

OUR SUNDAY CELEBRATION

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

4 OCTOBER 2026

THE FRUITS OF THE KINGDOM. The tenants in today's Gospel had received much from the landowner who had established the vineyard. It was only fair that he should receive a share of the fruits of the crop. Likewise, we have received much from Christ whose grace produces in us the fruits of truth, goodness, purity, love, honour and virtue. We pay our dues to Christ when we share these fruits with others.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON cf. Esth 4:17

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

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.

P. You were sent to heal the contrite of heart: Lord, have mercy.

R. Lord, have mercy.

P. You came to call sinners: Christ, have mercy.

R. Christ, have mercy.

P. You are seated at the right hand of the Father to intercede for us: 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

Glorify 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, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. 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 5:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the House of Israel.

Let me sing to my friend
the song of his love for his vineyard.
My friend had a vineyard
on a fertile hillside.

He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,
and planted choice vines in it.

In the middle he built a tower,
he dug a press there too.

He expected it to yield grapes,
but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and men of Judah,

I ask you to judge
between my vineyard and me.

What could I have done for my vineyard
that I have not done?

I expected it to yield grapes.

Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you
what I am going to do to my vineyard:

I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed
on,

and knock down its wall for it to be
trampled on.

I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;
overgrown by the briar and the thorn.

I will command the clouds
to rain no rain on it.

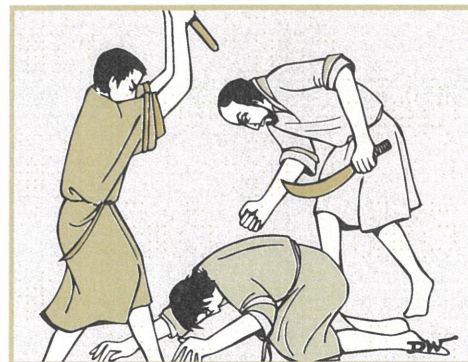
Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts
is the House of Israel,

and the men of Judah
that chosen plant.

He expected justice, but found bloodshed,
integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God.



RESP PSALM

Ps 79:9, 12-16, 19-20. R. Isa 5:7

R. The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt; / to plant it you drove out the nations. / It stretched out its branches to the sea, / to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **R.**

2. Then why have you broken down its walls? / It is plucked by all who pass by. / It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, / devoured by the beasts of the field. **R.**

3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, / look down from heaven and see. / Visit this vine and protect it, / the vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

4. And we shall never forsake you again: / give us life that we may call upon your name. / God of hosts, bring us back; / let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **R.**

SECOND READING

Phil 4:6-9

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Jn 15:15

Alleluia, alleluia! / I call you friends, says the Lord, / because I have made known to you / everything I have learnt from my Father. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 21:33-43

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 leased his vineyard to other farmers.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son" he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the cornerstone.

This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see?

'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

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. Accept, O Lord, we pray, the sacrifices instituted by your commands and, through the sacred mysteries, which we celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem 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: 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

Lam 3:25

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P. Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished

by the Sacrament which we have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen

THE CONCLUDING RITES

P. The Lord be with you.

R. And with your spirit.

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

R. Amen.

P. Go in peace.

R. Thanks be to God.

BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

A RICH ALLEGORY

Jesus continues from last Sunday to question the attitudes of religious leaders of his day and, by inference, those who assume religious leadership and authority in Matthew's day.

Jesus' teaching looks like a parable, but it is an allegory, where each element of the story represents historical events or figures. Its focus is another landowner (God) who plants a vineyard (the image of Israel), cares for it and leases it to tenants. At vintage time his servants (the prophets) go to collect the produce. But the tenants maltreat all those sent to collect the produce, even to the point of finally killing the son of the viticulturalist (Jesus), the last emissary sent.

The parable is an allegory of salvation history, the story of Israel, the action of God to cultivate Israel's goodness with the eventual rejection of God's final emissary, Jesus. The allegory is not anti-Jewish. Matthew writes for a Jewish audience. The evangelist reflects on the mystery of Israel's history and the failure of the Jewish leaders' intent to do away with God's final prophet and emissary, Jesus.

To repeat, Jesus' death was the action of the religious leaders of his day and not the deed of the Jewish people. What happened to Jesus finds its parallel in the way the prophets of the Old Testament were treated. The key point of the story comes at the end: the Kingdom of God will be 'given to a people who will produce its fruits.' That people is us.

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

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

BAPTISMS: Ring the Parish Office for
bookings

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) 4 October 2026

Words from PP,

Bottles for Preserves 😊

I have about 50 clean jars that could be used for preserves. Anyone interested? Let me know. Fr Charles (Charles.balnaves@cam.org.au) or call one of the offices.

Columban Calendars

It isn't 2027 yet but we have Columban Calendars available – buy some to use as Christmas gifts – only \$10 each. Or buy one or two as your calendar: not only the seasons of the liturgy and Mass readings and feast days but wonderful pictures that evoke our faith.

