

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

30 AUGUST 2026

'YOU HAVE SEDUCED ME, LORD!' The prophet Jeremiah was captivated by God. His attachment meant that he suffered greatly at the hands of God's enemies but he also experienced a fire within, lit by God's love, that urged him on. We too can follow Jesus wholeheartedly only if we are captivated by him. Like Peter, we may remonstrate with Jesus as we struggle to understand his ways, but we will follow him faithfully along the way of the cross to the fullness of life.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 85:3, 5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

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 are the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the first born of all creation: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are the head of the body, the Church: 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. God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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

Jer 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt.

Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'

The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long.

I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.'

Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,

imprisoned in my bones.

The effort to restrain it wearied me,

I could not bear it.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

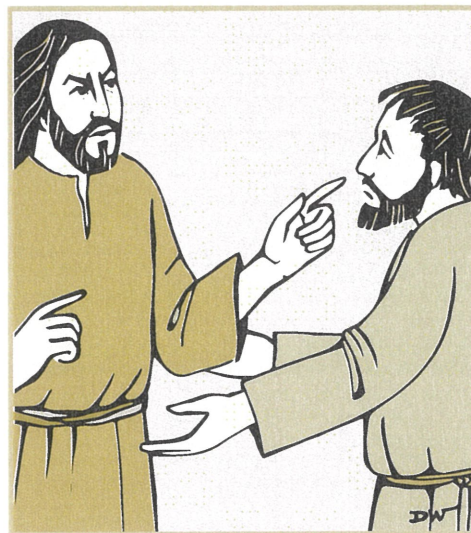
Ps 62:2-6, 8-9. R. v. 2

R. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; / for you my soul is thirsting. / My body pines for you / like a dry, weary land without water. **R.**

2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary / to see your strength and your glory. / For your love is better than life, / my lips will speak your praise. **R.**

3. So I will bless you all my life, / in your name I will lift up my hands. / My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, / my mouth shall praise you with joy. **R.**



4. For you have been my help; / in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. / My soul clings to you; / your right hand holds me fast. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION cf. Eph 1:17, 18

Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of our heart, / that we might see how great is the hope / to which we are called. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 16:21-27

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.

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day.

Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

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 this sacred offering, O Lord, confer on us always the blessing of salvation, that what it celebrates in mystery it may accomplish in power. 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: 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.

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 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,

we beseech you, Lord, that, being the food of charity, it may confirm our hearts and stir us to serve you in our neighbour. 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

GENUINE DISCIPLESHIP

Today's Gospel follows on immediately from last Sunday's Gospel and the question posed to Jesus' disciples in Matthew's day, and to us, about his identity. Jesus then outlines what awaits him in Jerusalem—his suffering, death and resurrection. These words seem either incomprehensible to his disciples, represented by Peter, or are rejected.

Whatever the reason for Peter's reaction, following God's anointed one on a path of suffering, death and resurrection is unfathomable. The disciples imagine a triumphant, powerful figure who will overcome Roman opposition. Success and status are their vision for the future of discipleship!

Today's Gospel is a sobering reminder that suffering is not excluded from discipleship. Life's tragedies and concerns are not the opposite of following Jesus; they can be authentic expressions of it. Disciples are not called to seek suffering nor to become victims. Rather, suffering can be integrated into genuine discipleship. These are important insights especially for some who think that they must 'prove' their loyalty to Jesus by seeking out further pain or suffering. We know that suffering is part of life; we need not look for it further. We are surrounded by a world of suffering.

Today we acknowledge the sufferings of those who gather with us in our Assembly, especially those borne silently or through violence, including domestic violence.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

29/30 August 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: 13 September, 11 October

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time / A

Ezek 33:7-9, Ps 94:1-2, 6-9, Rom 13:8-10, Mt 18:15-20

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

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

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION: Terry Morton 0402 307 384

Please pray for: Those who are sick at this time including Jasbir Sheridan, Elmo Silvapulle, Michael Mullens, Meredith Barnes, Mike Yambao, Caroline Tang, John Green, Sunny Boy Pereira, Anna Ziglinis, Emmy L, Roma Rouvray, Mrs Margaret Woof, Teresa Wong, Margaret Hanson

and for those who died recently

Mitch Locsin, Luzviminda Badillo

and for those whose anniversaries occur about

now Elizabeth (Betty) Mary Fish, Jean Pierre Yong,

Joachim Cheng



Words from PP

Rite for Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

I have a good number of people who have heard the call to faith and want to follow the path into joining the Catholic Church. There is always room for more. Who do you know who you suspect to be ready to journey in faith: invite them; let them know about RCIA.

It will start on October 3rd and continue (with holiday breaks) through to Easter 2027 (March 28th) for initiation and then till Pentecost (May 16th)

Invite someone. Let me know via the office email (doncaster@cam.org.au) or give me their contact number directly.

Mass Wednesday evening 6:30 pm – St Greg's

We have been consistently getting about a dozen people attending this Mass, which is wonderful. But ... could there be more? Do people know this Mass is happening?

I am wondering if everyone knows about this Mass and its time: perhaps you can spread the word and let others know there is a Mass each week at 6:30 pm on Wednesday evenings.

Safeguarding:

I listened to a radio show a few days ago that talked about a "Robot" that provided simulated interactions between a teacher and a parent, intended to help young teachers to learn how to respond to difficult, sometimes threatening, situations. Co-incidentally, I was walking along the streets nearby and saw targeted graffiti.

