

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD / A

8 JANUARY 2023

THEY OFFERED HIM GIFTS. For some Christians the feast of Epiphany is the day on which gifts are exchanged. As we observe the wise men opening their treasures in today's Gospel and offering gifts to Jesus, we can ask: what precious gifts can we offer to Jesus today? We may not have gold, frankincense and myrrh but we have our love, our fidelity, our time. We can give these to Jesus by giving them to those in need.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

cf. Mal 3:1; 1 Chron 19:12

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

GREETING

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

R. Amen.

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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 came to gather the nations into the peace of God's kingdom: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You come in word and in sacrament to strengthen us and make us holy: Christ have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You will come again in glory with salvation for your people: 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. O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy, that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory. 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 60:1-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.
The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still covers the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look round: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will grow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

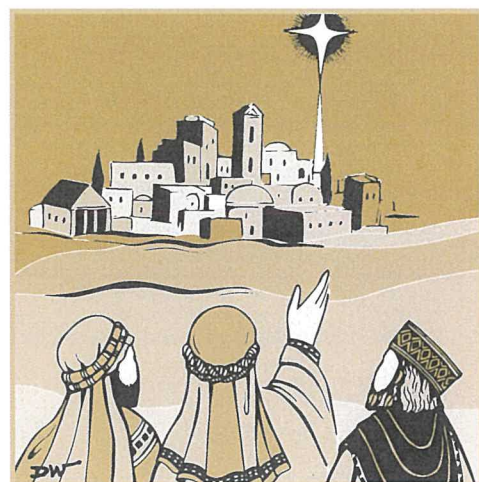
Ps 71:1-2, 7-13 R.v.11

R. Lord, every nation on earth will adore you.

1. O God, give your judgement to the king, / to a king's son your justice, / that he may judge your people in justice / and your poor in right judgement. **R.**

2. In his days justice shall flourish / and peace till the moon fails. / He shall rule from sea to sea, / from the Great River to earth's bounds. **R.**

3. The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts / shall pay him tribute. / The kings of Sheba and Seba / shall bring him gifts. / Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, / all nations shall serve him. **R.**



4. For he shall save the poor when they cry / and the needy who are helpless. / He will have pity on the weak / and save the lives of the poor. **R.**

SECOND READING

Eph 3:2-3, 5-6

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

The revelation means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 2:2

Alleluia, alleluia! We have seen his star in the East; and have come to adore the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 2:1-12

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.

We have come from the East to worship the King. After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. 'Where is the infant king of the Jews?' they asked. 'We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage.' When King Herod

heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 'At Bethlehem in Judaea,' they told him 'for this is what the prophet wrote:

And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah,

for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. 'Go and find out all about the child,' he said 'and when you have found him, let me know, so that I too may go and do him homage.' Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

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. Look with favour, Lord, we pray, on these gifts of your Church, in which are offered now not gold or frankincense or myrrh, but he who by them is proclaimed, sacrificed and received, Jesus Christ. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

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 EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

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. Mt 2:2

We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Go before us with heavenly light, O Lord, always and everywhere, that we may perceive with clear sight and revere with true affection

the mystery in which you have willed us to participate. 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

QUEST FOR TRUTH

Truth, like greatness, can come to us in a variety of ways. Some search for it and others have it thrust upon them. What brought the wise men from afar on such a journey of great adventure, risk and discovery? They were indeed people seeking the truth, and even more importantly, they were open to the new and unexpected ways in which that truth came to them. As they brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, the vision of that great prophet Isaiah is fulfilled. He knew that the call that Israel had received was one destined to be shared by all humanity, united in its worship of the living God. As a reward for their tireless quest for the truth, the wise men receive the gift of knowledge and understanding. It is not so with Herod. The truth is most unwelcome and is thrust upon him. The message of the astrologers from the East is decidedly unsettling for Herod: if this child is the newborn king of the Jews what will be Herod's status in the future?

Paul too has travelled, searched and wrestled with the truth that God wishes to be proclaimed to the world. It is a message that has the power to both liberate and discomfort. Gentiles who accept Jesus now share the same promises and inheritance as the people of Israel. They are part of the same body. Jewish Christians had to deal with the fact that what had been their exclusive privilege was now extended to the Gentiles and that this too was part of God's plan to be graciously accepted.

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST. GREGORY'S—DONCASTER

The Epiphany of the Lord, 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 (**limited hours till 2 Feb**)

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)

CHILDRENS LITURGY: Recommences in Feb 23

Please be alert! Covid-19 it IS still with us.. Masks, sanitising, isolating if test +

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa 49: 3, 5-6, 1 Cor 1: 1-3, Jh: 1: 29-34 .

