

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

26 JULY 2026

FINDING A TREASURE. A treasure is not something we earn but something we find. We can spend a lot of our lives wishing and hoping that some treasure will come our way. We can forget that we already possess a wonderful treasure in our loved ones and in the gift of life itself. And the greatest treasure of all is the kingdom of heaven which Jesus freely offers to us. May we have the wisdom to seek our treasure in God, and not in the glittering goods of a passing world.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 67:6-7, 36

God is in his holy place, / God who unites those who dwell in his house; / he himself gives might and strength to his people.

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. O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure. 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

1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings
You have asked for wisdom.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this', the Lord said, 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PS Ps 118:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130. R. v. 97

R. Lord, I love your commands.

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord, / is to obey your word. / The law from your mouth means more to me / than silver and gold. **R.**
2. Let your love be ready to console me / by your promise to your servant. / Let your love come to me and I shall live / for your law is my delight. **R.**



3. That is why I love your commands / more than finest gold. / That is why I rule my life by your precepts; / I hate false ways. **R.**

4. Your will is wonderful indeed; / therefore I obey it. / The unfolding of your word gives light / and teaches the simple. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 8:28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

He predestined us to become true images of his Son.

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Mt 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia! / Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, / you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 13:44-52

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.

He sells everything he owns and buys the field.

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Shorter form 13:44-46.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH APOSTLES' CREED

Or the Nicene Creed may be said.

I believe in God, / the Father almighty, / Creator of heaven and earth, / and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, / who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, / born of the Virgin Mary, / suffered under Pontius Pilate, / was crucified, died and was buried; / he descended into hell; / on the third day he rose again from the dead; / he ascended into heaven, / and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; / from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. / I believe in the Holy Spirit, / the holy catholic Church, / the communion of saints, / the forgiveness of sins, / the resurrection of the body, / and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

After the priest raises the paten with the bread and prays, and then the chalice, we respond to each prayer:

R. Blessed be God for ever.

P. Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

R. May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

P. Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings which we bring from the abundance of your gifts, that through the powerful working of your grace these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life and lead us to eternal gladness. 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-VIII OF THE SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME

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

Ps 102:2

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament, the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son; grant, we pray, that this gift, which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling, may profit us for salvation. 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

COMMUNION WITH GOD

Today we continue to hear from the central chapter in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' parable teaching about the kin-dom of God. Over the past Sundays we have been hearing parables concerned with sowed seed (15th Sunday) and the mystery of the darnel sown among the wheat (last Sunday). Today we hear that the kin-dom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, a common banking technique by peasant farmers to protect their most valuable possessions. Someone discovers this treasure; hides it again and then sells every possession to buy the field and claim the treasure. Between the discovery and the purchase, the finder goes off "happy". The overwhelming joy of the discovery leads the merchant to sell everything to buy the field. This is an image of the disciple, of us, in discovering that the true encounter with God, the experience of the kin-dom, is most precious. Nothing can substitute it.

The second parable that concludes today's Gospel is like the first. It is about a merchant's search for valuable pearls and, in finding one, sells everything to have the pearl. In the ancient world, in the time of Jesus and Matthew, the pearl represented purity, beauty, power, wealth, even divinity. The discovery of the pearl by the parable's merchant leads, as in the first parable, to the selling of everything possessed to gain the pearl.

Both parables speak into our desire for ultimate and intimate communion with the God revealed through Jesus. When we experience such communion, we realise how valuable it is; nothing can compare to it. Intimate communion with God cannot be bought nor can anything else in human existence substitute for it. This communion is deepened in every celebration of the Eucharist.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

25/26 July 2026

Parish Office:

Hours: Mon—Fri 8.30am to 3.20pm

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 Gregory's: Sat Vigil 6.30pm, 10.30am & 5.00pm

CHILDREN LITURGY: Sunday mornings @ 10.30am

Weekdays: Wed: 6.30pm & Fri 9.00am followed by Rosary and Eucharistic Adoration

YOUTH MASS 2ND SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 5PM

UPCOMING DATES: 9 August, 13 September

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

Weekdays: Tue & Thurs 9.15am

St Clement's: Sat Vigil: 5pm; Sun 9am, 11am (Italian)

Weekdays: Tue (Italian) & Wed 9.15am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

St Gregory's: Saturdays 9.30am-11.00am (or by appointment or before/after any Mass but allow time)

St Kevin's: By appointment

St Clement's: Saturdays 4.30-4.50pm or by appointment

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

Please practice sensible at home and at church.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time / A

Isa 55:1-3, Ps 144:8-9, 15-18,

Rom 8:35, 37-39, Mt 14:13-21

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:

Fridays 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 Elmo Silvapulle, Michael Mullens, Meredith Barnes, Mike Yambao, Caroline Tang, Teresa Macciocca, John Green, Sunny Boy Pereira, Anna Ziglinis, Emmly L, Roma Rouvray, Mrs Margaret Woof, Teresa Wong, Margaret Hanson

and for those who died recently

Massimo Emidio Cilmi

and for those whose anniversaries occur about

now Sonny Santoso, Fr Des Pantan



Words from PP

Partnering of three parishes:

In June, the parish councils of our Bulleen, Templestowe, and Doncaster parishes started looking at what it means to 'partner' as parishes. Partnering is not about losing parish identity. At the same time, it must mean something more than just having one parish priest (and assistant priest). What are your thoughts?

What could we do more? What could we do better? What do you dream of for your parish (be it St Gregory's or be it St Kevin's or be it St Clements)?

Some things are obvious: I will run the RCIA program for all three parishes at once. We will run Alpha across all three parishes. We've already aligned Mass times to be manageable (and thank you for the gracious way you've accepted that change). But ... what more could be.

