

# OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

27 SEPTEMBER 2026

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY. We cannot spend all of our lives blaming others for what has happened to us. At a certain stage we must accept responsibility for our own lives and deeds. Sometimes we need to admit, 'I have done wrong. I am sorry. God, help me to do right in future.' Change is always possible. If we have the desire, God will guide us in the right path.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** Dan 3:31, 29, 30, 43, 42

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

## 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. O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven. 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

Ezek 18:25-28

**A reading from the prophet Ezekiel**

*The sinner who decides to turn against sinfulness deserves to live.*

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

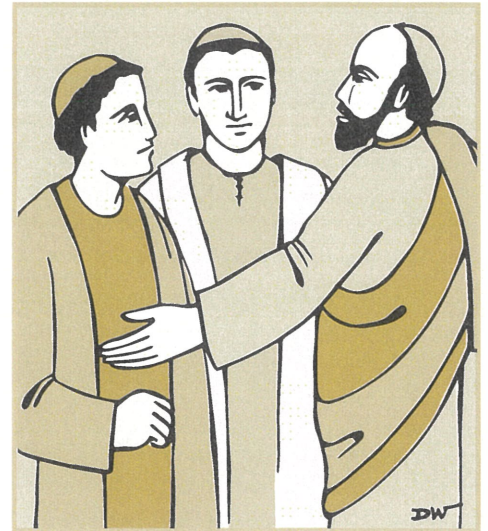
Ps 24:4-9. R. v. 6

**R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.**

1. Lord, make me know your ways. / Lord, teach me your paths. / Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: / for you are God my saviour. **R.**

2. Remember your mercy, Lord, / and the love you have shown from of old. / Do not remember the sins of my youth. / In your love remember me, / because of your goodness, O Lord. **R.**

3. The Lord is good and upright. / He shows the path to those who stray, / he guides the humble in the right path / he teaches his way to the poor. **R.**



## SECOND READING

Phil 2:1-11

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians**

*In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus.*

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,  
yet he did not cling  
to his equality with God  
but emptied himself  
to assume the condition of a slave,  
and became as men are;  
and being as all men are,  
he was humbler yet,  
even to accepting death,  
death on a cross.  
But God raised him high  
and gave him the name  
which is above all other names  
in the heavens, on earth and in the  
underworld,  
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus  
and that every tongue should acclaim  
Jesus Christ as Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**The word of the Lord.**

**R. Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 10:27

**Alleluia, alleluia! / My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; / I know them, and they follow me. / Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

Mt 21:28-32

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.**

*He went out moved by regret. The tax collectors and prostitutes will precede you into the kingdom of God.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go", but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir", but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

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. Grant us, O merciful God, that this our offering may find acceptance with you and that through it the wellspring of all blessing may be laid open before us. 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 118:49-50

**Remember your word to your servant, O Lord,**

**by which you have given me hope.**

**This is my comfort when I am brought low.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. May this heavenly mystery, O Lord, restore us in mind and body, that we may be coheirs in glory with Christ, to whose suffering we are united whenever we

proclaim his Death. 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 forth, the Mass is ended.

**R. Thanks be to God.**

## BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

### CHANGE OF ATTITUDE

Remaining in the agricultural world from last Sunday and the hiring practice of a landowner, we are now inside the landowner's family and its two sons. The landowner requests both sons to go to work in the vineyard. Such a request would have been unnecessary, given that there would have been hired labourers in the vineyard – information learnt from last Sunday's Gospel.

A deeper intent lies behind the owner's request: Are the sons' committed to the family's enterprise? Perhaps, too, this reflects what is occurring with the Gospel household, the inner relationship and ethical practice of its members. The main issue concerns integrity of word and openness of heart. The first son is asked to work in the vineyard but refuses the request. Later, he thinks about it, changes his mind and goes. The second promises to go the vineyard but doesn't. There is no further comment about the request or change of heart. Jesus asks the religious leaders, 'Which of the two did the father's will?' They respond, 'The first.' This son, at first resistant, changes his mind and responds to the father's request.

The parable is obviously directed to Jesus' audience and religious leaders, to recognise their need to change attitudes that exclude certain types of people. Surprisingly, those judged as social reprobates, the 'tax collectors and prostitutes', are given preferential acceptance into God's Kingdom. The parable overturns conventional expectations in Matthew's day and in ours!

FR MICHAEL TRAINOR

### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAULS

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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:

**27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Isa 5:1-7, Phil 4:6-9, Mt 21:33-43

**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-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

**27 September 2026**

## Words from PP,

### Rite for Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

We will start the sessions next weekend: 2 pm on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

It's not too late to ask someone if they want to join. Email  
[Charles.Balnaves@cam.org.au](mailto:Charles.Balnaves@cam.org.au).

Or give the contact number to Fr Charles.

### Greg Sheridan: God is Good for YOU!

Sign up!! Please register and book in and come along on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm. Pizza, fellowship, interesting and challenging conversation, and a chance to grow in faith.

### Formation sessions for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

St Kevin's, St Clement's, St Gregory's: English or Italian Masses – all those assisting with distribution of Holy Communion!!!! No sign up needed (just sign in on the day).

Don't Forget! This coming week: come to one of the two sessions:

•October 1<sup>st</sup> 6 pm to 7:30 pm (bonus Mass at 5:30 pm).

