

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

6 SEPTEMBER 2026

I SHALL BE THERE WITH THEM. Every Christian community experiences difficulties in one form or another. Misunderstandings occur, divisions arise. Today's Gospel reminds us that Christ is present in our communities even when they are broken, when only two or three meet in his name. Healing occurs when we seek to embody in our communities the qualities of Christ, especially forgiveness and mutual love.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Ps 118: 137, 124

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

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. O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption, look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters, that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom and an everlasting inheritance. 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

Ezek 33:7-9

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

If you have not warned the wicked man, then I will hold you responsible for his death.

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows, 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM

Ps 94:1-2, 6-9. R. v. 8

R. O that today you would listen to his voice!

Harden not your hearts.

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord; / hail the rock who saves us. / Let us come before him, giving thanks, / with songs let us hail the Lord. **R.**

2. Come in; let us bow and bend low; / let us kneel before the God who made us / for he is our God and we / the people who belong to his pasture, / the flock that is led by his hand. **R.**

3. O that today you would listen to his voice! / 'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, / as on that day at Massah in the desert / when your fathers put me to the test; / when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 13:8-10

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Love is the fulfilment of the Law.

Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet, and so on, are summed up in this single command: You must love your neighbour as yourself. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia! / God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; / and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 18:15-20

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.

If your brother or sister listens to you, you will have won that person back.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

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 give us the gift of true prayer and of peace, graciously grant that, through this offering, we may do fitting homage to your divine majesty and, by partaking of the sacred mystery, we may be faithfully united in mind and heart. 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

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 cf. Ps 41:2-3

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Grant that your faithful, O Lord, whom you nourish and endow with life through the food of your Word and heavenly Sacrament, may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts that we may merit an eternal share in his life. 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 in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

SEEK RECONCILIATION

Last Sunday reminded us that following Jesus is not free from struggle. Challenges, even misunderstandings, will be part of the disciple's vocation. This Sunday, the evangelist moves deeper to highlight further concerns that beset the community of disciples—internal struggles, tensions, even rejection.

The evangelist draws on the wisdom of Jesus to address these realities and suggests a three-step process towards reconciliation. It begins with personal dialogue. The one wronged seeks to invite the wrongdoer to reconciliation. If this fails, witnesses to what has happened verify the authenticity of the issues and encourage resolution. If this fails then the whole faith community, the *ekklesia*, witness to the wrong that has created the division, inviting the wrong doer to a change of heart and reconciliation.

Even if this third step fails then Matthew advises to treat the wrong doer 'like a pagan or tax collector.' In other words, as Jesus welcomed strangers and invited a tax collector to become one of his disciples, the door must always be left open. The final words of the Gospel contain Jesus' assurance that he is always present to even a small discipleship gathering, of even two or three, no matter what they are dealing with.

Today's Gospel is as relevant for our day as it was in the time of Matthew. No faith community is tension free. Disagreements arise and, sometimes, are not easily resolved by faith leaders. Rather than gossiping or character assassination, personal approaches that invite conflict resolution and community building are essential. In everything, Jesus is present.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT, DONCASTER

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) - 6 September 2026

Parish Office: Mon–Fri 8:30 am to 3:20 pm
Phone: 9412 8425
Email: doncaster@cam.org.au
Website: <https://www.stgregs.org.au/>
Parish Priest: Fr. Charles Balnaves
Assist. Priest: Anton Aseervathampillai
Business Manager: David Hii
Parish Secretary: Vera Arief (Mon & Wed)
Luisa Yambao (Tue, Thur, Fri)
Bookkeeping: Bernadine De Silva (Mon)
Sacristan: Mary Stocco: 0412 742 657

MASS TIMES:

St Gregory's: Sat Vigil 6:30 pm,

Sun 10:30 am, 5:00 pm

CHILDREN LITURGY: Sunday mornings @ 10:30 am

Weekdays: Wed: 6:30 pm & Fri 9:00 am followed by Rosary and Eucharistic Adoration

Youth Mass 2nd Sunday at 5 pm

Upcoming dates: 13 September, 11 October

St Kevin's: Sat Vigil 5:30 pm; Sun 9:15 am;

Weekdays: Tue & Thurs 9:15 pm

St Clement's: Sat Vigil: 5 pm, Sun 9 am,

11am (Italian)

Weekdays: Tue (Italian) & Wed 9:15am

Confessions:

St Gregory's: Saturdays 9:30 am-11:00 am or by appointment

St Kevin's: By appointment

St Clement's: Saturdays 4:30-4:50 pm or by appointment

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir 27:30–28:7, Ps 102: 1-4, 9-12,

Rom 14: 7-9, Mt 18:21-25

BAPTISMS: Ring the Parish Office for bookings

ST GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC

PRIMARY SCHOOL: Tel: (03) 9848 4483

principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS:

Margaret O'Donnell margaretodonnell@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP:

Fridays at 9:45 am in the church meeting room.

Contact Paola Cheng 0415 280 216

CORNERSTONE YOUTH GROUP:

3rd Fridays 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP: 4th Fridays 7:15 pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE: 3rd

Mondays 7:00 pm in the School Parish Room

ST GREGORY'S TENNIS CLUB:

Membership enquiries: Gianna Alessio

(President) 0438 410 506

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION: Terry M 0402 307 384

Words from PP

Rite for Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Invite someone to become a Catholic. Let me know via email doncaster@cam.org.au or give me a contact number.

