 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.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, / and on earth peace to people of good will. / We praise you, / we bless you, / we adore you, / we glorify you, / we give you thanks for your great glory, / Lord God, heavenly King, / O God, almighty Father. / Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, / Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, / you take away the sins of the world, / have mercy on us; / you take away the sins of the world, / receive our prayer; / you are seated at the right hand of the Father, / have mercy on us. / For you alone are the Holy One, / you alone are the Lord, / you alone are the Most High, / Jesus Christ, / with the Holy Spirit, / in the glory of God the Father. / Amen.

COLLECT

P. God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood

they have been redeemed. 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

Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (or Alleluia!)

1. Let the sons of Israel say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let the sons of Aaron say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let those who fear the Lord say: / 'His love has no end.' **R.**

2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling / but the Lord was my helper. / The Lord is my strength and my song; / he was my saviour. / There are shouts of joy and victory / in the tents of the just. **R.**

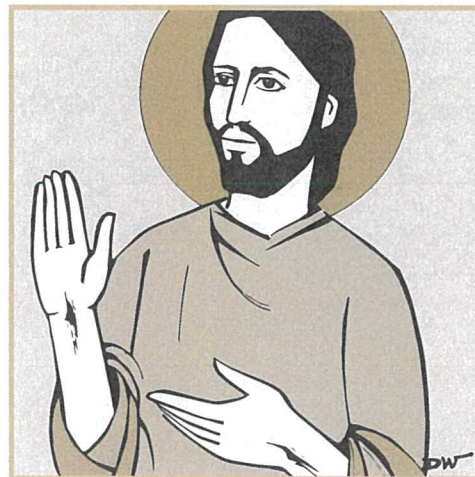
3. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the corner stone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. / This day was made by the Lord; / we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 1:3-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.



Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which had been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 20:29

Alleluia, alleluia! / You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; / happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 20:19-31

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.

After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He

said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:
'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;
for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him;

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

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, / Aorn 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. Accept, O Lord, we pray, the oblations of your people (and those you have brought to new birth), that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism, they may attain unending happiness. 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 I OF EASTER

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

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 20:27

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Grant, we pray, almighty God, that our reception of this paschal Sacrament may

have a continuing effect in our minds and hearts. 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, alleluia, alleluia!

R. Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

FAITH: A PROMISE OF LIFE

How many times have you heard people relate stories and then say, aware that the story does not do justice to the experience, 'You had to be there'? When we read of those early days of the Church, when the community was so united in faith, love and prayer, we can find ourselves wishing to have been there. Imagine the disappointment of second-generation Christians who had missed out by only a few years! The story of Thomas' doubt, disbelief and disappointment would have been partly preserved to encourage such Christians. Decades later, they were invited to see that while they were not part of the original experience, their faith was all the more precious because it was not based on being an eyewitness. It also served as a reminder not to be too quick to idealise the early life of the Church; even then the road to mature faith was not an easy one.

Late in the first century, the first letter of Peter set out to build up the faith of a community that felt caught between the resurrection and Jesus' final return. Like us, they may have felt that they had missed out on something precious, but Peter reminds them that their faith is a tremendous gift and promise of the life that lies ahead. The road to a mature faith is not easy and there are problems to be encountered from both within and outside ourselves. These very struggles purify our hearts and prepare us for what is to come

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Second Sunday of Easter, Year A

15/16 April 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

 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

No Weekday Masses.

Words & Communion at St Kevin on Thursdays

Words & Communion followed by Rosary & Adorations at St Greg's on Wednesday.

Reconciliation / Confessions: No Confessions this weekend

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 Easter

Act: 2:42-47; Pet: 1:3-9, John: 20:19-31

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

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 Judy Jones, Nick Morton, 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 Aloji, 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 and for those whose anniversaries occur about now Michele Marrone, Yap Huat Goon, Lee Kim Heok, Mary Chan Fong, Elena Toh, Raffaella Gattini, Thomas Perrin, June McClelland, Amelia & Franjo Gadanec

From the desk of ... the PP,

Alleluia, Alleluia!! It is Easter! Only 43 days to go till Pentecost and the end of the Easter Season.

I am off on holidays for a month starting Monday and returning for work on 18th May. Hoping and praying to return energised and refreshed and renewed.

I shall miss you, I shall be thinking of you, but I shan't be worrying about you. You will be well cared for by all the lay leaders and staff and the priests who will provide supply for the weekends.

Our Holy Week was well attended and most moving – I have had nothing but positive feedback and the 'vibe' of the liturgies spoke to the presence of Christ among us and the Holy Spirit guiding us.

We now embark on the journey to Pentecost and beyond. We have re-ignited our faith and our knowledge of the hope that lies in Jesus Christ. Now we are called to go beyond that – to accept the Holy Spirit.

Our efforts are bearing fruit in re-enlivening or regenerating ways in which we reach out to call people to Jesus Christ.

The youth group at St Greg's (Gr6-9) is looking to find ways to broaden its catchment and a new youth group is starting up at St Kevin's (Gr 6-8 and G 9-12).

