

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

3 MAY 2026

I AM THE WAY. In every age there are people who claim to know the way to a full and happy life. Often their ideas flourish for a while and then fade. But there is one way to the fullness of life that has stood the test of time – and that way is Jesus. If we follow Jesus, the Way, we will come to the fullness of life and truth, and communicate this life to others.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 97:1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, 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. 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.

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, constantly accomplish the paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective

care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. 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 6:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

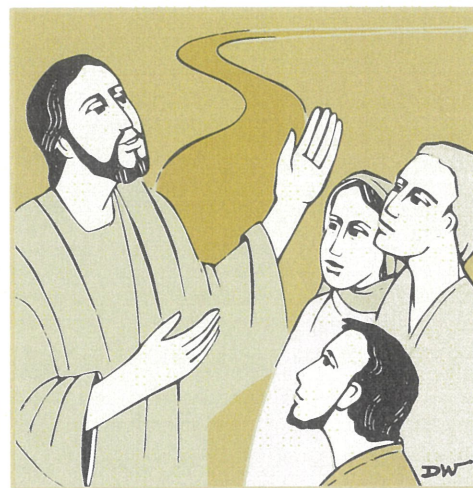
The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19. R. v. 22

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you. (or Alleluia!)

1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; / for praise is fitting for loyal hearts. / Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp, / with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R.**
2. For the word of the Lord is faithful / and all his works to be trusted. / The Lord loves justice and right / and fills the earth with his love. **R.**
3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, / on those who hope in his love, / to rescue their souls from death, / to keep them alive in famine. **R.**



SECOND READING

1 Pet 2:4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.

The Lord is the living stone, rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him; set yourselves close to him so that you too, the holy priesthood that offers the spiritual sacrifices which Jesus Christ has made acceptable to God, may be living stones making a spiritual house. As scripture says: See how I lay in Zion a precious cornerstone that I have chosen and the man who rests his trust on it will not be disappointed. That means that for you who are believers, it is precious; but for unbelievers, the stone rejected by the builders has proved to be the keystone, a stone to stumble over, a rock to bring men down. They stumble over it because they do not believe in the word; it was the fate in store for them.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord; / no one comes to the Father, except through me. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 14:1-12

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 way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Do not let your hearts be troubled.

Trust in God still, and trust in me.

There are many rooms in my Father's house;

if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, and after I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said:

'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me.

If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me?'

'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?'

The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself:

it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work.

You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me;

believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason.

'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me

will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

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. O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life. 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: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

COMMUNION RITE

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

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

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

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

P. Lord Jesus Christ, who said...

R. Amen.

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

R. And with your spirit.

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

All exchange a sign of peace

LAMB OF GOD

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

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

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON cf. Jn 15:1, 5
I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.

Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life. 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

TRUST IN GOD

We all worry from time to time. Worry is one of the great social concerns that surround us. We worry about so much: our families and loved ones, our health, what is going on in the world, finances... and the list is endless. It is into this situation that Jesus speaks to us today. 'Don't let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God and trust in me.' These words get to the heart of our lives. Jesus invites us to trust in him and his God, despite all that surrounds us. While such an invitation flies in the face of much that distracts us, the Gospel invites us into a space, 'a place', where we can rest with God. Jesus assures John's audience, and us, that he has already prepared this place. It awaits us—and we don't have to wait until death to enjoy it—we can allow ourselves to draw close to Jesus and be with him now.

This is the sense behind Jesus' reassurance to Thomas who questions Jesus about where he is going and how to be where he is. The response is clear: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' These words are clearly important for us to enjoy and relish as our celebration of Easter continues. Jesus offers us companionship ('the Way'), leads us into ultimate communion with God ('the Truth') and brings us into a sense of complete wholeness ('the Life'). The final part of today's Gospel reaffirms Jesus' communion with his Father and that our communion and trust in Jesus leads us into ultimate communion with God. Everything in this Gospel invites us to trust Jesus' words and let go, perhaps just a little, of our worries.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)

2/3 May 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: SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17, Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20

1 Pet 3:15-18, Jn 14:15-21

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:

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) sgttennis@gmail.com

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 Ziglinis, Anna Ng, Monia Iaconi, Meredith Barnes, Michael Mullens, Siv Cuasay, Chee Mee Lian, Emmly Luethamphakdee

and for those who died recently Greg Lim **and for those whose anniversaries occur about now** Caroline Perrin, Elisabetta Marcello



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Words from PP,

On occasion I recognise the movement of the Holy Spirit as it happens. Such a moment was when I received an email saying that Archbishop Peter would like to appoint me to be Parish Priest of St Clement's in addition to St Greg's and St Kevin's. It felt right! Difficult, complex, challenging? Yes! But 'right' – in that deep way that St Ignatius points to when discerning spirits – it fits, it follows on with the gifts and experience already given. I am humbled at the opportunity given me by the Holy Spirit to be shepherd for three such wonderful gatherings of Christ's faithful disciples.

