

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

9 AUGUST 2026

JESUS WENT UP INTO THE HILLS TO PRAY. The prophet Elijah and Jesus both went up a mountain to pray. Many people have experienced the presence of God in the wonder and solitude of a mountain top. But God is also to be found at sea level, in the ups and downs of our daily lives. When we are swamped by troubles and cry out, 'Lord, save me,' we allow God to reach out and hold us.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 73:20, 19, 22, 23

Look to your covenant, O Lord,
and forget not the life of your poor ones
for ever.

Arise, O God, and defend your cause,
and forget not the cries of those who
seek you.

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.

**All: I confess to almighty God and to
you, my brothers and sisters, that I have
greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in
my words, in what I have done and in
what I have failed to do, (striking the
breast) through my fault, through my
fault, through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints, and you, my
brothers and sisters, to pray for me to
the Lord our God.**

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

Glorify 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, whom, taught
by the Holy Spirit, we dare to call our Father,
bring, we pray, to perfection in our hearts
the spirit of adoption as your sons and
daughters, that we may merit to enter into
the inheritance which you have promised.
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

I Kings 19:9, 11-13

A reading from the first book of the Kings
*Go out and stand on the mountain before the
Lord God.*

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain
of God, he went into the cave and spent the
night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and
stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a
mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains
and shattered the rocks before the Lord.
But the Lord was not in the wind. After the
wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was
not in the earthquake. After the earthquake
came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire.
And after the fire there came the sound of a
gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he
covered his face with his cloak and went out
and stood at the entrance of the cave.

The word of the Lord.

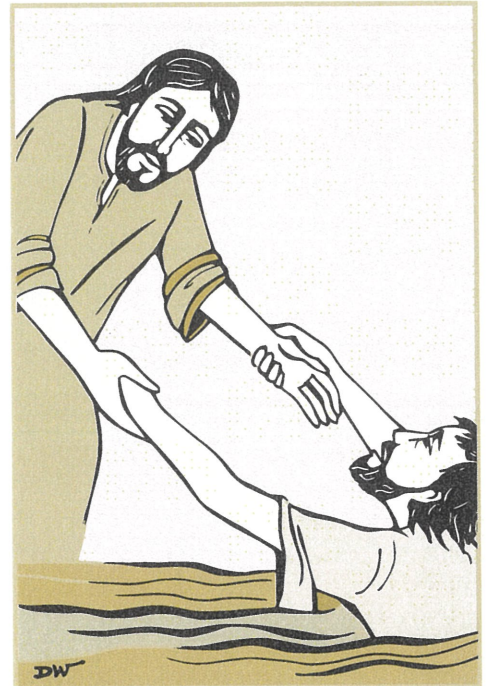
R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 84:9-14. R. v. 8

**R. Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.**

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to
say, / a voice that speaks of peace. / His help
is near for those who fear him / and his glory
will dwell in our land. **R.**



2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; / justice
and peace have embraced. / Faithfulness
shall spring from the earth / and justice look
down from heaven. **R.**

3. The Lord will make us prosper / and
our earth shall yield its fruit. / Justice shall
march before him / and peace shall follow his
steps. **R.**

SECOND READING

Rom 9:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Romans

*I would willingly be condemned if it could help
my people.*

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it
in union with Christ – it is the truth – my
conscience in union with the Holy Spirit
assures me of it too. What I want to say is
this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish
so endless, I would willingly be condemned
and be cut off from Christ if it could help
my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and
blood. They were adopted as sons, they were
given the glory and the covenants; the Law
and the ritual were drawn up for them, and
the promises were made to them. They are
descended from the patriarchs and from their
flesh and blood came Christ who is above all,
God for ever blessed! Amen.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 129:5

**Alleluia, alleluia! / I hope in the Lord, /
I trust in his word. / Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Mt 14:22-33

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.

