

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

LUKE

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

26 OCTOBER 2025

THE PRAYER OF THE SINNER. Last Sunday's Gospel told of the determined struggle of a good person, a widow, for justice. Through this story Jesus teaches that God hears the persistent cries of the just. In today's Gospel it is a sinner who prays to God for mercy and, wonderfully, God hears the sinner's humble prayer also. The only prayer to which God cannot respond is that of the self-righteous who effectively says to God: 'I do not need you.'

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 104:3-4

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

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

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. Almighty ever-living God, increase our
faith, hope and charity, and make us love
what you command, so that we may merit
what you promise. 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 Sir 35:12-14, 16-19

A reading from the book of Sirach

*The prayer of the humble will penetrate the
heavens.*

The Lord is a judge
who is no respecter of personages.
He shows no respect of personages to the
detriment of a poor man,
he listens to the plea of the injured party.
He does not ignore the orphan's supplication,
nor the widow's as she pours out her story.
The man who with his whole heart serves
God will be accepted,
his petitions will carry to the clouds.
The humble man's prayer pierces the clouds,
until it arrives he is inconsolable,
nor will he desist until the Most High takes
notice of him,
acquits the virtuous and delivers judgement.
And the Lord will not be slow,
nor will he be dilatory on their behalf.

The word of the Lord.

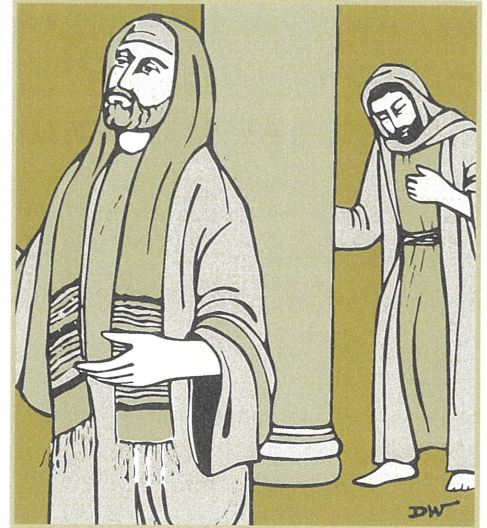
R. Thanks be to God.

RESP PSALM Ps 32:2-3, 17-19, 23. R. v. 7

R. The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, / his
praise always on my lips; / in the Lord my
soul shall make its boast. / The humble shall
hear and be glad. **R.**

2. The Lord turns his face against the
wicked / to destroy their remembrance from
the earth. / The just call and the Lord hears /
and rescues them in all their distress. **R.**



3. The Lord is close to the broken-hearted; /
those whose spirit is crushed he will save. /
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants. /
Those who hide in him shall not be
condemned. **R.**

SECOND READING 2 Tim 4:6-8, 16-18

A reading from the second letter of St Paul
to Timothy

*All that remains is the crown of righteousness
reserved for me.*

My life is already being poured away as a
libation, and the time has come for me to be
gone. I have fought the good fight to the end;
I have run the race to the finish; I have kept
the faith; all there is to come now is the crown
of righteousness reserved for me, which the
Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on
that Day; and not only to me but to all those
who have longed for his Appearing.

The first time I had to present my defence,
there was not a single witness to support
me. Every one of them deserted me – may
they not be held accountable for it. But the
Lord stood by me and gave me power, so
that through me the whole message might be
proclaimed for all the pagans to hear; and so I
was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord
will rescue me from all evil attempts on me,
and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom.
To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

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

Lk 18:9-14

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.

The publican returned to his home justified; the Pharisee did not.

