

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT / C

27 MARCH 2022

THE JOY OF FORGIVENESS. The story of the prodigal son confirms Jesus' words that there is great rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner. The joyful and lavish banquet prepared by the father to celebrate his son's return is a symbol of the heavenly banquet. In this story the older son cuts himself off from the banquet. Unable to forgive like his father, he chooses to stay outside in his own private hell. May we know the joy of forgiveness and the joy of forgiving.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Isa 66:10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

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. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: 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.

The Gloria is not said during Lent.

COLLECT

P. O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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

Josh 5:9-12

A reading from the book of Joshua

The people of God went to the promised land and there kept the passover.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 33:2-7. R. v. 9

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, / his praise always on my lips; / in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. / The humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**

2. Glorify the Lord with me. / Together let us praise his name. / I sought the Lord and he answered me; / from all my terrors he set me free. **R.**

3. Look towards him and be radiant; / let your faces not be abashed. / This poor man called; the Lord heard him / and rescued him from all his distress. **R.**

SECOND READING

2 Cor 5:17-21

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appealing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Lk 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

I will rise and go to my father and tell him:



Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

R. Glory to you, O Lord.

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father,

I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

"Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening."

"The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

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. We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. 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 AND II 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: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, 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 Lk 15:32

You must rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy

and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. 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 in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

GRACIOUSNESS AND MERCY

After many years in the desert journeying towards the land of promise, it must have been difficult for the people of Israel to comprehend that they had finally arrived. A new stage in their lives was beginning and it was fitting to rejoice and remember what God had done by celebrating the Passover. The God who had nourished them in the desert would no longer provide manna; it was no longer necessary since now they had their own land which had been provided by God's graciousness.

For Paul, God's graciousness and mercy were nowhere more apparent than in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. In the second letter to the Corinthians, much of chapters two to six are taken up by Paul sharing his understanding and experience of apostolic life with them. There had been considerable friction between Paul and the community and this, no doubt, had called Paul to reflect on the sort of reconciliation and harmony for which he longed and worked. Misunderstood and hurt, Paul looks to the heart of the gospel message, a message of a new creation through forgiveness. As Jesus had reconciled us to God by his own death, so we are called to be reconciled to one another.

The call to reconciliation and graciousness is continued in today's Gospel. The timeless beauty of the parable of the loving father and his two sons calls us to look to our own hearts. Are we ready to forgive and be forgiven? Will we share in the new creation that Jesus died to bring us?

CHRISTOPHER MONAGHAN CP

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST. GREGORY'S—DONCASTER

Fourth Sunday of Lent / Year C — 27 March 2022

Parish Office:

Hours: Mon—Fri 9.30am to 3.30pm

Tel: 9412 8425

Email: Doncaster@cam.org.au

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)

Words from Fr Charles:

Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary!

We are joining in Pope Francis' call for all Catholics, all Christians, to consecrate ourselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In part, the Pope's one thousand word prayer reads: "Therefore ... we solemnly entrust and consecrate ourselves, the Church, and all humanity, especially Russia and Ukraine. ... lead us now on the paths of peace. Amen."

Copies of the full prayer have been emailed out and are available on paper in the foyer. I have prayed the complete prayer myself and I know others are doing so. We will pray a part of this prayer again during our Masses this weekend.

My first reaction to Pope Francis' call was surprise because it is not obvious that I can or we can consecrate someone else to the Immaculate Heart (or anyone else) unless it is something they request. How can I consecrate Russia or Ukraine?

My second reaction was to pray, to accept the call and commit myself to pray and invite the whole of the parishes of St Gregory's and St Kevin's to pray this consecration. When we do this, then the whole of the Body of Christ acts and prays as one for peace and this act will have powerful effects / results if we allow it to flow into our lives and actions.

I like to understand things which surprise or perplex me. There is usually a learning to be gleaned. So! How can "I" consecrate someone else? And the answer? It seems to me to be that I can't! And neither can you. What we can do is offer ourselves and others to God's Mercy, and doing this through the Immaculate Heart of Mary allows us to amplify our prayer through her. In doing this, as the pope's prayer says, we entrust ourselves to God. If we think about it, as a priest celebrating the Eucharist it is not me who consecrates the bread and wine: I am acting as and for Jesus Christ.

