

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

10 MAY 2026

PROCLAIM THE GOOD NEWS. The early Christian community could not remain as an enclosed, self-contained group in Jerusalem. Its members felt impelled by Christ to bring the Good News to Samaria and then to the ends of the earth. Christians in every age are called to be fully involved in the life and joys and pains of the world. At times this can be difficult but the Spirit of God is always with us to help us.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** cf. Isa 48:20

**Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.**

## GREETING

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

**R. Amen.**

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**R. And with your spirit.**

## PENITENTIAL ACT

P. Brethren (brothers and sisters), let us acknowledge our sins, and so prepare ourselves to celebrate the sacred mysteries.

P. Have mercy on us, O Lord.

**R. For we have sinned against you.**

P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

**R. And grant us your salvation.**

P. May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**R. Amen.**

V. Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

V. Christ, have mercy.

**R. Christ, have mercy.**

V. Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

## 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. Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honour of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. 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 8:5-8, 14-17

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles  
They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

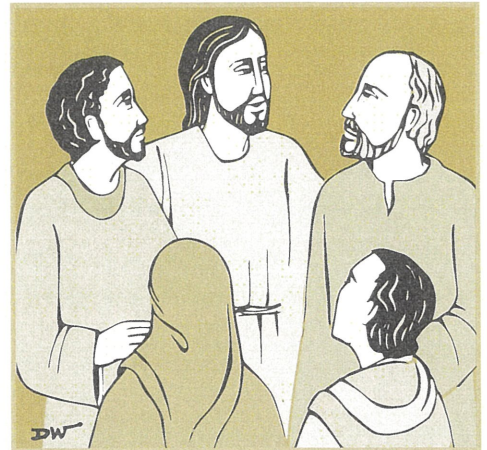
**RESP PSALM** Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20. R. cf. v. 2

**R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (or Alleluia!)**

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth, / O sing to the glory of his name. / O render him glorious praise. / Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!' **R.**

2. 'Before you all the earth shall bow; / shall sing to you, sing to your name!' / Come and see the works of God, / tremendous his deeds among men. **R.**

3. He turned the sea into dry land, / they passed through the river dry-shod. / Let our joy then be in him; / he rules for ever by his might. **R.**



4. Come and hear, all who fear God. / I will tell what he did for my soul: / Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer / nor withhold his love for me. **R.**

**SECOND READING** 1 Pet 3:15-18

*A reading from the first letter of St Peter  
In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.*

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Jn 14:23

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them and we will come to them.**

**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** Jn 14:15-21

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.**

*I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,  
and he will give you another Advocate  
to be with you for ever,  
that Spirit of truth  
whom the world can never receive  
since it neither sees nor knows him;  
but you know him,  
because he is with you, he is in you.  
I will not leave you orphans;  
I will come back to you.  
In a short time the world will no longer  
see me;  
but you will see me,  
because I live and you will live.  
On that day  
you will understand that I am in my Father  
and you in me and I in you.  
Anybody who receives my commandments  
and keeps them  
will be one who loves me  
and anybody who loves me will be loved by  
my Father,  
and I shall love him and show myself to him.  
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. May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord,  
together with the sacrificial offerings, so that,  
purified by your graciousness, we may be  
conformed to the mysteries of your mighty  
love. 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-V 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: Save us, Saviour of the world,  
for by your Cross and Resurrection  
you have set us free.**

### COMMUNION RITE

P. At the Saviour's command and formed by  
divine teaching, we dare to say:

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

P. Deliver us, Lord, we pray...

**All: For the kingdom, the power and the  
glory are yours now and for ever.**

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

**R. Amen.**

P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*All exchange a sign of peace*

### LAMB OF GOD

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sins  
of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of  
the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of  
the world, grant us peace.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who  
takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are  
those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**R. Lord, I am not worthy  
that you should enter under my roof,  
but only say the word  
and my soul shall be healed.**

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON Jn 14:15-16

**If you love me, keep my commandments,  
says the Lord, and I will ask the Father  
and he will send you another Paraclete,  
to abide with you for ever, alleluia.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Almighty ever-living God, who restore us  
to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ,  
increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this  
paschal Sacrament and pour into our hearts  
the strength of this saving food. 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.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

## BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

### THE SPIRIT IS WITH US

Last week it was worry. Today it is  
about loneliness. We know loneliness.  
We know what it feels like, for example,  
when someone close to us dies. Grief,  
sadness and loneliness can be palpable.  
In today's Gospel, John invites us again  
to draw closer to Jesus who addresses the  
loneliness which the disciples (and, at  
times, ourselves) can experience. When  
we feel God's apparent silence or absence,  
when we deal with death or tragedy, Jesus  
promises 'another Advocate'. This is the  
promise of his very Spirit that will remain  
with the disciples when he physically  
leaves them.