Command me to come to you over the water.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

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. Be pleased, O Lord, to accept the offerings of your Church, for in your mercy you have given them to be offered and by your power you transform them into the mystery of our salvation. 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 147:12, 14

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May the communion in your Sacrament that we have consumed, save us, O Lord, and confirm us in the light of your truth. 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

TOWARDS UNKNOWN SHORES

There are times when we struggle, as though we are personally battling against a strong headwind and can't move out of our physical or spiritual slump. Today's Gospel reflects something of this experience. Jesus makes his disciples get into a boat (a symbol of Matthew's Gospel household) to sail to the 'other side'. This 'side' is unfamiliar and frightening. Jesus spends time on the land praying while the boat, in the meantime, is battling heavy seas and a strong headwind.

All this is a powerful image of the community of Jesus' disciples and, at times, like us or our experience of Church: battling, trying to move forward as we feel alone. At this point in the story, Matthew draws on imagery used of God from the First Testament to describe Jesus walking on the water, coming towards a boat filled with terrified disciples. When they see Jesus, their terror heightens thinking he is a ghost. Jesus reassures them.

Peter, the leader and spokesperson, then asks to come out to be with Jesus on the water. While Peter's focus is on Jesus all is safe as he steps from the boat on to the water. But when he becomes distracted by the wind and waves and takes his gaze off Jesus, he begins to sink. Jesus responds immediately to his plea for rescue and the scene concludes with the disciples worshipping Jesus as God's saving agent. This story speaks forcefully to our community of struggling believers. Jesus seeks to be with us in this 'boat' called 'Church' as we sail together, in that synodal spirit, towards unknown and frightening shores while subject to fearful and unsettling conditions.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

8/9 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: 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 hygiene at home & at church.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time / A

Isa 56:1, 6-7, Ps 66:2-3, 5-6, 8

Rom 11:13-15, 29-32, Mt 15:21-28

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

Domenico Cerio, Peter Balnaves

and for those whose anniversaries occur about

now Norihiro Okae, Antonio Peduto, Slavko Brekalo,
Wilma Pascal Lemos, Carmel Ziino, John Mohovich



Words from PP

Archdiocesan Synod

Look at the themes by going to [Melbourne Synod 2026](#) | [Melbourne Catholic](#)
read the material and make your own individual or family or small group
comments.

This Archdiocesan Synod is important so I encourage participation: please make
an effort to look at the themes and make some comment.

Rite for Christian Initiation of Adults

Do you know anyone who might like to join this journey? Find out what it
means to be Catholic and join the community. Please let me know their details
or get them to talk to me or email the office: doncaster@cam.org.au

Clergy Conference August 10th to 14th and after

Fr Anton and I will be away for the week of 10th to 14th August so no weekday
Masses. Then Fr Anton goes on holiday for a month – so we will have supply
priests for some of the Masses on the weekends and just me for all daily
Masses.

Safeguarding

Please make sure you are up to date with your details and WWCC etc. And if
you're new to your role/ministry please contact the office to get yourself
properly set up with the various requirements for ministering.

Drop Off / Pick up / Parking

An incident at a Mass last weekend (no harm caused) says three things to me:

1. If you are picking someone up or dropping them off – be careful and
don't block entry to the church for more than a few minutes – if you
need to wait longer park and bring your car back later
2. If you arrive and the carpark is full, park safely, drop family or friends
off and go to the side streets to park so the carpark remains safe for all
(don't park illegally).
3. Keep your cool – we are all present for the greater glory of God – but
there are competing needs – look at the situation from other eyes,
Jesus' eyes.

Alpha

Our next Alpha sessions are coming up starting in just a few weeks. You'll be
hearing some testimonies about the value of Alpha for invigorating faith or
opening the path to faith in Jesus Christ. Invite people – come yourself if you
haven't been – young or not: there's a space for you. People will be around to
help you sign up. If you have an acquaintance who is finding life hard: invite
them. Atheist or Catholic or any faith at all: invite people to come – they can
only say no – every invitation is a success in itself because it says Jesus is
important.

New Audio System

You have seen for the last two weekends that work is happening – you can see
the new speakers. The system will be up and running by the end of next week
and I am assured by the workers that it will be awesome. Thank you for your
prayers for no rain last Thursday / Friday.

God bless, Fr Charles.



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:

For the blessings that abound in our lives – perhaps going
unnoticed as we pursue our own desires.