Jesus spoke the following parable to some people who prided themselves on being virtuous and despised everyone else. 'Two men went up to the Temple to pray, one a Pharisee, the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood there and said this prayer to himself, "I thank you, God, that I am not grasping, unjust, adulterous like the rest of mankind, and particularly that I am not like this tax collector here. I fast twice a week; I pay tithes on all I get." The tax collector stood some distance away, not daring even to raise his eyes to heaven; but he beat his breast and said, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner." This man, I tell you, went home again at rights with God; the other did not. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

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. Look, we pray, O Lord, on the offerings we make to your majesty, that whatever is done by us in your service

may be directed above all to your glory.

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 cf. Ps 19:6

We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray, perfect in us what lies within them, that what we now celebrate in signs we may one day possess in 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

PONDERING OUR ATTITUDES

Today's Gospel presents us with a mirror to help us reflect on the way we regard others. It is especially pertinent when we feel assured that our religious attitude and approach to our Faith and God is correct. It is even possible that out of this attitude we can regard others, especially those from other faith traditions, as uninformed or perhaps targets of divine condemnation.

Jesus offers Luke's audience an opportunity to reflect on similar attitudes. It takes the form of a parable focused on two people: a person of religious scrupulosity and a public sinner. The first is called a 'Pharisee', an identification that requires nuanced historical understanding. For Luke writing in the mid-80s of the first century in the period after the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE, Pharisees enabled Judaism to survive and grow. They represented its leadership. To followers of Jesus at that same period they represented those who were critical of the Jesus-movement and didn't join in. In the time of Jesus, in the 30s, the situation was very different. They were very attuned to Jesus' mission and, like him, concerned about authentic Jewish faith and Torah practice.

In the story in Luke's Gospel, Jesus compares a 'Pharisee' (in this later historical understanding) to a tax-collector judged a sinner, collaborating in Rome's oppressive taxation system. This 'sinner' recognises his need for God's mercy; the Lukan Pharisee, self-assured about his religious credentials, arrogant and without any need for God, is self-focused. These parable characters invite us to ponder our attitude to God and others.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAULS

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time / C

25/ 26 October 2025

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

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 9.15am; Tue & Thurs 9.15am

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

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

The Commemoration of all the Fully Departed / C

Isa 25: 6-9, Ps 26: 1, 4, 7-9, 13-14, Rom 5: 5-11, Lk 7: 11-17

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

Chee Mee Lian, Emmly Luethamphakdee, Phaisan Luethamphakdee, Priscilla Cheng, Marleen Liu, Amy Liu, Chantal Wong, Christopher Wong, Ximena Simian, Nik & Somaratna, Peter Ryan, Valda Moore, Michael Mullens, Bob Ulehla, Carmel Alois, Bishop Terry Curtin, Madelaine Fitzpatrick, Don Pavone, John Reid, Meredith Barnes

and for those who died recently Martin Santos

and for those whose anniversaries occur about now

Maria Briffa, Nanito Evangelista, Peter Stocco, Nascy Caldeira, Adi Priyana, Bernard & Srma Perera, William Maher Jnr, Lawrence Frederick D'Souza, Tim Doherty, Paulus Lee Kevee Seng, Rusiah Fulia, Patric Wijono Tsjin, Monica Sonya See, Johan Gunarta

Words from the desk of the PP:

Safeguarding

Over to you! I have nothing new to say. No special events. No new rules. So ... it's "over to us" to live our lives knowing that we want all people, and especially children and the especially vulnerable, safe from harm. We have developed that culture beautifully. Praise the Lord! Keep it up!

October Rosary:

Last one coming up next Thursday 29th Rosary led by Fr Charles.

Start 7 pm, Zoom ID: 818 2077 7329 Passcode: 094929

ACYF!!! Australian Catholic Youth Festival. 30th Nov – 2nd Dec.

acyf.org.au – We have registered 19 people, including myself. Hallelujah. We have a few more days left for people to join the group so we can register them so please keep encouraging more to join.

Thank you to everyone who baked for and who bought from the "Bake Sale" last weekend. (Sorry we couldn't organise to sell at St Kevin's as well as at St Greg's.) We raised far more (\$2,978 at St Greg's and \$674.70 at St Kevin's) than I expected – you are most generous indeed – thank you again.