Safeguarding:

After becoming three partnered parishes, the Safeguarding Committees decided to amalgamate – to be one committee sharing or insights and efforts across our three parishes.

It is proving very useful as we are able to share experiences, concerns, difficulties and ways to manage difficulties: thank you to Maria, Bernadine, David, Ana, Richard, Gianna, Marcello for your dedication and on-going contribution to this important building of a culture of safety in our parishes.

Three Parishes Partnering:

Our three Parish Pastoral Councils met in late July to discuss the future. The meeting was very positive and a real success. Progress since then is real, but slow, a slowness appropriate to finding ways forwards together. The three top priorities that arose seem a little prosaic but will be fundamental: creation of a shared calendar; being specific about who we communicate (a communications plan); and then planning things we can do together to supplement the current plans where individual parishes plan and invite the others.

At St Gregory's we have developed a draft for use as a shared calendar to ensure our events are coordinated. If it works, we will bring it to the three parishes and seek to expand the scope to cover the three parishes.

I am hopeful that by taking this measured approach we can grow to know each other and find ways to spread the Good News of God's love further and even more effectively.

Parking

Please!!! Park sensibly and safely in the carpark and along the surrounding roads (using the allocated spaces and leaving clear access paths) so that you don't block others vision or movement.

Please obey specific signage for no-parking, seniors (over 60) and handicapped parishioners.

God bless, Fr Charles.



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:

For the young people of our parishes: that the joy and excitement they bring to our lives and our worship will flourish and spread to us all.

Please pray for:

Those who are sick at this time: Jasbir Sheridan, Elmo Silvapulle, Michael Mullens, Meredith Barnes, Mike Yambao, Caroline Tang, John Green, Anna, Vincent, Leone, Sunny Boy Pereira, Anna Ziglinis, Emmly L, Roma Rouvray

Those who died recently Antonio Di Pietro

Those whose anniversaries occur about now John Condon, Mary Green

THIS WEEK

NEXT WEEK

SATURDAY 6:30 PM	Lectors: Noel & Cathy McClelland Communion Ministers: Sharron W, Margaret O	Lectors: Frank R, Gerard O Communion Ministers: Frances C, Peter W
SUNDAY 10:30 AM	Lectors: Paola V, Gril J Communion Ministers: Maggie Y, Agnes & Fred F	Lectors: Franklin S, Justin G Communion Ministers: Nuccia L, Rob R, Erin D
SUNDAY 5 PM	Lectors: Jane M, Thomas O Communion Ministers: Alfred L, Dot H	Lectors: Jocey P, Samantha M Communion Ministers: Adi H, Mary TF
CARE OF THE CHURCH: Mary W MORNING TEA: N/A MONEY COUNTERS: Marian S FLOWERS: Tessa L		CARE OF THE CHURCH: Phil H, MORNING TEA: N/A MONEY COUNTERS: Josie M FLOWERS: Le N
 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 Terminal located in the church Narthex. You can donate with: a debit/credit card.		St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School Open Days: 29 Oct at 9.30-11.30 am School Tours: contact 9848 4483 sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au Parish Facilities: The Parish Hall and Parish Room are available Bookings can be made: office@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au

Announcements

Youth and Young Adults Mass Sunday, 13 September 5 PM	Youth & Young Adults led Mass St Gregory the Great, Doncaster Refreshments will be served after Mass
Come Away Day Wed, 16 September 9:30 AM to 3 PM	'COME TO THE WATER' The Come Away Day program is a long - time retreat and reflection ministry at Holy Cross, Templestowe. BYO lunch. Registration is from 9:30 am in the Holy Cross Main Dining Room. The program concludes with a celebration of the Eucharist at around 3pm. The suggested cost is \$30.00 or a donation. Registration is helpful for planning purposes. For any more details: Sr Brigid cp bridget.m64@gmail.com
Cornerstone Youth Group Friday, 18 September 7 PM - 9 PM	Youth aged 13 to 17 Build your faith and connect more deeply with God while hanging out , having real conversations, and making lasting friends. Come and be part of the journey! St Gregory the Great Parish Room Info: doncaster@cam.org.au
Young Adults Group Friday, 25 September 7:15 PM - 10 PM	The Young Adults Group extend a warm invitation to all aged 18 to 35 to join our gathering in the parish room at 7:15 pm on Friday 25 September. Dinner will be provided. Looking forward to seeing you there! Info: doncaster@cam.org.au
Speaker Night with Greg Sheridan Friday, 2 October 6:30 PM	GOD IS GOOD FOR YOU Greg Sheridan is a journalist proclaiming Christ into a secular world. Clifton Centre, 9/21 Egan Drive, Bulleen. Adjacent to St Clement Church. RSVP via the Sign up Sheet in the foyer or via trybooking QR code 
Permanent Diaconate Info Session Tuesday, 22 September 7 PM -8 PM via Zoom	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. Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison - Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au

Father's Day Prayer

Happy Father's Day

Loving God,

We thank You for every father and father figure in our lives. Bless them today with joy, love, good health, and peace.
May they be strengthened and guided by Your wisdom as they care for and support those entrusted to them.
May their lives be filled with happiness, their hearts with love, and their days with Your divine guidance and grace.
We ask You to watch over them always and bless them abundantly. Amen.