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 (Closed till February)

PRAYER GROUP:

Thursday every Fortnight in Church Meeting Room (Closed till February)

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP:

Monthly 4th Fridays from 7:15pm—9.30pm (Closed till February)

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 Noella Tsung, 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 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 Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Vincenzo Pedulla, David Tencic, Maria Mazzolini and **for the repose of the souls of** Mary Chek Saw Khum, Robert Styevko, Insan Suryawinata, Lucy & Mario Zalesco and all whose anniversaries occur about now.

Words: from Fr Charles:

A Thank You from Fr Charles for all the Christmas Cards and Gifts and Offerings:

Thank you to all who gave to the Christmas Offerings and who gave me Christmas or New Year Gifts. My heart is deeply touched and each gift is greatly appreciated. (my apologies if your family name is mis-spelled, sometimes I could not clearly read the names on cards / envelopes). The families I know of who gave include: Cameron, de Alwis, Guest, Alcock, Puhaj, Liew, Angelico, Bogotto, Fulia, McCallum, Fearon, Gunarso, Aloï, Yong, Wood, White, Nimmo, Styevko, Sernio, Soenanta, Jusdianto, Toh, Tan, Williams, Kwan, Capito, Conigliaro, Mullens, Praha, Hackett, Jackson, McHugh, Barnes, D'Oliveiro, Hosking, Barbozza, tune, Tedesco, Tan, Fitzgerald, Stella, Masters, Lucy, Anderson, Goluza, Testa, Barry, Fish, Tomasello, Price, Ablaza, Dunlop, McClelland, Tan, McCarthy, Arief, De Silva, Stocco, Donato, Philip, Tonti-Filipini, Antonelli, O'Farrell, Gobrclos, Wong, Diamante, O'Donnell, Hansen, Green, Yong, Maglittia, Lewis, Moore, Aldridge. If your name is not here, my apologies, your gift is equally much appreciated but your name didn't get recorded.

To everyone in the parish, I am humbled by your generosity to me, but even more your ongoing generosity to the Parish Thanksgiving Program and to the various collections that arise throughout the year, including allowing that 10% of your weekly donations go to help Caritas in its essential works of charity.

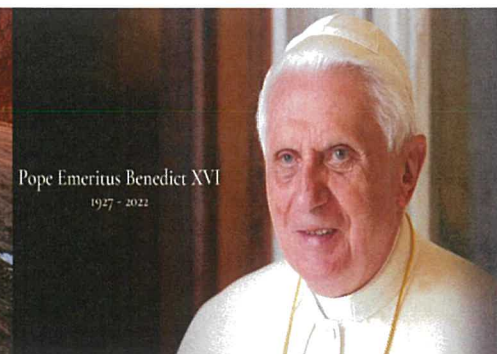
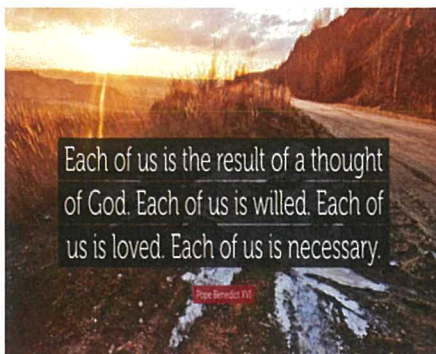
Parish Pastoral Council:

The Parish Pastoral Council has important work to do for the parish in the coming year, especially in following through on the excellent beginnings we made in our two parish forums –beginnings at renewing the various parish ministries and seeking to help them grow to be able to be more invitational, more active in being disciples.

To this end it would be good to have a some (4 or 5) more people on the Parish Pastoral Council as it seeks to inspire and guide and organise and even do some of the work needed as the parish enters the new world of 'post-Covid019' life.

If you are interested: please call or email Fr Charles (03 9412 8425 or Charles.balnaves@cam.org.au).