By the time John writes, this is already  
a reality and Jesus' spirit, the Advocate,  
the 'Spirit of Truth', is with them and  
'forever'. They will not be left orphaned  
as the Spirit accompanies them in every  
generation to experience his eternal and  
real, though non-physical, presence.  
But there is a second promise that Jesus  
makes. He will return as he offers an  
eschatological vision, an insight into  
the final days, in which the disciples  
will experience their communion and  
intimacy with God restored. They will  
discover a love that is eternal and carry  
them through those days of loneliness.

This is the promise that we need to  
hear, especially as we grapple with our  
experiences of loneliness brought on by  
grief of our beloved dead or the persistent  
loneliness of life that surrounds us. Jesus'  
Advocate, his Spirit, is with us.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

## Sixth Sunday of Easter (A)

9/ 10 May 2026

### Parish Office:

Hours: Mon—Fri 9.00am to 3.30pm  
Tel: 9412 8425

Email: [doncaster@cam.org.au](mailto:doncaster@cam.org.au)

Website: <https://www.stgregs.org.au/>

Parish Priest: Fr. Charles Balnaves

Assistant Priest: Anton Aseervathampillai

Business Manager: David Hii

Parish Secretary: Mon & Wed: Vera Arief

Tue, Thurs & Fri: Luisa Yambao

Mon: Bernadine De Silva (bookkeeping)

Sacristan: Mary Stocco - Mob: 0412 742 657

### MASS TIMES:

St Greg's: Sat Vigil 6.00pm; Sun 9.00am, 10.30am & 5.00pm

Wed & Fri 9.00am followed by Holy Rosary & Eucharistic Adoration

CHILDREN LITURGY: Sunday mornings @ 10.30am

YOUTH MASS 2ND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
UPCOMING DATES: 10 MAY, 14 JUNE

Reconciliation: Saturdays 9.30-11.00am (or by appointment or before/after any Mass but allow time)

Anointing of the Sick before/after any Mass or by appointment

St Kevin's: Sat Vigil 5.30pm; Sun 9.15am; Tue & Thurs 9.15am

**"Wash your hands" says my son to his daughter: sensible hygiene is essential at home and at church.**

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11; Ps 46:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20

BAPTISMS: Please ring the Parish Office for bookings

ST GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Tel: (03) 9848 4483

Email: [principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au)

### PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS:

Email Margaret O'Donnell at [margaretodonnell@gmail.com](mailto:margaretodonnell@gmail.com)

### CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP:

Wednesdays at 9.45am in the church meeting room

Contact Paola Cheng 0415 280 216

CORNERSTONE YOUTH GROUP: 3rd Fridays of the month 7.00pm-9.00pm

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: 4th Fridays 7:15pm—9.30pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE: 3rd Mondays 7.00pm 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 Maria Benic, Raymond Au, Helen, Robert, Tilly, Mary Navaratne, Ivan Peterson, Amy Liu, Ann & Stephen Kennett, Camilla Bannon, Mary S.N Wong, Yuet Sim Chow, Jason Shum, Camilla Banon, Elmo Silvapulle, Anna Ziginis, Anna Ng, Monia Iaconi, Meredith Barnes, Michael Mullens, Siv Cuasay, Chee Mee Lian, Emmly Luethampakdee

**and for those who died recently**

Jose Navikuzhiyil

**and for those whose anniversaries occur about now** Kevin Cheng, Shu Kong, Victor Rosales, Maria Beiza, Enrique Rosales



### Words from PP,

#### Mother's Day

I have 'screen-shot' memories of my mother checking me as I lay under the netting getting some sun in London – making sure the soot from the air was not falling on me, and of her keeping me quiet for three or six months while I recovered from meningitis, and of her delight at meeting my first son and talking to me across the kitchen table as I tussled with learning to be a dad, and encouraging me to follow my career rather than worrying about her as she went through cancer.

