

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT / A

27 NOVEMBER 2022

WALK IN GOD'S LIGHT. We do not know when Christ will come again in glory. Nor do we know the day of our death. This should not worry us. What is important is to live this day well by being respectful and loving towards each other and seeking to walk in God's light. If we do this, we will be ready whenever God calls us to eternal life.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Ps 24:1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

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.

All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, (striking the breast) through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

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 Advent.

COLLECT

P. Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. 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

Isa 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah
The Lord will gather all nations in eternal peace in the kingdom of God.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways; so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'

He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war. O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 121:1-2, 4-5, 6-9. R. cf. v. 1

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say: / Let us go to God's house. / And now our feet are standing / within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**
2. It is there that the tribes go up, / the tribes of the Lord. / For Israel's law it is, / there to praise the Lord's name. / There were set the thrones of judgement / of the house of David. **R.**
3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray: / Peace be to your homes! / May peace reign in your walls, / in your palaces, peace! **R.**
4. For love of my brethren and friends / I say: 'Peace upon you!' / For love of the house of the Lord / I will ask for your good. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The time has come, our salvation is near.

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 84:8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 24:37-44

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.

Stay awake, you must be ready.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

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. Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. 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 ADVENT

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 Ps 84: 13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated, profit us, we pray, for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures. 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.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

WALK IN THE LIGHT

There are some phrases from the scriptures which have the power to stir the imagination thousands of years after they were written. The image of hammering swords into ploughshares, spears into sickles, and soldiers becoming farmers speaks so powerfully to our deep longing for peace. Isaiah's vision was that a time would come when all people would be united in worship of the living God; when war would be replaced by understanding and all people would walk in the light of the Lord.

Paul understood Isaiah's vision was soon to become reality on the Lord's return. His concern was to make sure that the Christians of Rome were prepared for that moment. Some of them had fallen into a misplaced sense of complacency. Paul disagrees. Now was the time to get one's house in order, to put aside the ways that blur and obscure our vision, so as to come into the light of Jesus.

In a similar way, fifty years after the resurrection of the Lord it was all too easy for Matthew's community to lose hope that the Lord would return soon and bring Isaiah's and Paul's vision to reality. As this Advent season begins, the challenge is placed squarely before us – if the Son of Man were to return now would we be ready and waiting? What are we doing to bring Isaiah's vision of peace to reality? What areas of our life still need to be brought into the light of Christ?

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST. GREGORY'S—DONCASTER

First Sunday of Advent, Year A

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) (no livestreaming)

Sat: Vigil 6.00pm; Sun 9:00am, 10.30am & 5.00pm

Wed & Fri: 9:00 am (plus Tu/Thu 9:15 am St Kevin's)

CHILDREN LITURGY: 10.30am Mass

CAUTION & CARE! Covid-19 has not gone completely MASKS / SANITISING / ISOLATING

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 2nd Sunday of Advent

Isa 11:1–10, Rom 15:4–9, Matt 3:1–12

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 9.30-11am

By request before/after any Mass (come 15-20 m 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 9.45 am in the church meeting room.

Contact Terry Morton 0402 307 384.

CORNERSTONE YOUTH GROUP: First Friday of the

month from 7pm-9pm

PRAYER GROUP: Thursday every Fortnight in Church

Meeting Room

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP:

Monthly 4th Fridays from 7:15pm—9.30pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE: Third Monday of

the month at 7.30pm in Church meeting 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 Sio Dewi, Theresa Yong, 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 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, Angelique Giacomini, Maureen Tresise, Kevin Parker

And Those who died recently and for the repose of the souls of Igina Nani and all those whose anniversaries occur at about this time.

From the desk of Fr Charles:

Happy New Year—well liturgical year. Advent has begun. You will see a painting in the sanctuary. It is a part of a triptych painted by Aboriginal Artist Mandy Nicholson and depicting the Genealogy of Jesus according to Matthew. We will be displaying one part each week for three weeks then the whole triptych on the fourth Sunday.

Food for thought about different ways to imagine / see / understand about the presence of God's revelation through history.

There is a small explanatory picture near by the piece being displayed: but perhaps only go to see that after contemplating the picture for some time first.

God bless, Fr Charles.

PS: and here are the Advent/Christmas/New Year times for services.

CHRISTMAS AT ST GREGORY'S

Thursday 15th December

Rite of Reconciliation at

St Kevin's Church

26 Herlihys Road,

Templestowe Lower

at 7.00 pm

(with individual absolution available)



Christmas Eve Saturday 24th December

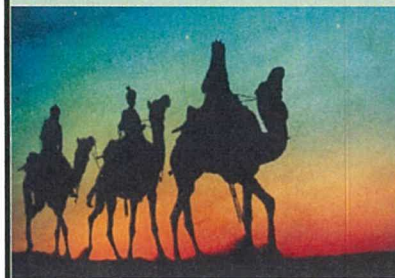
Carols at 6.30 pm, Mass at 7.00 pm

Carols at 9.30 pm, Mass at 10.00 pm

Christmas Day: Sunday 25th December

Masses at 9.00 am

(No 5.00pm Mass)



New Years Eve

Saturday, 31st December

Sunday Vigil Mass at 6.00 pm

New Year's Day

Sunday 1st January

Masses at 9.00 am, 10.30am and 5.00pm



Our Parish Christmas Party will be held on Sunday, 11th December after the 5PM Mass.

Please join us for a fun filled night with our community.

Food and drinks will be provided.

Santa will make an appearance for the kids with a bag of treats.

Raffle tickets will be sold 2 weekends prior to the event and will be drawn on the night.