Alongside this, Sauro has tendered his resignation as Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council and from the council itself. After a dozen years of amazing service, his life needs to move in new directions. He will still be around and helping but not in the same leadership sense. Please, therefore, pray for me, pray for us, as we seek to discern the best person for the role Sauro has vacated. *God bless, Fr Charles.*



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:** Ray Lewis**LECTORS**

Gerard O'Donnell, Ian Barnes
 Tony Nimmo, Michael See
 Luisa Yambao, Chris Anggoro
 Benedicta Wong, Enza Scaffidi
 Carole Tang, Boris Klaric

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Iris O'Farrell, Margaret O'Donnell
 Joan Dinneen, Rachael Kay
 Robert Rukavina, Dai Si,
 Margaret O'Donnell, Mary Tonti-Filippini
MORNING TEA: N/A

COLLECTORS

Gerard O'Donnell
FLOWERS Geraldina Donato
 Mary Piccoli

NEXT WEEK 14/15 Jan

Sat 6.00pm
 Sun 9.00am
 Sun 10.30am
 Sun 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH**MONEY COUNTERS:** Tony Aldridge**LECTORS**

Joseph Philip, Lorna Philip
 Amanda Chong, Philip Dunlop
 David Perrin, Erin Djukiadmodjo
 Enza Scffidi, Mary Tonti-Filippini
 Andrew Khalil, Leth Go

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Neol & Cathy McClelland
 Tony Nimmo, Katica Puhali
 Rebecca Raymond, Mary Stocco
 Judy Ablaza, Alfred Ablaza
MORNING TEA: N/A

COLLECTORS**FLOWERS** Connie Amalfi**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.

Facebook: Live-streaming: We are no longer live streaming our Masses. We look forward to seeing you in person at 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?

REMINDERS: ALL volunteers must have a valid **Working with Children Check (WWCC)** and sign an new **Code-of-Conduct**.

Renew your WWC and Sign the Code of Conduct available in the church foyer or our website. If you like them emailed please email the office.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults online Seminar Series 2023

Wednesday 8 February, 2023- Session 3: 'Abide With Me' –the Rite of Enrolment of Names, Rite of Election and Lent. 7.30pm – 9.15pm.

- Celebrating the Rite of Enrolment of Names in preparation for the Rite of Election

- The Purification and Enlightenment period – resources/tools, discernment of needs

- Celebrating the Scrutinies

- Discernment of readiness for baptism/reception

Tuesday 28 February, 2023- Session 4: 'Into the Deep' – the Easter Vigil and the period of Mystagogia. 7.30pm – 9.15pm.

- The Easter Vigil – Sacraments of Initiation

- Mystagogia

- Life-long discipleship

For enquiries, please contact proclaim@cam.org.au or 9926 5709.



Journeying together with Sr Nathalie Berquart

Join Sr Nathalie Becquart XMCJ, Undersecretary of the General Secretariat of the Synod, for a conversation on 'journeying together' as Church, both universally and locally.

As our local Church in Melbourne walks the path of *Take the Way of the Gospel*, the universal Church is on her journey of synodality (*Synod 2021-2024—For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission*). These journeys are connected, and they invite us to walk together, listening to the Holy Spirit and to each other.

Tuesday 31 January 2023, 10am–12 noon

Catholic Leadership Centre 576 Victoria Pde, East Melbourne

Free Event

Registration is essential via www.trybooking.com/CFARB

Registration closes Friday 27 January 2023.

For enquiries, contact proclaim@cam.org.au or 9926 5761.

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.

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 on **9412 8425** or by email on DoncasterRE@cam.org.au

There will be an information evening on Tuesday, 14th February at 5pm in St Gregory's Parish Church. Please bring this information to the attention of any families you know who may wish to avail of this opportunity.

Searching for New Year Resolutions? Wanting to get closer to God? Finding new meaning in life? We have several Groups and Volunteering Opportunities in our Parish throughout the year that may have the answers for you: All groups are starting in February 2023.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP:

Wednesdays at 9.45 am in the church meeting room.

Contact Terry Morton 0402 307 384.

CORNERSTONE YOUTH GROUP: (Grade 6 to Year 9) Third Friday of the month from 7pm-9pm

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: (18– 30 Years Old) Fourth Friday of the month from 7:15pm—9.30pm \

PRAYER GROUP: Thursday every Fortnight in Church Meeting Room (

CHARISMATIC MASS & ADORATIONS: First Friday of the Month from 7pm– 8.15pm

CHILDREN'S LITURGY at the 10.30am Mass

ROSARIES every Wednesdays and Fridays after 9am Mass.

MARK THEM IN YOUR CALENDARS FOR 2023!**VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES:**

Vinnie's (Lorna Phillips)

Sacristan / support of running Mass (Mary Stocco)

Liturgical Ministries (Communions Lectors/Readers/ Collectors, Power-point Operators)

Visiting (Holy Communion) those at home, sick or in aged care (Joan Dinneen)

Knights of the Southern Cross (David Perrin/Chris Perera)

Counting Roster (Ray Lewis)

Florist (Geraldina Donato) and Care of the Church (Office)

Choir (Office)

Please contact the Office on 03 94128425 or doncaster@cam.org.au