

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

11 OCTOBER 2026

COME TO THE BANQUET. Our God invites all people to the banquet of the kingdom, a banquet characterised by joy, integrity, and true peace. Sometimes, however, we decline this invitation preferring the lesser banquets that we know. May God enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Ps 129:3-4

**If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
O God of Israel.**

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. May your grace, O Lord, we pray, at all
times go before us and follow after and make
us always determined to carry out good

works. 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

Isa 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away
the tears from every cheek.*

On this mountain,

the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove
the mourning veil covering all peoples,
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,
he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away
the tears from every cheek;
he will take away his people's shame
everywhere on earth,
for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God
in whom we hoped for salvation;
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice
that he has saved us;
for the hand of the Lord
rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22. R. v. 6

**R. I shall live in the house of the Lord
all the days of my life.**

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is
nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are
the pastures / where he gives me repose. /
Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive
my drooping spirit. **R.**

2. He guides me along the right path; / he
is true to his name. / If I should walk in the
valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. /
You are there with your crook and your
staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**

3. You have prepared a banquet for
me / in the sight of my foes. / My head
you have anointed with oil; / my cup is
overflowing. **R.**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall
follow me / all the days of my life. / In the
Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and
ever. **R.**



SECOND READING

Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians

I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.

I know how to be poor and I know how to
be rich too. I have been through my initiation
and now I am ready for anything anywhere:
full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or
plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with
the help of the One who gives me strength. All
the same, it was good of you to share with me
in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil
all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as
only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for
ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Eph 1:17, 18

**Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of
our heart, / that we might see how great
is the hope / to which we are called. /
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Mt 22:1-14

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.

Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of
the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may
be compared to a king who gave a feast for
his son's wedding. He sent his servants to
call those who had been invited, but they
would not come. Next he sent some more
servants. "Tell those who have been invited"
he said "that I have my banquet all prepared,
my oxen and fattened cattle have been
slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the

wedding.” But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants. “The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding.” So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, “How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?” And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Shorter form, Mt 22: 1-10

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. Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful with the sacrificial offerings, that, through these acts of devotedness, we may pass over to the glory of heaven. 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 33:11

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. We entreat your majesty most humbly, O Lord, that, as you feed us with the nourishment which comes from the most holy Body and Blood of your Son, so you may make us sharers of his divine nature. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

P. May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

R. Amen.

P. Go in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

COME TO THE WEDDING!

For the third Sunday, Jesus addresses religious leaders. Again, as last Sunday, it concerns their refusal to accept God's invitation to join the feast of the Kingdom. Jesus describes the Kingdom as a wedding feast hosted by a king for his son. Those invited fail to turn up for this sumptuous feast. 'Come to the wedding' is the invitation, but, according to Matthew's story, they are 'not interested'. They have different distractions and interests. Joining the king's feast is not on their agenda. The invitation is in fact such an annoyance or distraction that the invitees maltreat and even kill the messengers. The king responds punishing them. Clearly, the king's response is not meant to represent God. It would be unfortunate to make this identification and reinforce the image of a punishing God!

The point of the story is about the attitude of those invited to join the heavenly banquet, an image of the eucharistic celebration, and those who will eventually join the feast. These guests are identified in the Gospel's last verses: people from the 'roads', symbolic of all people on the path of life and the synodal journey. Everyone, 'bad and good alike', fill the wedding hall. The Eucharist is not a reward for the perfect but sustenance for the weak – for us. As Pope Francis writes, 'The Eucharist, although it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.' (*The Joy of the Gospel*, n 47).

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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WELCOME TO ST GREGORY THE GREAT, DONCASTER



MASS TIMES:

ST GREGORY'S: Sat Vigil 6:30pm,

Sun 10:30am, 5:00 pm

CHILDREN LITURGY: Sunday @ 10:30am

Youth Mass 2nd Sundays at 5 pm

ST GREGORY'S WEEKDAYS:

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

ST KEVIN'S: Sat Vigil 5:30pm; Sun 9:15am

Weekdays: Tue & Thurs 9:15 pm

ST CLEMENT: Sat Vigil: 5pm, Sun 9am,
11am (Italian)

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

CONFESSIONS:

ST GREGORY'S: Saturdays 9:30-11:00am or
by appointment

ST KEVIN'S: By appointment

ST CLEMENT: Saturdays 4:30-4:50pm or by
appointment

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: before/after any
Mass or by appointment