A side benefit of the ACYF and Bake Sale is that some of our younger parishioners have learnt a lot more about organising events.

Things we do:

Hosts & Wine: I was asked recently: where do the communion hosts come from and why are they in the form we use? And where does the wine come from? The hosts we use are manufactured by the Cistercians in the United States – for practical purposes of ensuring it meets church standards, and I suspect for having a large enough business to be commercial in the world today. Why dry 'ice-cream cone' bread: for practicality of not going stale, of not making a mess that needs cleaning up. The large hosts: for visibility as we consecrate and break. The Sacramental wine (red or white) is made, under licence by the Jesuits at Seven Hills Winery in South Australia. Again – one source to ensure we can be sure of its quality and the absence of additives.

Sacrament of Anointing of the SICK: I have had two parishioners recently recoil (a strong word for a strong reaction) at the idea they might be anointed: because they associate this sacrament with dying. There is a history to that perception: a history that has no presence today. This sacrament is a beautiful sacrament of life. The sacrament can be received as often as needed from childhood through to old age. It is a Sacrament of healing; a sacrament of forgiveness; a sacrament of journeying with Christ amidst the big difficulties of life. Yes, it has a place helping us to prepare for our death. But that is a small part of its purpose and place: when you are grieving a loss; when you are approaching a major matter in life from cancer diagnosis to heart operation to moving or loss of home to becoming a parent or a carer to living with physical or mental challenges. Without trivialising the sacrament: any time you feel your life is disrupted: seek this wonderful healing Sacrament of Anointing. And talk about this with your older relatives. Yes, once upon a time it had a strong association with death but that was a misconception with overtones of social and medical ways. Now, we understand better: this is a sacrament for living, for living well with Christ, especially for those times we are struggling.

Repair of Leaks:

Remember! During the coming week we will have repair of the remaining roof and window leaks. There will still be Mass 9 am Wednesday and Friday, with no Rosary / Adoration after Mass. Otherwise no services – allowing workers maximum access.

God bless, Fr Charles.



Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for our upcoming Parish Assembly on Tuesday, November 18th at 6:30-8:30 PM. More details will be shared soon!



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this week:

For our 19 pilgrims registered to attend the Australian Catholic Youth Festival: that they will open themselves heart and soul to the Holy Spirit.

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

THIS WEEK

Sat 6.00pm Joseph & Lorna Philip
 Sun 9.00am Chris Perera
 Sun 10.30am Erin Djukiadmodjo, Jonathan Gunawan
 Sun 5.00pm Benedicta Wong, Jane Ma

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Phil Handang**MONEY COUNTERS:** Philip Dunlop, Greg Lesmana**LECTORS****NEXT WEEK 1/2 Nov**

Sat 6.00pm Frank Ryan, Alvin Priyana
 Sun 9.00am Jacqueline Rogers, Greg Lesmana
 Sun 10.30am Ivonne Gunawan, Amanda Stefanovski
 Sun 5.00pm Isabelle Hii, Nat De Silva

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Agnes Chee**MONEY COUNTERS:** Lina & Don Pavone**COMMUNION MINISTERS**

Margaret O'Donnell, Iris O'Farrell
 Tony Nimmo
 Dai Sim, Lucy Giardino, Edith Ma
 Seleana Ng, Alfred Lee

MORNING TEA: N/A**FLOWERS:** Tessa Leung**COMMUNION MINISTERS**

Noel & Cathy McClelland
 Joan Dinneen
 Erin Djukiadmodjo, Nuccia La Rocca, Lilian Antonelli
 Dot Haynes, Margaret O'Donnell

MORNING TEA: N/A**FLOWERS:** Irene Dharmawan

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.

Australian Young Catholic Women's Fellowship 2026/2027 Formation for Missionary Leadership

Are you a young Catholic woman aged 25–35 who is passionate about your faith and feels called to leadership in your community, profession, or Church?

