

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

26 APRIL 2026

THEY KNOW HIS VOICE. At times it can be hard to recognise the voice of Jesus as there are many who claim to speak in his name. A useful guide is to look at people's actions. We can listen to those whose lives reveal the qualities of Jesus: love, compassion, justice, self-sacrifice. They are the good shepherds in our midst.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 32:5-6

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth; by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

GREETING

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

R. Amen.

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT

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

P. Lord Jesus, you have revealed yourself as the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You have poured out on your people the Spirit of truth: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to eternal life: 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. Almighty ever-living God, lead us to a share in the joys of heaven, so that the humble flock may reach

where the brave Shepherd has gone before.

Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14, 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 22:1-6. R. v. 1

R. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (or Alleluia!)

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Pet 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you are called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 10:1-10

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 am the gate of the sheepfold.

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes

ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.’

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

‘I tell you most solemnly,

I am the gate of the sheepfold.

All others who have come
are thieves and brigands;

but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:
he will go freely in and out
and be sure of finding pasture.

The thief comes

only to steal and kill and destroy.

I have come

so that they may have life

and have it to the full.’

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. Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that we may always find delight in these
paschal mysteries,
so that the renewal constantly at work
within us
may be the cause of our unending joy.
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: 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

**The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures
the sheep you have redeemed by the
Precious Blood of your Son. Who lives and
reigns for ever and ever.

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

THE BEAUTIFUL SHEPHERD

The Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of
Easter is traditionally from John 10,
about the ‘Good (or, literally, ‘beautiful’)
shepherd’. Today’s selection focuses on
the image of the *gate* of the sheepfold.
In our culture, gates and doors are
important. They provide us with security
and access to what is inside—a house, a
building, a room. And through entering
the door or gate, we come to be with
others, with whom we (usually) identify
or know, perhaps family members and
friends. In the Gospel, the one who enters
this gate is the shepherd of the flock—an
image familiar to John’s Mediterranean
audience and in a world where shepherds
were male and female. The shepherd
is a protecting and loving figure who is
familiar with each sheep—calling each
one by name. The shepherd leads the
sheep who follow because ‘they know his
voice’. This image of the sheep ‘knowing’
the voice of the shepherd accentuates the
deep and abiding intimate relationship
between the sheep and shepherd.

In the final part of the Gospel, Jesus
reaffirms his mission of protection and
his intent to bring freedom to those who
listen to his voice. Perhaps, by the time
of the Gospel’s writing, the community
was already experiencing division,
difficulty and others presuming to speak
in ways that claimed authority but were
in fact ‘thieves and brigands’. The Gospel
concludes: Jesus has come ‘so that they
may have life and have it to the full.’ This
desire for the fullness of life echoes in
each of our hearts as we allow the voice of
the ‘Beautiful Shepherd’ to guide, protect
and nurture us.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Fourth Sunday of Easter (A)

25/ 26 April 2026

Parish Office:

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

Email: 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: FIFT SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 6:1-7, 1 Pet 2:4-9, Jn 14:1-12

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

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS:

Email Margaret O'Donnell at 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, Emmlly Luethamphakdee

and for those who died recently James Lovitt, Orazio Scaffidi, Max Passarella

and for those whose anniversaries occur about now Antonino Ferraro, Benedos-Ruherts Family



Words from PP,

Confirmation:

Please keep our children from our two schools and catechist groups in your prayers – along with Vicki and Lil and Ana and Margaret. Preparation for Confirmation has started in earnest: our children need our prayers to help them discern a Confirmation Name/Saint and choose a sponsor.

On Pentecost Sunday, May 24th in the afternoon, we will have Bishop Les Tomlinson join us for Mass (12:30 pm St Kevin's; 3:00 pm St Greg's) to provide the Sacrament of Confirmation for our children who are candidates this year.

When I studied Confirmation I wrote an essay that got very good marks – but not a high distinction. Why? I never mentioned the fact that the core of this sacrament is that we become filled with the Holy Spirit. I spoke about the seven gifts and the nine (or twelve) fruits and that it has an element of taking responsibility for one's own faith journey and that it has an element of growing up.

But ... not once ... did I mention the core of Pentecost (Acts 2:4) "They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different languages as the Spirit gave them power to express themselves."

The Holy Spirit filling us is at the heart of Pentecost and is core to every day of our lives after we are Confirmed.

Please, keep our candidates in your prayers over the coming weeks leading to Pentecost and their Confirmation. Please keep everyone in our community in your prayers – asking that each of us will be, as the disciples were at Pentecost, "filled with the Holy Spirit."

Safety / Path / Slope:

I hope the new path along the side of the driveway is helping provide a less steep way to make your way down to the carpark. I have been part of discussions about some additional possibilities for enhancing the safety of the area around the church entry. One thing we will do soon is put up a few reminder signs about taking care / using handrails and such. A few people have suggested such things as better lighting at night, extra handrails, steps, an electric chair: we are investigating what is practical and will make a difference.