BAPTISMS: Ring the Parish Office for
bookings

ST GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC

PRIMARY SCHOOL: Tel: (03) 9848 4483

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS:

Margaret O'Donnell

margaretodonnell@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP:

Fridays at 9:45 am in the church meeting
room. Contact Paola Cheng 0415 280 216

CORNERSTONE YOUTH GROUP:

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

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP:

4th Fridays 7:15pm
ST VINCENT DE PAUL CONFERENCE: 3rd
Mondays 7:00 pm in the School Parish Room

ST GREGORY'S TENNIS CLUB: Membership
enquiries: Gianna Alessio (President) 0438
410 506

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION: Terry M 0402307384

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS:

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6,
1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 19-20, Matthew 22:15-21

Parish Office: Mon-Fri 8:30am to 3:20pm

Phone: 9412 8425

Email: doncaster@cam.org.au

Website: stgregs.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Charles Balnaves

Assist. Priest: Anton Aseervathampillai

Business Manager: David Hii

Parish Secretary: Vera Arief (Mon & Wed)

Luisa Yambao (Tue, Thur, Fri)

Bookkeeping: Bernadine De Silva (Mon)

Sacristan: Mary Stocco: 0412 742 657

St Gregory the Great Primary School

Principal: Natalie Ballinger

principal@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

11 October 2026

Words from PP,

The Greg Sheridan Talk: God is Good for You

An excellent evening! Over 100 people came, representing St Clement's St Greg's St Kevin's St John the Evangelist and St Peter and Paul – at least.

Greg presented us with a wonderful journey weaving through his three books and the difficulties facing us as Christians in the Australian context – recognising we are not facing death as is the case in some / many places in the world.

It took me a little pondering to recognise the topic "God is Good for You" woven into the story he told. But it was there – not as an explicit argument but as the sub-text.

Salvation history is all about remaining always faithful to God's love, and doubly with the coming of Jesus Christ, brings about change in us and change in the world.

His examples from the early Christian communities; his talking about Job; his comparison of the sexual customs surrounding St Paul's Corinthian community with the situation today in Australia; the beauty that can be seen through the Old Testament stories: these all point us to the ways in which God is Good for Us.

Thank you, Greg, for an enjoyable evening.

And thank you to Mary and many others who helped make the evening happen and happen smoothly.

Becoming Catholic – RCIA

Please pray for Joey, Cindy, Mark, Jamie, and Parsa as they continue their faith journey and begin their preparation for being initiated into Christian faith and our Roman Catholic Church. Come Holy Spirit! And ... it's not too late to ask someone to join the group.

Receiving the Blood of Christ as well as the Body of Christ

We've been receiving both the Body and the Blood of Christ in St Kevin's community since about 2004 (if memory serves me well) and it has been a success. Covid reduced the proportion of people choosing to receive both Body and Blood but Still about 15-20% receive.

I would like to introduce the practice at St Gregory's and at St Clement's. Reception of Communion but doubly reception of the Blood of Christ would always be optional – your choice entirely.

The primary purpose I have for providing this choice is to give you the choice to receive Jesus' in the substance of his Blood as well as his Body. This more clearly makes Jesus' words of the Last Supper visible in our celebration of Eucharist. That night, he said "Take and Eat" and "Take and Drink". In addition to the physical and spiritual receiving of Jesus' self in the Body and the Blood, distributing both gives a clearer visible sign that we are following Christ and allowing ourselves to be his presence in the world today. His community. Us, the Body of Christ gathered around the table with him as we celebrate the Mass together.

Ms Michelle Verna: Michelle Verna was principal of St Gregory the Great Primary school from 2018 till mid-2025. We received news on Wednesday evening that Michelle died suddenly. She was a good and faithful person, bringing great leadership to her role as principal. The suddenness of Michelle's death reminds us of our mortality but it also reminds us that we depend greatly on our school principals as a real presence of Christ for our children and families. Please keep Michelle and her family and all her colleagues in your prayers.

God bless, Fr Charles.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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

Those who died recently: Denis Sweeney, Margaret Kascamanidis, Leone Maddafferi, Michelle Verna

Those whose anniversaries occur about now: Loretta Alimwidjaja



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:

For all those who suffer from chronic health issues – that they will know Jesus walking with them each moment, and experience his Holy Spirit sustaining them.