Applications are now open for the Australian Young Catholic Women's Fellowship 2026/2027—a two-year formation opportunity offered by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

This Fellowship offers:

- Graduate-level theological formation through ACU's Graduate Certificate in Theological Studies (Women's Leadership for Mission) – with fee subsidies available.
- Faith formation, spiritual direction, mentoring, and leadership development.
- All-expenses-paid national gatherings and ongoing accompaniment in community with like-minded women from across Australia.
- Discernment of your gifts and guidance to live out your baptismal mission in today's world.

Applications close Monday 24 November 2025 For more information and how to apply, contact: Lisa McKerr – lisa.mckerr@catholic.org.au or visit the National Centre for Evangelisation website: <https://nce.catholic.org.au/>

YTU Information Session for 2026

Informal session on Wednesday 12th November at about studying Theology.

We offer undergraduate, postgraduate, higher degree by research or an audit pathway. Part-time, full-time & intensives. Face to face, On-line, synchronous or asynchronous (in your own time) classes. Website: www.ytu.edu.au

All Saints Day – Saturday, November 1st

A special Mass will be celebrated at 9:00 am at St. Gregory's, and all are warmly invited to join us in honoring all the saints who inspire our journey of faith.

All Souls Day – Sunday, November 2nd

On All Souls Day, we remember and pray for all our beloved departed. Fr Charles will be visiting two cemeteries in the afternoon to offer prayers at Templestowe Cemetery and Eltham Cemetery. The majority of burials from our two parishes over the past year have taken place in these cemeteries. If anyone would want to visit to another cemetery, please feel free to speak with Fr Charles.

Bake Sale a Sweet Success — Thank You!

We are deeply grateful for everyone's generous support of our young parishioners. Our Bake Sale, Raffle tickets and donations from both parishes have raised a total of **\$3652.70** last weekend. The money raised will help support our youth financially to attend the Australian Catholic Youth Festival in Nov/ Dec.

If you like to donate, please visit our website or through the QR Code. Select ACYF Fundraising Campaign.

Congratulations to our raffle prize winners:

- 1st: Tanzimat Family
 2nd: Carlos
 3rd: Josie Tay
 4th: Mary S
 5th: Pauline Brennan

**St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School**

For School Tours and Open Days visit 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

(03) 9848 4483 principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au

**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.

ARCHERY TAG

Friday, October 31st 7pm-9pm

Year 6 to Year 10

Come Join our October excursion of Archery Tag!

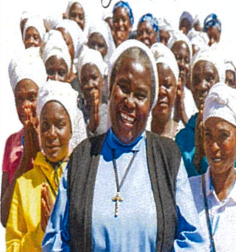
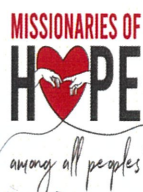
Archery Attack Melbourne
 118-120 Henty St.
 Reservoir VIC 3073

COSTS:
 \$25 pp
 (No dinner is provided - just snacks)

RSVP by 25th October, email us at doncaster@cam.org.au

Registrations are closing soon!!

Pilgrims are encouraged to attend the Festival as part of a small group, to provide a richer and more engaging experience. St Gregory's and St Kevin's Youth and Young Adults groups are registering as a group! For registration & info contact 9412 8425 or doncaster@cam.org.au



This week, you're invited to partner with the Church in Zambia to help women overcome poverty and mothers give birth safely.

The Women's Cooperative, led by Sr Jane will provide women with the training and support required to break the cycle of scarcity, and the Chilonga Mission Hospital is determined to ensure every woman and baby receives a safe and dignified start to life.

During World Mission Sunday, we are called to be 'Missionaries of hope among all peoples', and we invite you to extend Christ's love to those in need in Zambia. You can support this work by using the appeal envelope, going online at catholicmission.org.au/mission, or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also assist many other Church programs around the world.



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mission

