

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

EASTER SUNDAY / A

5 APRIL 2026

CHRIST IS RISEN. ALLELUIA! The empty tomb, and the neatly folded burial cloths, were signs that led the Beloved Disciple to believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. In the witness of the apostles, and the faithfulness, courage and love of our fellow Christians, we too have powerful signs that Christ is risen and lives among us. Observing them, our faith cries out: 'Alleluia!'

DAY MASS

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 138:18, 5-6

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.

You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.

Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

GREETING

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

R. Amen.

P. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

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 unseen God: Lord have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the firstborn 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. O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life. 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 10:34, 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea: about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 117:1-2, 16-17, 22-23. R. v. 24

R. This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad. (or Alleluia!).

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, / for his love has no end. / Let the sons of Israel say: / 'His love has no end.' **R.**



2. The Lord's right hand has triumphed; / his right hand raised me up. / I shall not die, I shall live / and recount his deeds. **R.**

3. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the corner stone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. **R.**

SECOND READING

Col 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

SEQUENCE

The sequence may be said or sung.

Christians, to the Paschal Victim offer sacrifice and praise. / The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb; / and Christ, the undefiled, / hath sinners to his Father reconciled. / Death with life contended; combat strangely ended! / Life's own Champion, slain, yet lives to reign. / Tell us, Mary: say what thou didst see upon the way. / The tomb the Living did enclose; / I saw Christ's glory as he rose! / The angels there attesting, / shroud with grave-clothes resting. / Christ, my hope, has risen: he goes before you into Galilee. / That Christ is truly risen from the dead we know. / Victorious king, thy mercy show!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Cor 5:7-8

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ has become our Paschal sacrifice; let us feast with joy in the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 20:1-9

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.

The teaching of scripture is that he must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

Replaces the Profession of Faith.

Dear brethren (brothers and sisters), through the Paschal Mystery we have been buried with Christ in Baptism, so that we may walk with him in newness of life. And so, now that our Lenten observance is concluded, let us renew the promises of Holy Baptism, by which we once renounced Satan and his works and promised to serve God in the holy Catholic Church. And so I ask you:

P. Do you renounce Satan?

All: I do.

P. And all his works?

All: I do.

P. And all his empty show?

All: I do.

P. Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

All: I do.

P. Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

All: I do.

P. Do you 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?

All: I do.

P. And may almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and bestowed on us forgiveness of our sins, keep us by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord, for eternal life.

All: 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. Exultant with Paschal gladness, O Lord, we offer the sacrifice by which your Church is wondrously reborn and nourished.

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 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

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 1 Cor 5:7-8

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Look upon your Church, O God, with unfailing love and favour, so that, renewed by the Paschal mysteries, she may come to the glory of the resurrection. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. Go forth, the Mass is ended, alleluia, alleluia!

R. Thanks be to God, alleluia, alleluia!

THE EASTER VIGIL



I. THE SOLEMN BEGINNING OF THE VIGIL

Preparation and Lighting of the Candle.
Easter Proclamation (*Exsultet*)

II. LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING Genesis 1:1-2:2

RESPONSORIAL PSALM from Ps 103

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, / and renew the face of the earth.

SECOND READING Genesis 22:1-18

RESPONSORIAL PSALM from Ps 15

R. Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

THIRD READING Exodus 14:15-15:1

CANTICLE From Ex 15

R. Let us sing to the Lord; / he has covered himself in glory.

FOURTH READING Isaiah 54:5-14

RESPONSORIAL PSALM From Ps 29

R. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.

FIFTH READING Isaiah 55:1-11

CANTICLE From Isa 12

R. You will draw water joyfully / from the springs of salvation.

SIXTH READING Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4

RESPONSORIAL PSALM From Ps 18

R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

SEVENTH READING Ezekiel 36:16-28

RESPONSORIAL PSALM From Ps 41

R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, / my soul longs for you, my God.

EPISTLE Romans 6:3-11

RESPONSORIAL PSALM From Ps 117

R. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

GOSPEL Mt 28:1-10

HOMILY

III. BAPTISMAL LITURGY

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES

(see far left column)

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

IV. LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

(see middle column)

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Easter Sunday (A)

5th 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 EVERY 2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH AT 12 APRIL, 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:

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:42-47 (JB) , 1 Peter 1:3-9 (JB) , John 20:19-31 (JB)

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 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 Luethamphakdee

and for those who died recently Fr Grant O'Neill

and for those whose anniversaries occur about now Guido Antonini, Chang Yuen Mooi, Yap Huat Goon, Lee Kim Heok

Easter:

"he is risen."

This year I have been more busy than even is normal for me at this time of year and I have a mild cold clogging my head as I approach Easter and the world is in terrible turmoil and warfare, and Easter is feeling small – understated – like those first three words above.

But looking again. Looking into myself and looking out at you and reflecting on this Lenten Season my heart, my soul, my spirit, *swells*.

I think of the Melbourne Octet who accompanied me and several young people in praying the Stations of the Cross with close to 300 people – on a Friday night of all silly times! And I think of the Penitential Service with roughly 80 people – the reverence of the gathering and the absolute depth of concern about substantial matters in their faith in those who came.

And I think of the effort required to get ready for Holy Week and especially the Three Days, the Triduum. Collecting and placing palms; preparing music; practicing hymns; preparing bottle of water for blessing at Easter; working till mid-night or 2:30 am to get church modifications in place in time; hours and hours spend working through the details of the ceremonies and preparing the PPT's.

I think of nine hundred people across our parishes who came to Palm Sunday of the Passion of Lord. And all the work that has gone to provide Alpha and the Play Group and the Meditation group and the Lunar New Year and the Volunteers events and various social events ... and ... there is more ...