Mothers of all varieties and backgrounds do extraordinary things for us, their children. Not just the gestation and caring as babies but all through our lives bringing the same care that Our Lady brought to Jesus.

Thank you. I give you God's blessing. A blessing that calls on the Holy Spirit to enliven your hearts with thanks and gratitude and fortitude and care and most of all love – the love that God has for us.

#### Parish Assembly – deferral

Last week Peter Sheehan and I spoke across the parishes about an Assembly for our three parishes: it is being deferred until October or thereabouts. On Thursday I came to realise the implications of getting settled after my appointment to St Clement's as Parish Priest and the number of other things that are planned in the week we had tentatively scheduled the Assembly. The planning team agreed we need to defer and have tentatively chosen 'October' – six months away to give time for the initial work across three parishes to settle a little.

#### Partnering Parishes Planning

St Clement's, St Kevin's, St Gregory's: three parishes called to move into the future together. I have formed a small group to help me navigate how we move forwards together. Maria Papalia and another to be finalised from St Clement's; Carmel Purdey and Ashwin D'Costa from St Kevin's; Margaret O'Donnell and Alfred Ablaza from St Greg's' with Suzette Diaz and Nicole Vine from the archdiocese (they have experience in parish partnering).

This group is about helping me think about issues across the parishes and will meet approximately fortnightly. I am also meeting with the Parish Pastoral Councils of each parish and then will meet with all three Parish Pastoral Councils and Parish Finance Groups to come up with some thoughts about immediate steps which I can then canvass with you and the broader population of the parishes. It appears to me that we need some basic directions by no later than early June.

The members of the small group are more than willing to listen to anything you have to say about your dreams for the future as three partnered parishes. We have already been doing a lot together as two parishes (Safeguarding, Vinnies, Alpha, RCIA, some social events, joint meetings) so we have something of a base from which to start including St Clement's with St Gregory's and St Kevin's.

I will seek to keep you informed as we progress.

#### Bake Sale / Audio System

Thank you! The donations, the buzz, the fellowship, the conversations around the tables, the laughter, the generosity in baking the cakes, the giving towards our new acoustic system.

Thank you to Krispy Kreme and Egons – your gifts were very much appreciated.

For all those families who cooked/baked for the sale, and took the time to deliver goods: Thank you! I know how precious your time is.

For all those who helped organise (I was asked if there was a camp bed available ☺ ) it took so much effort: receiving goods; labelling (the laughter around the tables was infectious); the layout of goods; the sale of goods before and after Masses; the preparation of the raffle prizes and sale of tickets.

The sale raised \$4,330 towards the new audio system: Wow, again thank you all.

I have pondered over the years what it means to be a parish community that extends beyond the central reason for gathering with Jesus Christ to pray in word and in eucharist. This is one large part – the sense of fellowship and caring and enjoyment and ... God's love that was so evident.

Congratulations to the winners of the raffle: 1<sup>st</sup>: Isabel W, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Marie/Claire C, 3<sup>rd</sup>: Venny S, 4<sup>th</sup>: Carlos, 5<sup>th</sup>: Clara J

And ... on Wednesday the Archdiocese provided us with verbal approval to go ahead with the installation of the new system. We will schedule the works so that they can be done quickly after we have written approval.

*God Bless, Fr Charles.*

#### Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:

Thanks for the great graces given our parishes over the decades since their establishment: that we will continue to open our hearts to receive the graces of the future.



*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

**LECTORS**

Peter Whiting, Robert McHugh  
Tony Nimmo, Paola Villanueva  
Amanda Stefanovski, Tony Ting  
YOUTH MASS

**CARE OF THE CHURCH:** Mike Yambao

**MONEY COUNTERS:** Christopher Lim, Josie Masters

**NEXT WEEK**

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

**LECTORS**

Noel & Cathy McClelland  
Luisa Yambao, Jay de Graaf  
Justin Green, Sauro Antonelli  
Stephanie Ong Dot Haynes