The three PPC's will meet again on 29th July to discuss this – please email me your thoughts at Charles.balnaves@cam.org.au.

Stewardship / Thanksgiving: Thank you

It is late July already – nearly a month into the new financial year. June financial reports have arrived on my desk and so I am prompted to say a big "THANK YOU" to all of you who contribute so generously to the life of the parish and to the livelihood of myself and Fr Anton.

I know that your generosity extends beyond the parish into the special collections that occur quite often during the year, but I want to thank you especially for ensuring that your parish can continue to thrive as a presence of Christ in the world.

Registering with the parish / Communicating with you

I know we've done a census as part of our thanksgiving / stewardship campaigns but ... contact details change and new people arrive in our parish.

For new arrivals: please fill in a census form (forms are available at the entrance of the church) and provide your details: especially please your current and best email and phone details.

For existing parishioners: please make sure we have your current details. Emails change and phone numbers change – we need these things up to date please.

Especially: please provide your current email address.

If we have your email address: we can send the bulletin (you see it early) and we can provide urgent messages and we can save vastly on postage when we need to send something out.

God bless, Fr Charles.



World Day
for Grandparents
and the Elderly
2026

I will never forget you.

IS 49:15



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:

For our parish pastoral councils as they begin to discern what it actually means for our parishes to be partnered.

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

THIS WEEK

Sat 6.30pm
Sun 10.30am
Sun 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Phil Handang

MONEY COUNTERS: Philip Dunlop

NEXT WEEK

Sat 6.30pm
Sun 10.30am
Sun 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Agnes Chee, Sharron Wilkinson

MONEY COUNTERS: Marian See

LECTORS

Gerard O'Donnell, Benedicta Wong
Franklin Shepherdson, Ivonne Gunawan
Isabelle Hii, Alvin Priyana

LECTORS

Frances Cannizzo, Robert McHugh
Jonathan Gunawan, Gril Job
Jane Ma, Margaret O'Connell

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Seleana Ng, Margaret O'Donnell
Agnes & Fred Fulia, Lilian Antonelli
Mary Tonti- Filipini, Viviana Pereira

MORNING TEA: Brian & Jenny

FLOWERS: Irene Dharmawan

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Sharron Wilkson, Peter Whiting
Nuccia La Roca, Lucy Giardino, Behnaz Behmadi
Judy Ablaza, Alfred Lee

MORNING TEA: Lina & Don

FLOWERS: Le Nguyen

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

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.

Stewardship Statements 2025/2026

Your 2025/2026 Stewardship Statement has been emailed or posted to your nominated mailing address. If you have not received your statement, please contact the Parish Office.

Please note that the tax-deductible portion of your Stewardship contribution will be sent to you separately by Caritas.

Thank you for your continued generosity and faithful support of our Parish.

Generous City

24-26 July

OPEN HOUSE MELBOURNE



CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Catholic Theological College will open its doors to the public as part of the 2026 Open House Melbourne Weekend

Date: Saturday, 25 July 2026

Location: Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

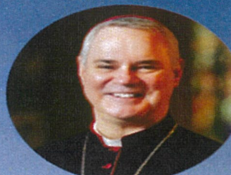
WE ARE Called VOCATIONS EXPO

ACU Campus Ministry and Vocations Melbourne invite you to come and explore what life looks like in Catholic Religious Orders, Diocesan Priesthood, and Married life. Hear from speakers who will share what answering a call looks like, what challenges lie ahead and the many joys you find along the way.

SATURDAY 1 AUGUST

9AM-1PM

GREG CRAVEN CENTRE,
LEVEL 7, ST TERESA OF KOLKATA BUILDING,
ACU MELBOURNE



with Archbishop Peter Comensale



Free event

Book via - trybooking.com/DNKHK

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School

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



Open Days:

29th Oct at 9.30-11.30am

School Tours: contact 9848 4483

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

Multicultural DAY



SUNDAY, 9TH AUGUST 2026
FOLLOWING THE 10.30AM MASS

ST GREGORY THE GREAT
PARISH HALL
71 WILLIAMSONS ROAD
DONCASTER

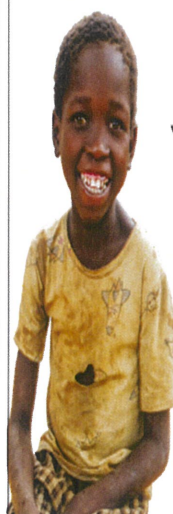
Event Highlights

ENJOY MULTICULTURAL FOOD AND BEVERAGES
BID ON EXCITING ITEMS IN OUR SILENT AUCTION
PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

RSVP: USE SIGN UP SHEETS AT CHURCH, SCAN QR CODE
OR GO TO [HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/DNFAI](https://www.trybooking.com/DNFAI)



Come in your cultural costumes or colours
Celebrate the vibrant diversity of our community
Enjoy an afternoon of fellowship, food & fun!



ONE IN CHRIST
UNITED IN
Mission
100 YEARS OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

catholic mission



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/unity

Thank you for your generous support of the Church in Malawi and the communities it serves.

Because of your kindness, children like Yamikani* will have greater access to education, nourishment, and the opportunity to build a hopeful future.

And if you chose to become a Mission Partner with a monthly gift - thank you so much for your ongoing commitment.

To learn more about the work of Catholic Mission in Malawi and around the world, please visit catholicmission.org.au/our-work.

Thank you again for your compassion, and please keep this impactful work in your prayers.

*Name changed for privacy



We extend a warm welcome to the family of Valentino Francesco Muscara who will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism this Sunday.