In the case of this consecration we make today, it is the Father who consecrates us and Russia and Ukraine, through the power of the Spirit and the work of Jesus Christ. We entrust ourselves to the Immaculate Heart of Mary knowing that she will clarify our prayer and draw us further into God's love and invite us to act for peace in our lives: over a billion Catholic's all acting and so consecrated for peace: powerful!

Parish Secretary: Praise the Lord and the Holy Spirit! From this Monday the parish office will once again be fully staffed. Nadia Bolzonello on Monday-Tuesday and Vera Arief on Wednesday-Friday with (from April 4th), also with Bernadine De Silva on Mondays keeping our finances up to date. Please welcome them all into these roles (and hopefully we'll get the phone message updated quickly). Vera will be getting familiar with parish work this week and for some time. Please warmly welcome Vera to this new role. You may know Vera already as a parishioner and as a mother of children in St Gregory the Great school. Her role as parish secretary brings a whole new dimension to her presence in and contribution to the parish, please help her to learn the needs of the parish and the boundaries of the role.

God bless, Father Charles

Caritas Ukraine: Please donate at <https://www.caritas.org.au/donate/emergency-appeals/ukraine/>

COVID MARSHALS: We have been gradually removing the Covid notices with the last remnant still in place being the amazing seat numbering from early in the pandemic. As we've done this the extent of your dedication to keeping us safe is borne in upon me again and again. **THANK YOU!!!** Don't forget: You are invited to a celebration of thanksgiving after the 5:00 pm Mass: 3rd April. Check Alfred's emails for details.

MASS TIMES:

Saturday: 6.00pm

Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am & 5.00pm

Wednesday and Friday: 9:00 am

MASS OPEN TO ALL; MASKS / DISTANCING BE SENSIBLE & CARING / ALWAYS SANITISE;

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS: Third Sunday of Lent

Ex 3:1-8, 13-15, 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12, Lk 13:1-9

RECONCILIATION: See notice in the body of this bulletin

BAPTISMS: Please ring the Parish Office for future 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: has restarted!!

Wednesdays at 9.45 am in the church meeting room.

Contact Terry Morton 0402 307 384.

CORNERSTONE YOUTH GROUP: (on hold)

First Friday of the month from 7pm-9pm

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: Friday 1st April (after Stations)

Then hopefully monthly from 7pm—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 Roy Dos Santos, Judith Morton, Joe Dimech, Lilia Go, Ralph Caparello, Theresa Yong, Maria Stone, Tony Ryan, Eliseo Pardillo, Siat Lin, Antoinette Tanzimat, Iris Henson Chan, Vincent Aloji, Margaret Dobran, Andrew Wilson, Fr Matthew Abraham CSsR, Wang Wei Qiao, Paul Materazzo, Ian Angus, Nieva Bothe, Bernadette Sheridon, Eliasari, Dennis Clarke, Veronica, Maria, Veronica, Luz, Carolina, Andrea, Marisa, Rodolfo, Angel, Gustavo, Julie Battanta, Margaret Hansen, Fati, Patricia McLeod

And Those who died recently; and for the repose of the souls of **Lim Keot Eng, Bartola Basile, Benito Pegorin, Kiky Alimuridjaja, Bonnie Lee, Henry Carter, Pat Maher, Pascal Paul Lemos, Thomas Perrin, Tanya Balnaves, Julie Battanta, Benito Sodano** and all those whose anniversaries occur at about this time.

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

THIS WEEK

Sat 6.00pm
 Sun 8.30am
 Sun 10.30am
 5.00pm

LECTORS

Ian Barnes, Robert McHugh
 Philip Dunlop, Michael See
 Erin Djukiadmodjo, Luisa Yambo
 Dot Haynes, —
 Agnes Chee, Clelia Tedesco

MINISTERS OF EUCHARIST

Peter Whiting, Margaret Kenshole
 Margaret Wallace, Katica Puhaj
 Muccia La Rocca, Pierre Tanzimat
 Tina Paolino, Caterina Gioffre

Alfred Lee, Seleana Ong (Ctrs)

CARE OF THE CHURCH**FLOWERS** : (Lent—no flowers)**NEXT WEEK 2, 3 April**

Sat 6.00pm
 Sun 8.30am
 Sun 10.30am
 5.00pm

Frances Cannizzo, Frank Ryan
 Greg James, Rachael kay
 Joesph Fernandez, Aidan Leung
 Jane Ma, Stephanie Ong

Noel & Cathy McClelland
 Joan Dinneen, Rachael Kay
 Edith Ma, Mary Martin
 Nita Pereira, VivianaPerera

Francis Yim, Gerard O'Donnell (Ctrs)

CARE OF THE CHURCH

2 Apr: Leth Go, Joanne Lee

FLOWERS : (Lent—no flowers, restart 15 Apr.)