It occurred to me, again, that we talk about safeguarding our children and we can forget about other forms of abuse. It is my firm conviction that we cannot properly safeguard our children if we don't care for every person and seek to bring an end to abuse in all its forms.

So – please, report abuse, or suspected abuse, of children under Safeguarding reporting rules. Absolutely!! Or come and tell me and I can action the matter. But ... please don't ignore other abuse that you see happening – if we do nothing we perpetuate abusive behaviours. I myself have made two reports to police of suspicion of abuse – the police said in both cases they couldn't do anything. But they said my report would help them build an understanding over time which may lead to being able to intervene.

If you see something that looks like abuse – find a way to act, with due regard to your own safety.

Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament

I was recently asked to give a talk on the practice of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. There are many facets to this beautiful practice but at the core it is about silence with Jesus Christ and the Father in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Silence from physical action; silence from words or songs of prayer; silence from thinking about our needs. The action elements of prayer and song etc are good but at their core are designed to lead us into silence and in the silence ... as Elijah found as he stood outside the cave ... in the silence we hear God's words and call; we feel and are comforted by his presence.

Can it be hard to do? Yes! Does it work if my prayer and silence is imperfect? Yes! Will it work if I prefer more music and words and that actually leads me into internal quiet? Yes!

Please make space for adoration: for silence with Jesus. There is a particular focus when adoration happens in the Real Presence, before the Blessed Sacrament. But you can make space for silence ... anywhere. Please ... make space.

New Audio System

There were some issues with the new audio system last weekend – but they have been resolved by adjusting settings – nothing broken or major: teething issues with a complex system. All have been rectified.

God bless, Fr Charles.



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:

For the success of our Youth and Adult Alpha experiences that began this past week: that the Holy Spirit will fill all guests and leaders.

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

LECTORS

Joseph & Lorna Philip
Tony Ting, Gril Job
Nat de Silva, Dot Haynes

NEXT WEEK

Sat 6.30pm
Sun 10.30am
Sun 5.00pm

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Mary Wilson

MONEY COUNTERS: Marian See

LECTORS

Noel & Cathy McClelland
Paola Villanueva, Gril Job
Jane Ma, Thomas Ong

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Margaret O'Donnell, Frances Cannizzo
Behnaz Behmadi, Mary Stocco, Erin Djukiadmodjo
Seleana Ng, Mary Tonti Filippini

MORNING TEA:

FLOWERS: Irene Dharmawan

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Sharron Wilkinson, Margaret O'Donnell
Maggie Yong, Agnes & Fred Fulia
Alfred Lee, Dot Haynes

MORNING TEA: N/A

FLOWERS: Tessa Leung

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

(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

Thank you to everyone who has so generously already made a pledge or gift to the 2026 Archbishop's Campaign. Every gift, large or small, is greatly appreciated! If you are yet to make a gift, you can still do so. This campaign supports the vital ministries of the Church in our Archdiocese. Online (direct debit or credit card) donations are the most secure and preferred method of donating, or you can use the campaign envelopes with tear-off pledge cards.

Caritas Australia's Women for the World Appeal

Safe childbirth shouldn't depend on luck. But in Papua New Guinea, many women still face pregnancy and childbirth without access to the care, equipment and support they need. Health centres are often under-resourced, and distance, cost and extreme weather can make reaching care a challenge. By supporting Caritas Australia's Women for the World appeal, you can help upgrade rural health centres, giving women a safer chance to bring new life into the world. Your gift today can help support safer pregnancies, safer births and healthier futures for mothers and babies.

Learn more or donate today at www.caritas.org.au/wftw



Caritas AUSTRALIA | WOMEN for the WORLD
You can help mothers have a safer chance to bring new life into the world

DONATE NOW
caritas.org.au/wftw



ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged from 30 into their 50's, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate.

Online Diaconate information meeting

Tuesday, 22 September 2026 beginning 19:00 – 20:00

Location: via ZOOM

Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison - Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au

In the week before the session the ZOOM link will be sent to those who have expressed interest.

FEAST OF ST GREGORY THE GREAT

All are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate the Feast of St Gregory the Great, our parish patron.

Wednesday, 2 September 6:30pm – Vigil Mass

Thursday, 3 September 10:00am – Mass with the St Gregory the Great School Community

We look forward to celebrating this special occasion together as a parish community.

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.

**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.

**13TH SEPTEMBER
MASS 5.00PM**

FROM THE EMPTY TOMB TO THE ALTAR



COME WITH EXPECTANT HEARTS. BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS. ALL ARE WELCOME!

There will be Refreshments after Mass

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS MASS

**Friday,
4th September
7PM Start**

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Encounter Jesus through the Blessed Sacrament

WORSHIP, TESTIMONY, ADORATION, FELLOWSHIP

All Are Welcome

St Gregory the Great Church

71 Williamsons Road, Doncaster

Info: doncaster@cam.org.au

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Speaker Night

GREG SHERIDAN AO

God is Good For you

A journalist proclaims Christ to a secular world

FRIDAY, 2ND OCT AT 6.30PM

Clifton Centre, 9/21 Egan Dr, Bulleen
Adjacent to St Clement of Rome's Church



We extend a warm welcome to the Family of Chloe Minji Oh who will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism this Sunday.