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

THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 6:30 PM	Lectors: Frances Cannizzo, Robert McHugh Communion: Robert & Dianne McHugh
SUNDAY 10:30 AM	Lectors: Brian & Jenny Tyedin Communion: Edith Ma, Rob Rukavina, Mary Stocco
SUNDAY 5:00 PM	Lectors: Michael Ong, Jonathan Gunawan Communion: Seleana Ong, Viviana Pereira, Caterina Gioffre

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Mary Wilson **FLOWERS:** Rose Ling
MONEY COUNTERS: Philip Dunlop
MORNING TEA: N/A

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Give by Contactless

Use our Eftpos Terminal located in the church Narthex.
 You can donate with: a debit/credit card.

NEXT WEEK

Lectors: Noel & Cathy McClelland Communion: Frances Cannizzo, Margaret O'Donnell
Lectors: Tony Ting, Justin Green Communion: Behnaz Behmadi, Sauro Antonelli, Lilian Antonelli
Lectors: Valentinus Reza, Mary Tonti Filippini Communion: Dot Haynes, Nita Pereira

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Phil Handang **FLOWERS:** Geraldina Donato
MONEY COUNTERS: Christopher Lim
MORNING TEA: Brian & Jenny Tyedin

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary School



Open Day: 29 October 2026 at 9.30-11.30 am

School Tours: contact 9848 4483; sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au

Parish Facilities: The Parish Hall and Parish Room are available
 Bookings can be made: office@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cornerstone Youth Group and Alpha Youth

16 October 2026 at 630PM

On Friday, October 16th, we will hold the final session, session 8 of the Alpha Experience. This session will commence at 6.30pm with dinner, followed by the Alpha Video "What happens Next" and conclude with the usual small group discussion time. Any of our registered Alpha guests (including some members of the Cornerstone Youth group) will of course be welcome to attend this final session. Other Cornerstone Youth Group members who are not registered for the Youth Alpha will be welcome to attend this final Alpha session, but their parents will need to comply with the safeguarding protocols for children under 18yrs.

SAVE THE DATE

17 November 2026

Please save the date for our upcoming Parish Assembly.
 Further details will be provided closer to the date.

Southern Stars and Young Stars Social Party Night

Saturday 24 October 2026 at 8:00 PM

Party for Single Catholics in the 28 and 60 Age Group
 Location: St Benedict's Parish Hall
 Central Ave Burwood, Melway Map 60 H6
 Cost: Non members \$13, Members \$7
 Includes Supper and lucky door prizes. Enquiries: Peter 9885 2167

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Holy Souls Masses: The envelopes for prayer requests for Holy Souls Masses are available in the Church Narthex.

Our Memorial Book is now available at the table in the Church Narthex and throughout the month of October.

We have printed the names of your loved ones from last year's Memorial Book.

They are in the alphabetical order based on surnames.

Please locate the names of your loved ones and only write if they are not listed.

Moving forward, we will keep the names in the book to continue to pray for them every year and add new names as requested. Thank you and God bless.

PS: This is in addition to the Holy Souls Envelopes.

CAN YOU HELP PEOPLE WHO HAVE SUFFERED CHURCH-RELATED ABUSE?

For fourteen years, the Lifeboat Geelong Foundation has been assisting victims of church-related sexual abuse from all over Australia. In recent years, generous supporters have donated a number of motor vehicles of varied value (from \$500 to \$20,000!), including cars from deceased estates or which are no longer required. Some have been directly gifted to a victim/survivor in need, while others have been sold to generate funds required to assist victims in a multitude of ways e.g. counselling, rent, utilities and other domestic and personal necessities.

You could help this important work both by simply by bringing it to the attention of people who might consider donating a motor vehicle, if possible in roadworthy or near-roadworthy condition and which for whatever reason is no longer required, or contact:

Fr. Kevin Dillon (0421 777 360 or frkdillon@outlook.com.au) or

Damian Coyne (0400 170 374 or dkcoyne@hotmail.com) for more information.



Baptisms

We extend a warm welcome to the family of Elpida Matthew who will be baptised this Sunday.

Supporting Our Families During VCE

We acknowledge that this can be a challenging and stressful time for young people undertaking VCE, as well as for their families.

If you or your family need someone to talk to, some support, or simply someone to listen, please don't hesitate to reach out to Fr Charles or the Parish Office. We are here to support you and walk alongside you during this time.

