

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

LUKE

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

24 AUGUST 2025

ENTERING GOD'S KINGDOM. It is frustrating to arrive at a shop a few minutes after it has closed, or at an event only to discover that all tickets have been sold. There is nothing we can do about it. We have no automatic right of entry. The same applies to God's kingdom. To join the many people from east and west at the heavenly banquet we must strive to follow Jesus along the narrow and sometimes difficult path of love.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** cf. Ps 85:1-3

**Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me;  
save the servant who trusts in you, my  
God.**

**Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to  
you all the day long.**

## 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 have revealed yourself as  
the way to the Father: Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

P. You have poured out on your people the  
Spirit of truth: Christ, have mercy.

**R. Christ, have mercy.**

P. You are the Good Shepherd, leading us to  
eternal life: 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 cause the minds of the faithful  
to unite in a single purpose, grant your people  
to love what you command and to desire what  
you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of  
this world, our hearts may be fixed on that  
place where true gladness is found. Through  
our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives  
and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy  
Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**R. Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

Isa 66:18-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*They will gather all of your people from all  
nations.*

The Lord says this: I am coming to gather the  
nations of every language. They shall come to  
witness my glory. I will give them a sign and  
send some of their survivors to the nations:  
to Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moshech, Rosh, Tubal,  
and Javan, to the distant islands that have  
never heard of me or seen my glory. They  
will proclaim my glory to the nations. As an  
offering to the Lord they will bring all your  
brothers, on horses, in chariots, in litters, on  
mules, on dromedaries, from all the nations  
to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says  
the Lord, like Israelites bringing oblations  
in clean vessels to the Temple of the Lord.  
And of some of them I will make priests and  
Levites, says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### RESP PSALM

Ps 116. R. Mk 16:15

**R. Go out to all the world; and tell the  
Good News (or Alleluia!)**

1. O praise the Lord, all you nations, /  
acclaim him all you peoples! **R.**
2. Strong is his love for us; / he is faithful  
for ever. **R.**

### SECOND READING

Heb 12:5-7, 11-13

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews  
*The Lord disciplines those he loves.*

Have you forgotten that encouraging text in  
which you are addressed as sons? My son,  
when the Lord corrects you, do not treat  
it lightly; but do not get discouraged when  
he reprimands you. For the Lord trains the  
ones that he loves and he punishes all those



that he acknowledges as his sons. Suffering  
is part of your training; God is treating you  
as his sons. Has there ever been any son  
whose father did not train him? Of course,  
any punishment is most painful at the time,  
and far from pleasant; but later, in those on  
whom it has been used, it bears fruit in peace  
and goodness. So hold up your limp arms and  
steady your trembling knees and smooth out  
the path you tread; then the injured limb will  
not be wrenched, it will grow strong again.

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

Lk 13:22-30

P. The Lord be with you.

**R. And with your spirit.**

P. A reading from the holy Gospel according  
to Luke.

**R. Glory to you, O Lord.**

*From east and west they will come to take their  
place in the kingdom of God.*

Through towns and villages Jesus went  
teaching, making his way to Jerusalem.  
Someone said to him, 'Sir, will there be only a  
few saved?' He said to them, 'Try your best to  
enter by the narrow door, because I tell you,  
many will try to enter and will not succeed.



‘Once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you may find yourself knocking on the door, saying, “Lord, open to us” but he will answer, “I do not know where you come from.” Then you will find yourself saying, “We once ate and drank in your company; you taught in our streets,” but he will reply, “I do not know where you come from. Away from me, all you wicked men!”

‘Then there will be weeping and grinding of teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and yourselves turned outside. And men from east and west, from north and south, will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

‘Yes, there are those now last who will be first, and those now first who will be last.’

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 Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered once for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your Church.

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: When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, 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 cf. Ps 103:13-15

**The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you. 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

### AT THE FEAST IN THE KINGDOM

In this Sunday's Gospel we are still in that section of Luke that concerns the journey of Jesus and his disciples on their way to Jerusalem. This section of the Gospel, Luke 9-19, is long. It is also important as the evangelist seeks to contemporise the teaching of Jesus, for a later time and culture. The evangelist also provides us in this 'journey narrative' with a window into what some of the issues were with which Jesus' followers were dealing.

One of them here concerned salvation and ultimate communion with God. Someone enquires about the number of those 'saved'? Will it be a few? The question allows Jesus in Luke's Gospel to address a key presumption circulating within the Gospel audience. There were some who presumed that simply being a member of the Gospel household, participating in a meal (the Eucharist?) or listening to the teaching of the Master guaranteed admittance into the Kingdom.