What I know from these things is that it is easy to become blinkered by 'my' situation and lose sight of great truth that **HE IS RISEN!!! HALLELUJAH!** God's great works ARE happening in our local churches and communities and families. All is not perfect, of course, but *you* are wonderful in your faith. Please keep it up. Keep seeking to become an even more intentional disciple, who helps the poor, worships with full, conscious and active participation, and seek to go out and invite people to come and see and perhaps become disciples. Hallelujah Hallelujah – HE IS RISEN!

Baptism/Confirmation – of 'The Elect':

Congratulations to James and Sok who are becoming Catholic during the Easter Vigil. Praise the Lord that people are responding to his invitation to come and know God's love and mercy.

Chrism Mass:

Fr Anton and I attended the Chrism Mass on Tuesday Morning – this is the Mass at which most of the priests of the archdiocese (about 250 of us) gather with the archbishop and celebrate Mass together with about 1000 of the faithful and during Mass the oils for the various sacraments are readied for the coming year. Olive Oil is blessed for use for the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and for the first anointing in baptism – the anointing of Catechumens. Then the Chrism is consecrated – this is olive oil with balsam and other oils added and additional prayers and stirring. Special care is taken with this oil as it is used as the pre-eminent sign of the presence of the Holy Spirit during Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders (when ordaining Deacons, Priests and Bishops).

I brought back these new oils for our use in the coming year. Using these oils prepared by the Archbishop helps us have a reminder of the unity of the church in Melbourne in all of its rich and wonderful diversity.

Leaks:

Well, as far as I can tell – there are none. We had some good heavy falls and consistent light falls that previously would have meant water through the window and water from the roof: nothing – nothing at all – thank you for your patience.

God Bless, Fr Charles.



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:

For all our parishioners who help in the Mission that Jesus has given us to Go and Make Disciples: that they will grow closer to Christ through their joyful giving of their time and talent to help the ministries of the parish flourish.

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

HOLY WEEK		LECTOR	COMMUNION MINISTERS
Thurs 7.30pm	Holy Thursday	Aditya Hendarto, Gril Job	Sauro Antonelli, Behnaz Behmadi, Margaret O'Donnell
Fri 3.00pm	Good Friday	1st Reading: Liam Taylor 2nd Reading: Erin Djukiadmodjo Passion: Chris Perera, Frances Cannizzo, Paola Villanueva Veneration of the Cross: Sauro & Lilian Antonelli, Margaret & Gerald O'Donnell, Fred & Agnes Fulia Collectors: Iris O'Farrell, Jane Ma, Alfred Lee, Doreen Lim, Stephanie Ong Frances Cannizzo, Cathy & Noel McClelland Dianne & Robert McHugh, Margaret O'Donnell Collectors: Adi Hendarto, Dianne & Robert McHugh	Behnaz Behmadi, Adi Hendarto, Iris O'Farrell, David Perrin, Tony Ting
Sat 8.30pm	Easter Vigil	Adi Hendarto, Karen Chay Aidan Leung, Nat Da Silva	Lilian Antonelli, Sharron Wilkinson Maggie Yong, Seleana Ng
Sun 9.00am	Easter Sunday	Margaret Wallace, Tony Nimmo	Lilian Antonelli, Sharron Wilkinson
10.30am	Easter Sunday	Amanda Stefanovski, Sauro Antonelli	Maggie Yong, Seleana Ng
5.00pm	Easter Sunday	Noel Anthony, Jane Ma	Mary Tonti-Fillipini, Alfred Lee
CARE OF THE CHURCH: Agnes Chee		MORNING TEA: N/A	
MONEY COUNTERS: Lina & Don Pavone		FLOWERS: Geraldina Donato	
NEXT WEEK		LECTORS	COMMUNION MINISTERS
Sat 6.00pm		Noel & Cathy McClelland	Sharron Wilkinson
Sun 9.00am		Christ Perera, Paola Villanueva	Margaret Wallace
Sun 10.30am		Ivonne Gunawan, Sauro Antonelli	Nuccia La Rocca, Behnaz Behmadi, Lilian Antonelli
Sun 5.00pm		Jonathan Gunawan, Jane Gunawan	Vera Arief, Erin Djukiadmodjo
CARE OF THE CHURCH: Stephen Ma		MORNING TEA: N/A	
MONEY COUNTERS: Marian See, Josie Masters		FLOWERS: Mary Piccoli	

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

12TH APRIL 2026
MASS 5.00PM

FROM THE EMPTY TOMB TO THE ALTAR

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS MASS

ST GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC CHURCH
71 WILLIAMSONS RD, DONCASTER

Our youth and young adults are our Sunday Mass, and we warmly invite people of all ages to join us.

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

STGREGS.ORG.AU

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

<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
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Thank you to those who have already given generously.

Easter Offering Envelopes are in the **Stewardship Sets** and are placed on the pews and tables in the Church foyer. In addition to your regular giving, the Easter offering directly supports the clergy as follows: 5% to the Archbishop, 12.5% to support priests in poorer parishes, 12.5% to support the retired and sick priests, the remainder supports the lease and running expenses of the priest's car, plus the running and hospitality of the presbytery and your parish priest and assistant.

SAVE	2 & 3 MAY BAKE SALE FOR CHURCH AUDIO SYSTE
21 MAY JOINT PARISH ASSEMBLY	MAY
THE DATES	23 MAY LIFE IN THE SPIRIT RETREAT

Thank you to everyone who contributed to Project Compassion during Lent through the envelopes or credit cards. Those of you who have Project Compassion boxes, we kindly ask you to change the coins into notes and put them in the box located in the foyer.

We warmly congratulate **James Lloyd and Sok Shin Yap** on receiving the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Holy Eucharist. May this sacred journey deepen your faith and bring abundant blessings as you grow in the love and grace of Christ.