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

THIS WEEK

Sat 6.30pm Joseph & Lorna Philip
Sun 10.30am Sauro Antonelli, Erin Djukiadmodjo
Sun 5.00pm Youth Mass Jane Gunawan, Stephanie Ong

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Stephen Ma

MONEY COUNTERS: Marian See, Josie Masters

NEXT WEEK

Sat 6.30pm Noel & Cathy McClelland
Sun 10.30am Chris Perera, Justin Green
Sun 5.00pm Valentinus Reza, Mary Tonti Filippini

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Mary Wilson

MONEY COUNTERS: Christopher Lim

LECTORS

Joseph & Lorna Philip
Sauro Antonelli, Erin Djukiadmodjo
Jane Gunawan, Stephanie Ong

LECTORS

Noel & Cathy McClelland
Chris Perera, Justin Green
Valentinus Reza, Mary Tonti Filippini

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Frances Cannizzo, Margaret O'Donnell
Lilian Antonelli, Rob Rukavina, Mary Stocco
Mary Tonti-Filippini, Seleana Ong

MORNING TEA: N/A

FLOWERS: Tessa Leung

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Robert & Dianne McHugh
Behnaz Behmadi, Erin Djukiadmodjo, Lilian Antonelli
Caterina Gioffre, Dot Haynes

MORNING TEA: N/A

FLOWERS: Geraldina Donato

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

The 2026 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. Tax-deductible donations go to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund which supports the Priests Retirement Foundation, the Corpus Christi College Building Fund, CatholicCare Victoria Chaplaincy Program, Melbourne Overseas Mission, John Pierce Centre, University of Divinity for the Catholic Theological College as well as Catholic community agencies and service organisations through annual grants. Non-tax-deductible donations go to the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Religious Projects Fund and support seminarian formation. Please review the campaign material and prayerfully consider pledging a recurring monthly gift. Tear-off pledge cards are attached to the campaign envelopes in the church. You can also make a gift online at melbournecatholic.org/archbishops campaign or via the QR codes on the campaign materials.



We warmly invite you to join us in celebrating the **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** at the following Masses:

- Saturday, 15 August at 9:00am at St Kevin's Parish
- Tuesday, 18 August at 10:30am at St Clement of Rome Parish (with the school community)

Memorial Wall Plaques

As in previous years, we will place a parish order for new plaques to be mounted on the wall of the Memorial Garden. Please note that the cost per plaque is **\$300.00**.

If you wish to place an order, kindly contact the parish office via email at Doncaster@cam.org.au to receive an order form. To ensure timely preparation, we kindly request all orders to be placed by 14th August 2026.



National Vocations Awareness Week

Please pray for our priests today in thanksgiving for their ministry and presence in our community. Please pray for the religious who do so much in pastoral care, education, health care and many other ministries. Pray also that the saints may inspire many vocations to consecrated life and priesthood, especially from our 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.

ALPHA

18YO AND ABOVE

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 6.30PM
FROM 26TH AUGUST TO 4TH NOVEMBER

AT ST KEVIN'S CHURCH
30 HERLIHY ROAD LOWER TEMPLESTOWE

Registration is now open!



Alpha

ALPHA YOUTH

13- 17 YEARS OF AGE

FRIDAY EVENINGS AT 6.30PM
FROM 28TH AUGUST TO 16TH OCTOBER

AT ST GREGORY THE GREAT
71 WILLIAMSON RD, DONCASTER

REGISTER VIA QR CODE



Alpha is a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment.

Free- Meals included
Donation welcome

Enquiries:

templestowe@cam.org.au, doncaster@cam.org.au, bulleen@cam.org.au
phone 03 9850 5983, 03 9412 8425, 03 9850 3262

CENSUS 2026



CATHOLIC

Shape the Future: Be Counted as Catholic this Census

Australia's national Census will be held on 11 August 2026. Catholics are encouraged to mark "Catholic" in the question on religion. In a time when some would seek to diminish the importance of faith, it is vital that the Catholic community be represented in our national statistics. Census data supports Church pastoral planning and contributes to government decision-making on health, education, infrastructure, and social services – guiding resource and funding allocations across Australia. By identifying as Catholic, you can help ensure that the contribution and needs of faith communities are properly recognised and considered in future planning and policy decisions.