FACE MASKS: Please act with to sensible caution



**Foruth Sunday of Lent
 26/27 March**



Rosalie 44, is an ex-combatant who lives with her husband and seven children in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Forced to join the army when she was just 15-years-old, Rosalie experienced significant trauma and hardship during her years in the military. After she was demobilised from the army, Rosalie, like other ex-combatants, was left to fend for herself in the community.

With your generous support and through our local partners, Rosalie was able to connect with other members of her community and participate in business skills training to help her to reintegrate into society.

Please donate to Project Compassion 2022 and help people living with disabilities in India gain access to education and clean water, empowering them with skills to build a better future. 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 and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au or by calling 1800 024 413.

Confession: 1st Rite of Reconciliation: Saturdays in St Greg's Church from 9-10am. Any Mass, Fr Charles is available 30-10 mins before. If there is another celebrant, please ask for the sacrament.

Masses with congregations: QR Code check-in is no longer required. Still we must hand sanitise. Parish staff and volunteers within the Parish setting and its outreach are still required to be up to date with their vaccination.

FACE COVERINGS / DISTANCING: be sensible and respect others and the need for still being careful.

Masses next Sunday: the normal 6pm/8:30 am/10:30 am/5pm schedule.

Weekday Mass times in the coming week: Tuesday, Thursday: 9:15 am St Kevin's Lower Templestowe; Wednesday, Friday: 9:00 am St Greg's Doncaster.

Facebook: It is getting more difficult to live-stream as we have many Masses where children are a direct part of the celebration of the Mass. I will continue to live-stream when possible (9:15 am from St Kevin's Tu/Th; Sunday morning 10:00 St K or 10:30 St G).

Easter Working Bee: 9th April 9 am—Noon: General cleaning / clearing up around the church.

Often there are only a few people who come along. Perhaps for this working-bee / busy-bee many hands could come along and a lot of extra things could get done.

A minor 'resurrection' work.

Empty Space: Oh! look, empty space: that must mean your group can take up this space.

Easter at St Gregory's

Holy Thursday 14th April:

Mass of the Lord's Supper—7.30pm

Good Friday 15th April:

Stations of the Cross—10.00am

Passion Ceremony—3.00pm

Saturday 16th April:

Easter Vigil—6.30pm

Easter Sunday 17th April:

Masses—8.30am, 10.30am & 5.00pm

During Lent: Stations of the Cross : Every Friday at 7pm.

Holy Week Sign Up Sheets: sheets are in the narthex of the church please put your names down to help: we need lots of help to ensure we can give fulsome praise to Jesus Christ in his passion, his death and his resurrection.

Easter Vigil: We are planning to provide a small thank you gift at Easter. Historically this would be shared food. To be inclusive of all given vaccination limitations, this year we will provide something as 'take away' so that everyone is included. We are pondering how to deliver a shot of sherry Covid-safely ☺ (Children will be offered a (wrapped) chocolate.)

Baptism: We welcome Xavier Munro Conte to our faith community at the 6 pm Mass on Saturday. His baptism coincides with the two month anniversary of the death of Benito Pegorin, providing a beautiful moment of joining joy and grief and faith in the eternal life that we share through baptism in to Jesus Christ.

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School - Open Days In 2022

Tue 29th Mar, Tue 3rd May, Tue 17th May & Tue 8th Nov from 9am—1pm. Register at www.sgoncaster.catholic.edu.au/events

Parish Facilities: The Tennis Club Room and Courts and the Hall and the Parish Room are becoming 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. Thinking of a gathering? Think of us (after Easter).

**Parish Sacramental Program 2022
 for the Sacraments of Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation**

Thank you for everyone who participated at the information session. You may have now received all the information in relation to the Sacramental class dates and times.

Piety Stall : Marketing/Sales Skills? We've had a few people offer help but still need more. We still need the marketing side: please, a one-off provision of advice. Contact Mary Wilson on 0433682285".

Pilgrimage Statue: We have located some names from the past of this wonderful prayer ministry. Dot or Shirley may call you to see what you would like to have happen with this pilgrimage.

The Doncaster RSL needs help for ANZAC day: call 0466 026 820 or 0425 718 937 or Email appealsdoncastersrl@gmail.com