Audio System / Worship:

We have a bake sale organised for the beginning of May to help fund the new Audio System. The total cost of the system is a little over \$100,000 (we're waiting on final quotes to get final approval from the archdiocese). We hope the bake sale will be successful in raising some funds to go towards this important aide to our worship. The cost is large but is necessary. You will remember that since I arrived, I have had people saying "they can't hear what is being said" – and I had someone tell me that just a few days ago, and sometimes I share this 'can't hear' myself. The issue is not loudness, though but a physical effect called reverberance, a bit like an echo but not with that long delay. The sound reverberates and overlaps one word with the next and the next – making some words unintelligible. The new audio system will overcome that problem. The consequence: a more positive and engaging experience which helps people know God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

God Bless, Fr Charles.

Next weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria is the Church's mission in action - empowering communities and building strength and resilience, to enable everyone to reach their full potential and live life to the full. Your kindness and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. You can donate using the appeal envelope available in our parish, donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9967 2515. "For I was a stranger and you welcomed me." (Matthew 25:35)



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:

For our parishes as we journey towards Pentecost: that our hearts will be open to the Fire of the Holy Spirit.

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

THIS WEEK

Sat 6.00pm Frank Ryan, Benedicta Wong
 Sun 9.00am Paola Villanueva, Margaret Wallace
 Sun 10.30am Brian Tyedin, Jenny Tyedin
 Sun 5.00pm Jocey Pranata, Vivianna Pereira

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Phil Handang**MONEY COUNTERS:** Iris O'Farrell & Sharron Wilkinson**LECTORS****COMMUNION MINISTERS**

Margaret O'Donnell, Frances Cannizzo
 Mary Stocco
 Edith Ma, Lilian & Sauro Antonelli
 Judy Ablaza, Nita Pereira

MORNING TEA: Brian & Jenny Tyedin**FLOWERS:** Le Nguyen**NEXT WEEK**

Sat 6.00pm Frances Cannizzo, Alvin Priyana
 Sun 9.00am Jacqueline Rogers, Philip Dunlop
 Sun 10.30am Aidan Leung, Karen Chay
 Sun 5.00pm Nat De Silva, Jane Ma

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Mary Wilson**MONEY COUNTERS:** Philip Dunlop, Marian See**LECTORS****COMMUNION MINISTERS**

Noel & Cathy McClelland
 Tony Nimmo
 Nucia La Rocca, Dai Sim, Behnaz Behmadi
 Alfred Lee, Seleana Ng

MORNING TEA: TBA**FLOWERS:** Geraldina Donato

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:**

Tue, 5th May and Thurs, 29th Oct
 at 9.30-11.30am

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

School Tours: contact 9848 4483
 sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au



Parish Facilities: The Parish Hall and Parish Room are available.
 Room bookings can be made: St.gregoryhall3108@gmail.com



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE



catholicvocations

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Pope Leo tells us:

Listen to the voice of the Lord who invites you to a full and fruitful life, calling you to put your talents to use (cf. Mt 25:14-30) and to unite your limitations and weaknesses with the glorious cross of Christ.

Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life, diaconate or priesthood.

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 and 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.

Social Justice Action**St Kevin's Parish, Templestowe****WINTER COAT DRIVE**

During the month of May 2026

We are collecting warm clean coats, jackets, beanies and wool blankets (not quilts) for refugees, asylum seekers and other vulnerable people

DROP OFF:

St Kevins Church or Parish House 26-44 Herlihy's Road,
 Templestowe Lower

St Gregory the Great Church, 71 Williamsons Rd, Doncaster
 Queries: Carmel Purdey carmelpurdey@gmail.com



CatholicCare VICTORIA

**CALLING ALL BAKERS**

St Gregory's Parish Bake Sale
 2nd & 3rd May 2026

Baked Goods Donations Needed

Our parish is raising funds for a new church sound system, and we need your help!

We warmly invite parishioners and families to donate homemade baked goods for our upcoming Bake Sale.

Ideas for donations:

- CAKES • CUPCAKES • COOKIES •
- BROWNIES • MUFFINS • SLICES

Please drop off your baked goods on Friday, 1st May 2026 at the Parish Room 5-7pm or before Mass on the 2nd & 3rd May. Baked goods to be packed and ready to sell with the list of ingredients to be included or presented.

Your delicious creations will help us improve the sound in our church so everyone can clearly hear and participate in Mass.

Thank you for supporting our parish community!

For more info contact: 03 9412 8425 or doncaster@cam.org.au

WE REMEMBER ANZAC DAY

WE REMEMBER HEROES AND WHAT THEY GAVE FOR OUR TOMORROW

**MINI ALPHA****Kinder & Primary School Children**

Join us for a Mini Alpha experience at St Gregory's!
 Parents and carers are invited to journey alongside your children as we come together in the presence of the Holy Spirit to grow in faith and deepen our relationship with Jesus.

SUNDAY, 3RD MAY | 11:30AM - 1.00PM**St Gregory's School Hall****WHAT TO EXPECT**

- Short videos about Jesus
- Sharing & Discussions
- Q & A
- Pizzas will be provided or BYO lunch (Nuts free)

RSVP: 30TH APRIL

Registration form to be returned to:
doncaster@cam.org.au
 Info: Dai 0417 683 528