

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

LUKE

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

31 AUGUST 2025

TAKING THE LOWER PLACE. In today's Gospel Jesus offers some wise advice on table etiquette. For Luke, the story has implications for the relationship of the rich to the poor who gather for the Eucharistic banquet. Only if all members are treated with equal dignity can it truly be called the Lord's Supper. Parishes prosper when all are treated equally regardless of how much each can put on the collection plate.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Ps 85:3, 5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

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 are the image of the unseen God: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You are the first born 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. God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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 Sir 3:17-20, 28-29

A reading from the book of Sirach

Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord.

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver.

The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

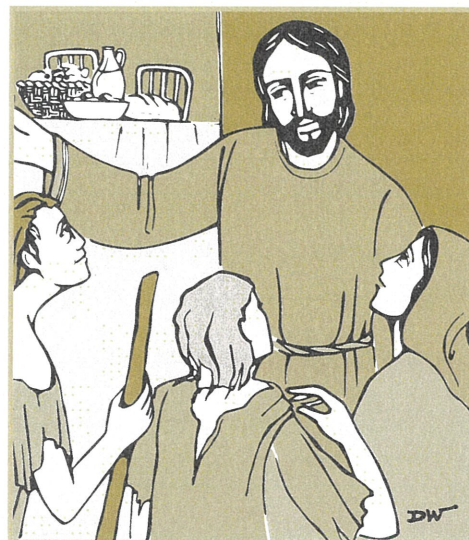
RESP PSALM Ps 67:4-7, 10-11. R. cf. v. 11

R. God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

1. The just shall rejoice at the presence of God, / they shall exult and dance for joy. / O sing to the Lord, make music to his name; / rejoice in the Lord, exult at his presence. **R.**

2. Father of the orphan, defender of the widow, / such is God in his holy place. / God gives the lonely a home to live in; / he leads the prisoners forth into freedom. **R.**

3. You poured down, O God, a generous rain: / when your people were starved you gave them new life. / It was there that your people found a home, / prepared in your goodness, O God, for the poor. **R.**



SECOND READING Heb 12:18-19, 22-24

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

You have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God.

What you have come to is nothing known to the senses: not a blazing fire, or a gloom turning to total darkness, or a storm; or trumpeting thunder or the great voice speaking which made everyone that heard it beg that no more should be said to them. But what you have come to is Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem where the millions of angels have gathered for the festival, with the whole Church in which everyone is a 'first-born son' and a citizen of heaven. You have come to God himself, the supreme Judge, and been placed with spirits of the saints who have been made perfect; and to Jesus, the mediator who brings a new covenant.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Mt 11:29

Alleluia, alleluia!

Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Lk 14:1, 7-14

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.

All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted.

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed

how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

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. May this sacred offering, O Lord, confer on us always the blessing of salvation, that what it celebrates in mystery it may accomplish in power. 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: We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection 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 Ps 30:20

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table, we beseech you, Lord, that, being the food of charity, it may confirm our hearts and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.

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

MEAL-TEACHINGS

Today's opening Gospel verse sets the scene for what will unfold. It is a Sabbath, a day of rest when Israelites emulate the action of God in the creation story in Genesis 1. A meal now provides this for Jesus. What follows is in two parts.

The first is an analysis of social structure and hierarchy in Luke's day. Jesus notices how some presume to sit in the places of honour. They presume entitlement. We are in a world where one of the most important social dynamics concerns the importance of 'honour' and 'shame.' Honour is a publicly recognised value by which people are confirmed or grow in their social standing; shame is its antithesis. Honour is a limited commodity which is either inherited or acquired. Those who 'shame' another grow in honour. Luke's Jesus uses this social dynamic to reflect on self-exaltation and humility: 'Those who exalt themselves will be humbled and those who humble themselves will be exalted'.

The second part of today's Gospel further explores what happens at meals. The common expectation would be to host a meal with one's friends and people of similar social standing. Jesus upends such meal etiquette. Rather than inviting social equals he encourages meal invitees to be the poor and those from the lower echelons. Payment for such graciousness will occur in the time of resurrection. These meal-teachings from Luke's day, of humility and welcoming of the poor, continue to speak to us today.

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT—DONCASTER

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time/ C

30/31 August 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 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-third Sunday in Ordinary Time / C

Wis 9:13-18, Ps 89:3-6, 12-14, 17, Philem 9-10, 12-17, Lk 14:25-33

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 Dulcie Chancellor, Katrina Zaragoza, Valda Moore, John Condon, Michael Mullens, Monia Iaconi, Martin Stanbury, Shirley Loo, Bob Ulehla, Carmel Aloj, 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 Aloj

and for those whose anniversaries occur about now Yap Huat Goon, Lee Kim Heok, Bernard Perera, Carlito Gonzalez, Luisa Vierra, Rosa Ricerra



Words from the desk of the PP:

Parish Accountant:

The parish accountant for St Kevin's has decided to step aside from his role at the end of the year. SO!! We need a replacement.

Do you have a talent or know someone who might help St Kevin's Parish in this capacity? If so please call or email Fr Charles (0417319556 or Charles.balnaves@cam.org.au).

Archbishop's Campaign:

Thank you for your generosity last week. If you missed the main giving weekend last week: please make sure to give this week.

Australian Catholic Youth Festival:

30th Nov – 2nd Dec. acyf.org.au – please keep looking for likely participants.