Jesus reminds Luke's audience to be careful about such presumptive and elitist behaviour. This attitude, of being better than others because of one's spiritual heritage or conduct, does not guarantee automatic admission into the Kingdom. It needs to be checked. Rather than a restrictive or exclusive view of Kingdom admission – only those with the right 'credentials' will be admitted – ultimate communion with God is open ended and available to all, as people 'from east and west, from north and south will come to take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God. A spirit of openness, hospitality and inclusivity must characterise Jesus' disciples.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

## A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

## Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time/ C

23/24 August 2025

### Parish Office:

Hours: Mon—Fri 9.00am to 3.30pm  
Tel: 9412 8425

Email: [doncaster@cam.org.au](mailto: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

Holy Rosary: Every Wednesday after the 9.00AM Mass

Eucharistic Adoration: Every Wednesday and Friday following the 9.00AM Mass

CHILDREN LITURGY: Sunday mornings @ 10.30am

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 8.30am, 10.00am; Tue & Thurs 9.15am

**Hygiene: An essential part of our everyday lives — always, forever, please be careful and caring.**

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time / C

Sir 3:17-20, 28-29, Ps 67:4-7, 10-11, Heb 12:18-19, 22-24, Lk 14:1, 7-14

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](mailto:principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au)

### PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS:

Email Margaret O'Donnell at [margaretodonnell@gmail.com](mailto: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

### Words from the desk of the PP:

**Archbishop's Campaign:** this is the big weekend for this campaign. This weekend you are asked to make a commitment to regular donations or to make a single donation via electronic means, envelopes or cash.

This campaign helps you and I ensure that the Archdiocese can pursue diocese wide efforts to grow the faith, to spread the Good News. Please, be generous – as I know you always are.

**Clergy Conference:** I spent nearly four days at the 2025 Clergy conference. A good bit of relaxation. A good bit of conversation with fellow priests, and deacons, and even a couple of bishops. A large amount of challenging thinking about the Theological Virtue of Hope in today's world with Joel and Antonia, senior academics from the Australian Catholic University, leading us. The topic arises from the Jubilee Year: Pilgrims of Hope.

My take aways are: We must begin and live our days, always, with a humble recognition of our faith, an intention to ground all our actions in love: the Love Jesus brings us from God, a love that demands to be shared. And, alongside Faith and Love to recognise Hope.

Hope that is a gift from God. That is a gift that reveals our human hope as part of the truth that we are created in the image of God. Hope that expands our human hope to encompass the truth of Jesus Christ as our saviour and friend. Hope that calls us to action to seek to do our part to bring about the Reign of God in the world – right here and now, today, everyday.

It is Hope that enables us to imagine beyond our daily lives and to see things, small things, that can bring about a new world, a better world, a world that draws us into the Reign of God.

It was interesting to me to tease out that Hope is not optimism; Hope is not and empty platitude; Hope is wishful thinking. Rather, Hope is an expectation of the Reign of God progressively coming to reality throughout time: an expectation grounded in the life, passion, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus.

Hope! The fullness of hope, is an active virtue; an active way of living; an essentially communal effort by each of us and all of us are moved to follow Christ through all the trials/suffering and into an ever more present Reign of God in our hearts and in our communities.

**Australian Catholic Youth Festival. 30<sup>th</sup> Nov – 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec.** [acyf.org.au](http://acyf.org.au) – We now have **nine youth** from across St Greg's and St Kevin's – add your name to the list; add a friend's name to the list. The Spirit is moving!!

**Archdiocesan Safeguarding Audit:** Follow up on your details! Done? All in place? Thank you. Needs some work: come and see us and get help to get up to date.

*God bless, Fr Charles.*

2026



The 2026 Columban Art Calendar is now available at the piety stall or on the table in the church foyer.

Your donation of \$10 is greatly appreciated!



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this week:

For the resurgence of Hope as a gift from God: a theological virtue that leads all people to meet Christ Jesus and see beyond the physical world and into the Reign of God and how can be lived – in the world – today.