**CARE OF THE CHURCH:** Phil Handang

**MONEY COUNTERS:** Lina & Don Pavone

**COMMUNION MINISTERS**

Sharron Wilkinson, Gerald O'Donnell  
Margaret Wallace, Joan Dinneen  
Maggie Yong, Mary Stocco, Erin Djukiadmodjo  
YOUTH MASS

**MORNING TEA:** N/A

**FLOWERS:** Mary Piccoli

**COMMUNION MINISTERS**

Frances Cannizzo, Margaret O'Donnell  
Iris O'Farrell, Mike Yambao  
Nuccia La Rocca, Behnaz Behmadi, Lilian Antonelli  
Mary Tonti-Filippini, Nita Pereira

**MORNING TEA:** N/A

**FLOWERS:** Irene Dharmawan

For those who are Coeliac, we can provide low gluten (<20 pmm) hosts. Please let the priest or sacristan know your need.

**St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School**

**Open Days:**

Thurs, 29th Oct at 9.30-11.30am  
School Tours: contact 9848 4483  
sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au

(03) 9848 4483 principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au



Parish Facilities: The Parish Hall and Parish Room are available for use. Bookings can be made: [office@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au)

**Ways of Giving—**  
**Thank you for your generosity and continuous support!**

**Scan and Give**  
Scan this code with your phone camera and donate directly to our church. Choose Payment for Church Donations. It's simple & secure.



**Give by Contactless**  
Use our Eftpos Machine located in the church Narthex. You can donate with a debit/credit card. It's simple and secure.

CatholicCare Victoria is deeply grateful for the support of our parish during last week's CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. The generosity of our parish community means that CatholicCare Victoria can continue their mission; to empower communities and building strength and resilience, to enable everyone to reach their full potential and live life to the full. Your compassion and generosity ensure individuals and families are supported with safe housing, practical assistance, and compassionate care as they rebuild their lives. Thank you for helping open the door to safety, dignity and hope. For more information about CatholicCare Victoria, please visit: [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au)



**ALPHA CELEBRATION DINNER COME & SEE NIGHT**

**WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY 6.30-8.30PM**  
**AT ST KEVIN'S CHURCH, TEMPLESTOWE IN THE GATHERING SPACE DINNER PROVIDED**



Join us for a celebration of Alpha with fun, food and conversation.  
Open to all our Alpha participants and to anyone interested in Alpha  
**RSVP: 13th May**  
[templestowe@cam.org.au](mailto:templestowe@cam.org.au); 03 9850 5983  
[doncaster@cam.org.au](mailto:doncaster@cam.org.au); 03 9412 8425



**Pentecost RETREAT**  
IGNITE THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

**SATURDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2026**  
ST GREGORY'S CHURCH HALL  
71 WILLIAMSONS RD, DONCASTER  
**9.30AM - 5.30PM**

**Speaker: MALCOLM LOCK**  
• Talks • Testimonies  
• Praise & Worship  
• Outpouring of the Holy Spirit




RSVP BY 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026  
[WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/DLGUIK](http://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/DLGUIK)  
This event is open to participants aged 15 years & above. Children under 18 yo must be accompanied by a parent or a guardian.  
P: 9412 8425- EMAIL: [DONCASTER@CAM.ORG.AU](mailto:DONCASTER@CAM.ORG.AU)



**You're Invited**

*A Moment to Say Thank You*

**THANKSGIVING MASS SUNDAY, 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY AT 10.30AM**  
**ST GREGORY'S CHURCH FOLLOWED BY LUNCH IN THE CHURCH HALL FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS**

RSVP BY 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY TO  
[HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/DLNPF](https://www.trybooking.com/DLNPF)




**Cornerstone Youth Group**

**Friday, 15 May 7-9PM**

**Youth from 12 to 17 years old**

Build your faith and connect more deeply with God while hanging out, having real conversations, and making lasting friends. Come be part of an amazing journey!

St Gregory the Great Parish Room.  
71 Williamsons Rd, Doncaster  
info: [doncaster@cam.org.au](mailto:doncaster@cam.org.au) or 03 9412 8425




Dear God,  
Bless all mothers today.  
Those who cradle children in their arms,  
And those who hold them in their hearts.  
Comfort mothers who mourn,  
Embrace those who wait with hope,  
And walk beside those who long to become mothers.  
Remember with us the mothers who have gone before,  
And fill every heart with your peace and love.  
Amen.