Safeguarding Audit:

St Greg's have been advised that our formal safeguarding audit Greg's will occur in the morning of October 8th. So please pray that we will be ready and able to show how strong you are in a culture of Safeguarding. Since I am Parish Priest for both Doncaster and Templestowe, I have a feel that there may be a few questions about St Kevin's while they have me in front of them. So, please for all volunteers at both St Greg's and St Kevin's follow through soon if your safeguarding compliance needs updating. Call the office if you are not sure.


Things we do:

I have been struck recently how many 'things we do' have never been explained to people. So over coming weeks I am going to include short items of explanation.

This week: an old one: the priest facing towards the people / the priest facing away from the people.


Before Vatican II part of the theology of the celebration of Mass was that we all faced towards the transcendent God – which meant that the priest faced the same way as the people – towards God (but looking like 'back to the people'). With Vatican II an older theology was rediscovered and renewed so that now we are all sitting around the table with Christ for a meal and at the start to his offering of himself – like the Last Supper. The priest now faces the people. Both are valid ways of seeing the world but 'sitting around the table' more clearly reflects Christ's actions. So we see recent churches more 'in the round' compared to older churches.

God bless, Fr Charles.



THE ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN
2025

The 2025 Archbishop's Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a one time or monthly pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. Brochures with more information can be found around the church. Donations can be made via the QR code, via the supplied campaign envelopes or anonymously via cash directly into the collection plate during the campaign weekends.



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this week:
That participants in the Alpha retreat on Sept 13th will experience an encounter with the Holy Spirit that expands their lives in new ways.



hope

EMBARK ON A TRANSFORMATIONAL & SPIRITUAL JOURNEY IN THIS YEAR OF JUBILEE
melbournecatholic.org/jubilee

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

Peter Whiting, Gerard O'Donnell
 Tony Nimmo, Greg Lesmana
 Erin Djukiadmodjo, Jonathan Gunawan
 St Gregory the Great Students

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Mike Yambao**MONEY COUNTERS:** Bill Taylor, Christopher Lim**NEXT WEEK 6/7 Sep**

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

LECTORS

Noel & Cathy McClelland
 Jacqueline Rogers, Chris Perera
 Ivonne Gunawan, Tony Ting
 Thomas Ong, Stephanie Ong

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Mike Yambao**MONEY COUNTERS:** Philip Dunlop, Marian See**COMMUNION MINISTERS**

Moir White, Sharron Wilkinson
 Katica Puhaj
 Maggie Yong, Mary Stocco, Aditya Hendarto
 St Gregory the Great Students

MORNING TEA: N/A**Offertory**

FLOWERS: Geraldina Donato
 Mary Piccoli

COMMUNION MINISTERS

Sharron Wilkinson
 Margaret Wallace
 Nuccia La Rocca, Behnaz Behmadi, Erin Djukiadmodjo
 Alfred Lee, Dot Haynes

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

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

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary SchoolFor 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.

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.

Come Away Day, Wednesday 10th September at Holy Cross Monastery, 207 Serpells Road, Templestowe.

The theme of our next 'Come Away' is 'Awakening to the New'. The day begins with a "cuppa" at 9.30am and the formal part of the day at 10.00am. The day's programme provides opportunities for prayer, silent reflection and group interaction in the beautiful grounds of Holy Cross. All are welcome. Just come as you are. BYO Lunch, tea & coffee provided. You are invited to contribute \$30, or a donation according to your means. 2.30pm. It is helpful to know the expected numbers so at we can have handouts ready so please email Sr Brigid on bridget.m64@gmail.com



Welcome to the family of **Delilah Faith Quinn** who will be baptised at St Gregory The Great Church this Sunday.

Congratulations to the children of St Gregory the Great Primary School who are receiving their First Eucharist this Sunday. We also extend our warm welcome to their families, friends and teachers who are celebrating this special occasion with them.



Please be informed that during the 5:00 PM Mass on Sunday, August 31st, we will be celebrating the First Eucharist for the students of St. Gregory the Great and the Sacrament of Baptism for Delilah. Kindly note that the Mass may be longer than usual. We invite you to keep all the children and their families in your prayers as they receive these important sacraments in their journey of faith.

Caritas Australia: Gaza Pledge (closes this Sunday 31.08.25)

By September 9, changes to registration processes for international NGOs threaten to drastically reduce the already insufficient flow of food, water, and medicine into Gaza. While Caritas Australia's locally embedded partners remain unaffected, Caritas Australia has launched a pledge to acknowledge the devastating impact of any further reduction in aid to Gaza.

To learn more and sign the pledge: caritas.org.au/gaza. Support through signing and sharing the pledge.

**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. The plaques are 135mm x 75mm & have standard printing limited to 6 lines.

Please note that the cost per plaque is **\$260.00**.

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 5th September 2025.

**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, 23 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

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

**EVANGELISATION LEADER**

The parishes of St Gregory the Great and St Kevin's are seeking a faith-filled, dynamic leader to serve as Evangelisation Leader. This role is pivotal in helping our communities grow a deeper culture of intentional discipleship, mission and outreach. This intentional missionary disciple of Christ Jesus will be enthusiastic and will report to Fr Charles, Parish Councils and staff to grow the Evangelisation culture and practice of both parishes.

For more info please visit parish website where you will also find a Position Description. Applications close Sunday, 7th September.



St Gregory the Great Feast Day Mass
Wednesday, 3rd September at 9am



We are kindly seeking someone who can assist with transport for an elderly parishioner who wishes to attend the 10:30 AM Sunday Mass. She lives in Doncaster, just 5 minutes from St. Greg's Church. If you are able to help, even occasionally, your kindness and support would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the parish office 9412 8425 for more details.