•October 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 am to 10:30 am (bonus Mass at 8:30 am).

These sessions will be a refresher for those who have been ministering already – and a beginning for those who are just signing up. And they will help us move towards providing Communion under both species: Body and Blood as the training will include discussion and practice of that.

### Prayer Groups / Your Prayer

I spoke with the prayer groups at Mass at St Greg's and St Clement's and St Kevin's this past week – I thanked them for their service to Jesus Christ and so to the parish through their concerted prayer and asked that they pray my prayer intention for the parish each week (it's in the bulletin below or above my words).

I ask all of you to include my prayer intention in your prayers during the week too – and bring it to any group you meet with: our prayer changes the world even when we don't see it.

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:

**Those whose anniversaries occur about now:** Ronnie Jose, Ong Kok Aun



### Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:

Our Alpha participants are having their retreat days with the Holy Spirit: we pray that they will be filled with God's Grace and the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

## THIS WEEK

|                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>6:30 PM                                                                                                                    | <b>Lectors:</b> Gerard O'Donnell, Benedicta Wong<br><b>Communion:</b> Seleana Ng, Margaret O'Donnell      |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>10:30 AM                                                                                                                     | <b>Lectors:</b> Sauro Antonelli, Ivonne Gunawan<br><b>Communion:</b> Agnes & Fred Fulia, Lilian Antonelli |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>5:00 PM                                                                                                                      | <b>Lectors:</b> Isabelle Hii, Alvin Priyana<br><b>Communion:</b> Mary Tonti- Filipini, Viviana Pereira    |
| <b>CARE OF THE CHURCH:</b> Sharron Wilkinson <b>FLOWERS:</b> Mary Piccoli<br><b>MONEY COUNTERS:</b> Iris O'Farrell<br><b>MORNING TEA:</b> N/A |                                                                                                           |

## NEXT WEEK

|                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lectors:</b> Joseph & Lorna Philip<br><b>Communion:</b> Sharron Wilkinson, Peter Whiting                                                  |
| <b>Lectors:</b> Tony Nimmo, Sauro Antonelli<br><b>Communion:</b> Nuccia La Rocca, Lucy Giardino, Behnaz Behmadi                              |
| <b>Lectors:</b> Jane Ma, Margaret O'Donnell<br><b>Communion:</b> Judy Ablaza, Alfred Lee                                                     |
| <b>CARE OF THE CHURCH:</b> Stephen Ma <b>FLOWERS:</b> Irene Dharmawan<br><b>MONEY COUNTERS:</b> Don & Lina Pavone<br><b>MORNING TEA:</b> N/A |

### Scan and Give



Scan this code with your phone camera & donate directly to our church. Choose Payment for Church Donations.

### Give by Contactless

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

### 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](mailto:sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au)

**Parish Facilities:** The Parish Hall and Parish Room are available  
Bookings can be made: [office@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au](mailto:office@sgdoncaster.catholic.edu.au)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Speaker Night with Greg Sheridan Friday, 2 October 6:30 PM



### GOD IS GOOD FOR YOU

A journalist proclaims Christ to a secular world  
Greg is the foreign editor of The Australian newspaper, a well-known author and is a parishioner of St Gregory's Parish Greg's three books on religion and Christianity have been best sellers.  
Pizza dinner to start followed by presentation and discussions.  
Clifton Centre, 9/21 Egan Drive, Bulleen. Adjacent to St Clement Church.  
RSVP via the Sign up Sheet in the foyer or via trybooking QR code.

### St Gregory's Youth & Young Adult Mass and Fellowship Evening 11 October at 5PM

All youth and young adults and their families are warmly invited to join us for our Youth & Young Adults Mass, followed by a time of fellowship and connection after Mass.  
Come along to celebrate Mass, meet new people and enjoy some time together as a community.  
Light supper will be provided. Everyone is welcome.  
Come along, bring a friend, and join us for a wonderful evening together!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are seeking either short-term boarding for a young female student who requires a nurturing place to stay in Melbourne for a few months during her university exams, or longer-term accomodation for a mature woman who is navigating a transitional season in her life and would benefit from companionship, pastoral care and a stable environment for one or two years -- or perhaps longer, if appropriate. Payment could certainly be offered in both scenarios.  
Please contact the parish office if you are able to assist or perhaps point us in the right direction that would suit both/either of the two women above. Thank you.



### 112th World Day of Migrants and Refugees - Sunday, 27 September 2026

The theme for this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees is "Even Just One of These Children." To help celebrate this special day, the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office (ACMRO), an agency of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference, has developed online resources including liturgies for primary and secondary schools, homily notes, prayers of intercession, stories, and interviews.

Resources available at: [acmro.catholic.org.au/wdmr/2026](http://acmro.catholic.org.au/wdmr/2026)



### Baptisms

We extend a warm welcome to the families of  
Ella & Aleksandra Perera  
Raphael Cotela  
who will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism this Sunday.



### World Youth Day 2027- Expressions of Interest

**When?**  
World Youth Day will be held between 3 – 8 August 2027.

**Where?**  
Seoul, South Korea  
**Who can attend?**

**Year 10 (must be at least 15 years old) to 30 years old.**  
Let us know that you are interested and you will be the first to know the latest news and updates.  
Email: [doncaster@cam.org.au](mailto:doncaster@cam.org.au)

*"Take courage!  
I have overcome  
the world."*