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Website: [stkevinsparish.org.au](http://stkevinsparish.org.au)

Facebook: St Kevin's Parish

**Parish Office Hours:** Tue to Fri: 9am to 4pm

**Parish Priest:** Fr Gerry McKernan

**Pastoral Worker:** Mrs Rebecca Sandwell



## ST KEVIN'S PARISH

### VISION STATEMENT

St Kevin's Templestowe Parish is a Catholic community called by God and trusting in Jesus. We aspire to care for and connect with the wide world and to be hospitable and generous so that all may live life to the full.

14/15<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

Year A

### Third Sunday of Advent

#### Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always;  
again I say, rejoice.  
Indeed, the Lord is near.

#### Responsorial Psalm

Lord, come and save us.

#### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;  
he sent me to bring Good News to  
the poor.

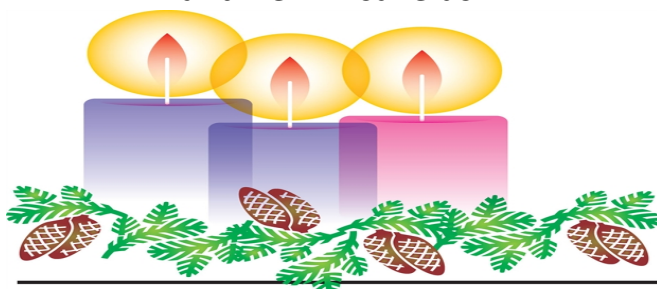
Alleluia!

#### Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Make our hearts ready O Lord.

#### Communion Antiphon

Say to the faint of heart:  
Be strong and do not fear.  
Behold, our God will come,  
and he will save us.



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

### *"Rejoicing"*

### *"Joyful Hope Weekend!"*

The joy that is such a distinctive feature of the Advent season comes to the fore on this third Sunday. In some parishes this will be evident in the presider's rose coloured vestments. It is certainly manifest in the word of God. Isaiah's joyous vision of a new creation is echoed in Jesus' response to the disciples of John the Baptist – "the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor".

The dream of a world in which all life – human and creaturely – can flourish without defect or diminishment has powerful appeal. It captures our imaginations and orients our energies. Equally it exposes our lesser desires for what they are – full of false promise.

At a time of the year when many people are frantically busy with end-of-year functions, Christmas parties, gift shopping and preparing for Christmas dinners and for summer holidays, the letter writer James calls for patience. We cannot hurry the harvest of God's realm; it is in God's good hands.

# SPIRITUAL LIFE OF THE PARISH

## Adoration –

Each weekday @ 8.30am and  
7.15-8.15pm on Wednesday evening

## Masses this week –

**Tuesday:** 11.00am @ Mercy Place  
11.45am @ St Charles

**Thursday:** 9.15am @ St Kevin's Chapel

**Friday:** 9.15am @ St Kevin's Chapel

**Saturday:** 5.30pm (Vigil)

**Sunday:** 8.30am & 10.00am  
9.00am @ Holy Cross Monastery

**Christian Meditation –** Wednesdays @ 9.30am in the Parish Chapel

**Reconciliation -** First Saturday of the month @ 10.00am (or by appointment)

## DIARY DATES FOR DEC/JAN:

**17<sup>th</sup>** Mass @ Mercy Place @ 11.00am  
Mass @ St Charles @ 11.45am

**18<sup>th</sup>** Needlecraft Session @ 1.00pm  
(last session for the year -  
will recommence on 5<sup>th</sup> February)

**24<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Eve Carols @ 5.30pm  
Christmas Eve Mass @ 6.00pm  
Christmas Eve Carols @ 8.45pm  
Christmas Eve Mass @ 9.00pm

**25<sup>th</sup>** Christmas Day Mass @ 9.00am

**1<sup>st</sup>** New Year's Day Mass @ 10.00am

**8<sup>th</sup>** Parish Office reopens for 2020

## Christmas Mass Times 2019

**24<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Eve** 5.30pm Carols  
6.00pm Mass  
8.45pm Carols  
9.00pm Mass

**25<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Day** 9.00am Mass

**Please note** Christmas Day is a Wednesday this year. The Liturgy Committee is putting a lot of work into helping us prepare. They have made the 4 weekends of Advent into a unique package and urge each one of us to fully participate. Please be aware that there will **not** be a 9am Mass at Holy Cross on Christmas Day.