Please RSVP using the Sign Up Sheets at the Church Narthex

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:** Maria Verrocchi, Maggie Yong**LECTORS**

Frank Ryan, Robert McHugh

Peter Molinari, Angela Molinari

Chris Perera, David Perrin

St Gregory The Great School Children

Boris Klaric

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Margaret Kenshole, Margaret, Margaret O'Donnell

Margaret Wallace

Fred & Agnes Fulia

Caterina Gioffre

Francis Yim, Alfred Lee (Collectors)

MORNING TEA: Mary, Jonathan, Daniel**FLOWERS** Tessa Leung**NEXT WEEK 3/4 Dec**

Sat 6.00pm

Sun 9.00am

Sun 10.30am

Sun 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH**MONEY COUNTERS:** Ray Lewis, Bill Taylor**LECTORS**

Robert McHugh, Frank Ryan

Philip Dunlop, Greg James

Rebecca Raymond, Aditya Hendarto

Dot Haynes, Viviana Pereira

Stephen Ma, Louise Moule

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Noel & Cathy McClelland

Queenie Wood, Joan Dineen

Pierre Tanzimat, Sauro Antonelli

Francis Yim, Tina Paolino

Francis Yim, Alfred Lee (Collectors)

MORNING TEA: Adeline, Isabelle, Isaac**FLOWERS** Irene Dharmawan**ISOLATING / MASKS!!!!** Christian Charity demands we give thought to others when we catch Covid/Flu etc.**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.**Anointing of the Sick**, can be provided before, during or after any Mass. Just let the Sacristan or the Priest know ahead of time.**Facebook: Live-streaming:** We are no longer live streams our Masses. We look forward in seeing you in person in one of our Masses.**Transport** : Don't leave people stuck at home unable to come to Mass: offer a hand or let us know at the Parish Office.**Who has not rejoined?** Have you got friends who haven't come back to our community fully yet? Maybe ask them if you can help?**Welcome to St Gregory The Great School Grade 6 & Foundation children, their families and teachers at 5pm Mass this weekend.****URGENT!!!** ALL volunteers must have a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC) and sign an new Code-of-Conduct (it is over two years since you last signed one so it is time for renewal). Please Renew your WWCC and Sign the Code of Conduct available in the church foyer or our website. If you like them emailed please email the office.**COME AWAY DAY AT HOLY CROSS**

The final Come Away Day for this year will be held on Wednesday 30 November at the Passionist Holy Cross Retreat Centre, 207 Serpells Road Templestowe.

The theme of the day is "Welcoming the Light." The day's program provides opportunities for prayer, meditation, silence and group interaction in the beautiful grounds of Holy Cross. The day concludes at 2pm with a service of Anointing and Eucharist. All are welcome. BYO lunch. The cost of the day is \$25.00 or a donation. Registration is at 9.30am. For further details contact Frank Burke -burke.frank942@yahoo.com.au or 0407998781.

Social Justice Action
St Kevin's Parish Templestowe**"Go to where many people struggle, and offer service as an echo of the love shown by Jesus".** Last Sunday Pope Francis celebrated Mass with the poor and re-opening of a mobile health clinic in St Peter's Square. For November focus he also spoke on "For Children who Suffer", a powerful 2 minute video now linked to St Kevin's Social Justice webpage at <https://www.stkevinsparish.org.au/community/get-involved/social-justice-action/> A 2nd visit to the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry has been arranged for Wednesday 30 November from 12-2:pm to explore timely Indigenous Issues & Opening The Doors Foundation (giving Koori Kids an education of their choice). Those interested are invited to register or enquire at templestowe@cam.org.au or 0409 967 201, John Costa, SJA**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.

Christmas Masses Sign Up Roster is out in the Foyer. Please add your name and contact details if you could help in any of the Masses.**FLORIST WANTED**— Our church has been adorned by beautiful flower arrangements done by a very small team of volunteers. And we need more people to help! It's usually once a month either on a Friday or Saturday morning roster. We also need help during the December & January holidays. So if you are only available during this time please contact us. If you are good with flowers and would love to help please ring the Parish Office 03 9412 8425 or email doncaster@cam.org.au.CATHOLIC
THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGEUNIVERSITY
OF DIVINITY**Online Information Session**

Join us and learn about your study options at Catholic Theological College

*With a range of online study options now available it is possible to participate in most units of study at CTC without leaving home.***Monday 5 December at 7.30pm (AEDT)**Register via our website: ctc.edu.au/open-days. For more information contact: jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au**St Vincent de Paul Society**
*good works***2022 V innies Christmas Appeal****This year the appeal will take place on the weekend of Nov 26th & 27th**

Members of our Conference will be available after each of the Masses to collect donations or answer any questions about the Vinnies and their work. We are looking to recruit new members so if you have a few hours a month to spare and you would like to directly help those in need, please speak to one of our members.

PRAYER GROUP THURSDAY EVERY FORTNIGHTPlease join us in Reflections and Prayers at 7.15 pm on Thursday, 1st December in the Church Meeting Room. For further information please contact the Parish Office at doncaster@cam.org.au**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ASSISTING REFUGEE STUDENTS****MERCY CONNECT MELBOURNE** is currently recruiting volunteers to support Refugee Students and Asylum Seekers in Primary and Secondary schools across the Melbourne Archdiocese. The volunteer commitment is approximately half a day per week for 4 school terms. Experience working in an educational setting is preferred but not limited to. Please contact Sr. Mary Lewis RSM for an application form and further information. A Training Day for new volunteers with emphasis on Child Safeguarding will take place prior to commencement in 2023.