Dreams for our Parishes:

Do you have dreams about the future of our parishes? Or ideas about how we worship and how that could be improved to be even more alive and active? Or ideas about things our parishes could work on alone or together? Are there customs from your homeland that might enrich our celebrations? Are there questions about faith or morals or church or bible or marriage or sacraments that you would like answered?

Please tell me. I don't promise I can or will do everything everyone suggests but I will do my best to seek to help us flourish in worship, in outreach to the margins and in seeking to bring people to Jesus.

Let me know your thoughts: Charles.balnaves@cam.org.au

Praying With ...

One of the moments of Alpha is during the Retreat Day is to pray with people – two leaders spend some moments with a person who chooses to participate, specifically inviting the Holy Spirit to come and ... fill the person.

I've recently had the privilege of participating in this experience with some of our young people and I was amazed again by two things.

Our young people know God's presence in their lives. And they know when the Holy Spirit is present, speaking into their lives and their needs. It's powerful.

And the Holy Spirit gives us the words to speak – it is not just me speaking the thoughts I have about the prayer subject requested. Rather ... it is the words that are truly needed. It's Powerful!

Before Alpha, I'd experienced the Sacrament of Anointing, and having people come and ask me for a prayer – and they are powerful in themselves. But it is different. There is an intentional choice to come together and ask the Holy Spirit to fill us – the person prayed for and the people praying. St Paul spoke of this so it's nothing new. Just fresh to me.

I share this because it is important for our future as parishes in partnership. Without inviting the Holy Spirit into our parish lives to guide us and lead us into the wilderness we won't find the ways God wants for us.

Come Holy Spirit.

God bless, Fr Charles.

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:

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa 25:6-10, Phil 4:12-14, 19-20, Mt 22:1-14

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Those who are sick at this time: Margaret Kascamanidis, 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: Frank Plesnicar

Those whose anniversaries occur about now: Deacon Charles English, Dong-il Park (Joseph)



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention:

For those who help organise our Masses and the music and singing within the Mass: that the Holy Spirit will guide them in their part of drawing us into full, active and conscious participation.

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

THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 6:30 PM	Lectors: Joseph & Lorna Philip Communion: Sharron Wilkinson, Peter Whiting
SUNDAY 10:30 AM	Lectors: Tony Nimmo, Sauro Antonelli Communion: Nuccia La Rocca, Lucy Giardino, Behnaz Behmadi
SUNDAY 5:00 PM	Lectors: Jane Ma, Margaret O'Donnell Communion: Judy Ablaza, Alfred Lee

CARE OF THE CHURCH: Stephen Ma **FLOWERS:** Irene Dharmawan
MONEY COUNTERS: Don & Lina Pavone
MORNING TEA: N/A

NEXT WEEK

Lectors: Frances Cannizzo, Robert McHugh Communion: Robert & Dianne McHugh
Lectors: Brian & Jenny Tyedin Communion: Edith Ma Rob Rukavina, Mary Stocco
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.

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

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

THE HOLY ROSARY IN OCTOBER

THE ROSARY WILL BE PRAYED TOGETHER AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES AND LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT OCTOBER:

ST CLEMENT OF ROME, BULLEEN - TUESDAYS (ITALIAN) AND WEDNESDAYS AT 8:40AM

ST KEVIN'S, TEMPLESTOWE - THURSDAYS AT 8:45AM

ST GREGORY THE GREAT, DONCASTER - FRIDAYS AT 9:30AM

ALL ARE WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN US IN PRAYING THE ROSARY DURING THIS SPECIAL MONTH.

Pray with Pope Leo XIV: One Million Children Praying the Rosary

From 1-7 October, Aid to the Church in Need invites you to join with Pope Leo XIV and Catholics worldwide for the One Million Children Praying the Rosary prayer campaign, for peace and unity in the world.

Families, parishioners, prayer groups, and schools are all encouraged to register to take part!

For free Rosary resources and to register, please scan the QR code or visit:

www.acninternational.org/millionchildrenpraying



"When one million children pray the Rosary, the world will change." - Saint Padre Pio

Celebrating Seniority



Develop sustained self-reliant futures in overseas communities!

Join Palms International Volunteering for a special session where you'll learn about our diverse assignments suited to your qualifications and time of life. Meet past volunteers Wendy and Mick who will share their adventures of life and laughter in PNG and Timor Leste, leaving a lasting positive impact on communities.

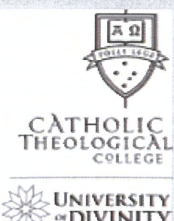
Scan below to register or see palms.org.au/events

Date: Monday 19 October 2026

Time: 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm AEDT

02 9560 5333

palms@palms.org.au



Thursday 22 October at 7:00 pm

"Synodality: Global and Local"

Presented by Most Reverend Patrick O'Regan DD

Archbishop of Adelaide

Booking: Scan the QR code or go to [2026 Knox Lecture](http://2026KnoxLecture)

Enquiries: ☎: +613 9412 3333 | 🌐: ctc.edu.au