**Please pray for:** Those who are **sick** at this time including Dulcie Chancellor, Katrina Zaragoza, Valda Moore, David Perrin, John Condon, Michael Mullens, Monia Iaconi, Martin Stanbury, Shirley Loo, Bob Ulehla, Carmel Aloï, Anthony Tang, Bishop Terry Curtin, Madelaine Fitzpatrick, Don Pavone, John Reid, Alan Benn, Helen Ong, Joseph Yeo, Michael Angelo Yambao, Meredith Barnes, Siv Cuasay and for those who died recently Tony Aloï

and for those whose anniversaries occur about now Carmela Giordano & Giovanni Li

Rosi, John Bey, Manuelpillai Wilfred Rajanayagam, Angelita Yambao



*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**

Frank Ryan, Alvin Priyana  
 Chris Perera  
 Amanda Stefanovski, Paola Villanueva  
 Isabelle Hii, Benedicta Wong

**CARE OF THE CHURCH:** Stephen Ma**MONEY COUNTERS:** Iris O'Farrell, Sharron Wilkinson**NEXT WEEK 30/31 August**

Sat 6.00pm  
 Sun 9.00am  
 Sun 10.30am  
 Sun 5.00pm

**LECTORS**

Peter Whiting, Gerard O'Donnell  
 Tony Nimmo, Greg Lesmana  
 Erin Djukiadmodjo, Jonathan Gunawan  
 Mary Tonti Filippini, Enza Scaffidi

**CARE OF THE CHURCH:** Mike Yambao**MONEY COUNTERS:** Bill Taylor, Christopher Lim**COMMUNION MINISTERS**

Noel & Cathy McClelland  
 Joan Dinneen  
 Edith Ma, Nuccia La Rocca, Dai Sim  
 Mary Tonti- Filippini, Seleana Ng

**MORNING TEA:** Don & Lina**Offertory****FLOWERS:** Irene Dharmawan**COMMUNION MINISTERS**

Moir White, Sharron Wilkinson  
 Katica Puhaj  
 Maggie Yong, Mary Stocco, Aditya Hendarto  
 Margaret O'Donnell, Judy Ablaza

**MORNING TEA:** N/A**FLOWERS:** Geraldina Donato  
Mary Piccoli

For those who are Coeliac, we can provide low gluten (<20 ppm) hosts or a separate chalice. Please let the priest or sacristan know your need.

**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.



## THE ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN 2025

The 2025 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. These ministries are outlined in the campaign brochure which you will find in your pew and in the foyer today. Tax-deductible donations go to the Archbishop's Charitable Fund which supports the Corpus Christi College Building Fund, the Priests Retirement Foundation, John Pierce Centre, Melbourne Overseas Mission, the University of Divinity Building Fund 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 and evangelisation ministries. 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](http://melbournecatholic.org/archbishops campaign) or via the QR codes on the campaign materials.

**The Symbols of the Eucharist**

Symbols used in the celebration of Eucharist will be the central theme of a presentation by Fr Frank O'Loughlin to the Liturgy Teams of both St Kevin's and St Greg's on September 6th, Saturday from 10.00am to 1.00pm in the St Kevin's Gathering Space.

Father Frank is a renowned theologian and adult educator. He has researched and taught in the areas of fundamental theology, sacramental theology and liturgy in the Archdiocese of Melbourne for the last 50 years. In recent years he has published several books.

If you are interested, or might be interested in helping to enrich and develop and prepare our parish liturgies we would love to have you to join us for this presentation and discussion and test the waters. Please contact the parish office to express your interest or use the sign up sheet in the church narthex.

**St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School**

For School Tours and Open Days visit [sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au](http://sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au)

**Parish Facilities:** The Tennis Club Room and Courts and the Hall and the Parish Room are available. Room bookings can be made: [St.gregoryhall3108@gmail.com](mailto:St.gregoryhall3108@gmail.com)

(03) 9848 4483 [principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au)



Welcome to the family of Lachlan McAllister who will be baptised at St Gregory The Great Church this Sunday.

**Multicultural Day – Thank You!**

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for our Multicultural Day celebrations! Your presence and generous support through raffle ticket purchases, silent auction bids, and donations made the day truly special. We're thrilled to announce that we raised a total of \$6,141.25! These funds will go directly towards supporting upcoming social events within our parishes.

Stay tuned — exciting things are on the horizon. Watch this space for details about our next event!

**Raffle Prize Winners:**

- 1st Prize: Alston
- 2nd Prize: Vicky
- 3rd Prize: Ella
- 4th Prize: Doreen
- 5th Prize: Abigail
- 6th Prize: Ramona
- 7th Prize: Tania
- 8th Prize: John



### ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, 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, 24 September 2025 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](mailto:Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au)**

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