Now as I take up the additional treasure of St Clement's, muse that I had been pondering retirement at 75 in 2027 but now ... I shall continue as long as my (currently very good) health permits. I suspect I shall be around for some time. This journey will continue to require you and I to work together collaboratively, synodally, towards the future.

If you remember Ephesians 4:1-16 where St Paul talks about charisms/ gifts of the Spirit: I am Evangelist / Shepherd / Apostle / Teacher / Prophet. Evangelisation is at the heart of who I am as a priest and a disciple, but gently through shepherding not ordering; and guided by the apostolic vision of Jesus himself. So expect me to continue to seek to find ways to bring people to come to know Jesus. I don't forget that evangelisation must be grounded in the New Commandment: to love one another and I don't omit that we need to worship with excellence and reach out to the poor: but always so that we and others can come to know Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Now, we are called to work with St Clement's as well as we follow this missionary journey.

God Bless, Fr Charles.

Stewardship Contributions– New Set of Envelopes

The new set of stewardship envelopes is almost ready. Due to a significant decrease in Cash Stewardship contributions, we need to renumber the envelopes once again. This adjustment helps us reduce the cost of the envelopes and minimize paper waste, as we can only order consecutive envelope numbers from our suppliers.

If you are interested in switching to Direct Debit or Credit Card contributions, please fill out the Pledge Card with your payment details or notify the office as soon as possible. This will help us in the renumbering process and ensure your contributions are processed smoothly.

If you are not part of our Stewardship program and would like to contribute please contact the Office or fill out the Pledge Card available in the Narthex. Thank you for your continued support.



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:

For our parishes of St Clement's, St Gregory's and St Kevin's: that we will allow the Holy Spirit to inspire us as we work to find ways forward that will strengthen our faith and our desire to live and spread the Good News.

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

Frances Cannizzo, Alvin Priyana
Jacqueline Rogers, Philip Dunlop
Aidan Leung, Karen Chay
Nat De Silva, Jane Ma

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Mary Wilson

MONEY COUNTERS: Philip Dunlop, Marian See

NEXT 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

COMMUNION MINISTERS

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

MORNING TEA: Maggie and Teresa

FLOWERS: Geraldina Donato

COMMUNION MINISTERS

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

MORNING TEA: TBA

FLOWERS: Mary Piccoli

For those who are Coeliac, we can provide low gluten (<20 ppm) 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

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

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.

This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal (previously held during the month of August). CatholicCare Victoria works with those facing homelessness, those experiencing mental health challenges, families struggling with relationship problems, newly arrived refugees and asylum seekers, and those experiencing grief and trauma. This year, the Appeal aims to give hope and support to people experiencing homelessness. Our faith calls us to welcome the stranger and care for those most in need. Your compassion ensures individuals and families are supported with safe housing, practical assistance, and compassionate care as they rebuild their lives.

Your generosity helps open the door to safety, dignity and hope. Please donate to 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. All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible.

"For I was a stranger and you welcomed me." (Matthew 25:35)



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; 03 9850 5983
doncaster@cam.org.au; 03 9412 8425



Pentecost RETREAT

IGNITE THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

**SATURDAY, 23RD 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

Door opens at 9am. Lunch and light snacks provided



RSVP BY 16TH MAY 2026
WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/DLGUK

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



Monthly YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MASS

EVERY SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 5PM

UPCOMING DATES:

10 MAY 2026
14 JUNE 2026
12 JULY 2026

All our young people are invited to attend and contribute to our upcoming Youth Mass. However you feel called to serve – as a reader, welcomer, choir, altar server, or in another ministry – we would be delighted to have you join us.

More information:
St Gregory the Great Parish
71 Williamsons Rd, Doncaster
03 9412 8425 Doncaster@cam.org.au
stgregs.org.au