There is a Landing's program in preparation, a group offering a gentle way to return to the parish community. There is a hope to grow the Meditation group and broaden its remit. Charismatic Mass with Adoration will return in May at St Greg's – and one of the first of these Masses will also be a healing Mass (laying on of hands).

The St Greg's Thursday Fortnightly Prayer Group has closed down – the organisers had a vision of their needs and the needs they were seeking to meet and this group didn't meet that need. So they decided to 'pull the plug' – it may seem sudden in the announcement but the thinking and discernment has been extensive.

While I am away please: think about and pray about your vision of what success in our parishes might be as the years roll forward. What things would you like to see start up (or stop) that might lead us to be even more faithful and even more a people who are active disciples of Jesus the Christ who seek to spread the Good News. Feed back the ideas, and your willingness to participate and help.

Stay safe, God bless, Fr Charles.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT SUNDAY MASS

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."
EVERY SUNDAY at 10.30am MASS

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

THIS WEEK 15/16 April

Sat 6.00pm

Sun 9.00am

Sun 10.30am

Sun 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH**MONEY COUNTERS:** Marion See, Christopher Lim**LECTORS**

Margaret O'Donnell, Frank Ryan

Philip Dunlop, Margaret Wallace

Luisa Yambao, Paola Villanueva

Dot Haynes, Thomas Ong

Carole Tang, Agnes Chee

See, Christopher Lim

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Noel & Cathy McClland

Tony Nimmo, Joan Dinneen

Pierre Tanzimat, Edith Ma

Seleana Ng, Judy Ablaza

MORNING TEA: Maggie & Kim**COLLECTORS**

Alfred Lee

FLOWERS: Mary Piccoli

Geraldina Donato

NEXT WEEK 22/23 April

Sat 6.00pm

Sun 9.00am

Sun 10.30am

Sun 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH**MONEY COUNTERS:** Boris Klaric, Ana Klaric**LECTORS**

Ashton Ng, Ashley Ng

Sauro Antonelli, Tony Nimmo

ANZAC DAY Mass

Alfred Ablaza, Enza Scaffidi

Mary Wilson, Leth Go

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Robert & Dianne McHugh

Katica Puhaj, Margaret Wallace

Mary Tonti-Filippini, Tina Paolino

MORNING TEA: Seleana & Thomas Ong**COLLECTOR**

Viviana Pereira

FLOWERS: Cecilia Gunawan

Connie Amalfi

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

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.

The Young Adults Group extend a warm invitation to all between 18 and 30 to join our gathering in the parish room on **Friday 28 April 7:15pm to 10pm**. Dinner will be provided and we will be watching "The Bible Timeline". Looking forward to seeing you there!

**PROJECT COMPASSION**

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to Project Compassion during Lent through the envelopes or with credit cards. Those of you who have Project Compassion boxes, we ask you to change the coins into notes and to put them in the two big boxes in the foyer. Thank you very much for supporting the people in the various developing countries.

**Anzac Commemoration****Defence services invitation****Sunday 23rd April @ 10.30am****At – St Gregories the Great Church.
71 Williamsons Road. Doncaster.**

2018 Photos inserted

**All welcome to this special Mass service.****Lest We Forget!****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.



Welcome to the family of
Kosisochukwu Chloe Onuoha & Thomas Andrew Hill
who will be baptised this weekend.

Volunteers Needed: We are in need of volunteers to greet and hand out the Mass Sheets to people attending our weekend Masses. Ideally we need 2-3 more people for each of the Masses. If you are interested in meeting new people and put smile on people's faces please email the office doncaster@cam.org.au.



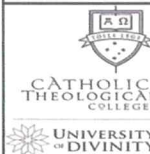
Thank you for supporting the Holy Land (Good Friday) Collection as encouraged by Pope Francis. Through this Collection, you join with Catholics around the world to stand in solidarity with the Church in the Holy Land. When you contribute to the Holy Land Collection, you become an instrument of peace in the land where Jesus walked.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Weekend**"Live Your Best Life in Love"**

Every relationship is a journey and the grind of everyday life can cause you to lose touch with your spouse. This weekend gives married couples the tools to keep passion alive in a gentle, nurturing environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living. The weekend is based around Catholic values and couples of all faiths are welcome. **Please check our website for more details.**

Date: 28 – 30 April 2023 in Melbourne. Info/ Bookings: Phone Mercy & James 0409

83676 or vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au

**Catholic Theological College***Sign up for one of 18 online sessions.:***Engaging Your Faith—May 2023***Theology, Vatican II, Scripture, Spirituality, Science & Faith.*

Choose what interests you from \$25 per session. For more information and to register: ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/

COME AWAY DAYS AT PASSIONIST HOLY CROSS RETREAT CENTRE TEMPLESTOWE

The Come Away Days program continues at the Holy Cross Retreat Centre, 207 Serpells Rd, Templestowe on **Wednesday 19 April**. The theme of the day is "The Spirit empowering us." The day's program provides opportunities for prayer, reflection and group interaction in the peaceful grounds and facilities of Holy Cross. All are welcome. BYO lunch. Registration is from 9.30am. The day concludes at 2pm with a celebration of the Eucharist. The cost of the day is \$25.00 or a donation according to your means. For further details contact Frank: burke.frank942@yahoo.com.au or 0407998781