## Remember the Celebration after the 9pm Christmas Eve Mass.

You bring the food –  
the Parish will provide the liquid!

*Thank you*

to everyone who  
supported our  
parish blanket raffle.

Congratulations to the winners:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Large Blanket  
Maree Butler

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Medium Sized Blanket  
Carole Sharpe

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Baby Blanket  
Kath McCormack

## Signs of true worship:

True worship is not an action done for itself but on behalf of those most in need, for it must result in relationships made right. Thus, we recall St John Paul II's words about what makes the Eucharist authentic: "[B]y our mutual love and, in particular, by our concern for those in need we will be recognised as true followers of Christ. This will be the criterion by which the authenticity of our Eucharistic celebrations is judged" (*Mane nobiscum Domine* 28).

**Your free copy** of the summer edition of "**The Swag**" magazine is now available from the "Hot Topics" box. Excellent articles as usual.

## LAST WEEK'S GIVING

Envelopes	\$ 735.00
Direct Debit/Credit Card	\$ <u>1,040.00</u>
Total	\$ <u>1,775.00 (1)</u>
Priests' Living Costs:	\$ 905.00
Number of Envelopes:	39

## SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST KEVIN'S

The month of December is our "**Philippines month**". This year, we have our new sister school, "**Loyo**" to support as well as Charity Graff's orphanage/home for 140 babies, children and young adults, "**Gentle Hands**". You have always been very generous in the past – thank you in anticipation.

## LITURGY ROSTER

**Fourth Sunday of Advent – 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> December 2019**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-14    2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Romans 1: 1-7    Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24**

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion	Welcomers
5.30pm	Peter Howes	Margaret Turner	De-anne McAdams Maryann McNamara Lynne O'Brien	Volunteer Family
8.30am	Mike Westbrook	Kirsten Collins	Betty Natoli Frank Ozzimo Paul Polidano	Volunteer Family
9.00am	Michael Doyle	Helen Norman	Bernard Charnley Christine Flannery Peter Norman	Maria Robson
10.00am	Miriam Ayoub	Vianney Shiel	Pat Rowland Charmel Shiel Geraldine Williams	Volunteer Family

**We pray for Better Health:** Michelle McIntosh, Mike Westbrook, Don Mullin, Mary Brady, Ana Lieza Van Nieu Kirk, Loretta Kearney, Salvatore Scaffidi, Vincent Natoli and Richard Ryan.

**Anniversaries:** Laurie Sheehan (1<sup>st</sup>) and Norman Ronald (Ron) Chambers

**Recently Deceased:** Chris Adams and Merna Monaghan (Fr Chris' mother)

### ***Sustainability –***

#### **RECYCLING DROP-OFF POINT**

Take that hard to get rid of waste at 168 Roseneath Street, Clifton Hill - Melways Ref 2D B4

Monday - Friday 8.30 am - 3 pm and first Saturday of each month, 8.00 am - 12.00 pm  
Check out [recyclingnearyou.com.au](http://recyclingnearyou.com.au)

### ***RCIA – Well done again St Kevin's folk!***

All 3 adults have expressed gratitude for their welcome. Moshen and Farnoosh are on a different path and will be baptised, along with their 2 children, on Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> January.

Liz Rimes will be baptised at the Easter Vigil – 11<sup>th</sup> April.

### **St Kevin's Parish Christmas Appeal**

Our Appeal in support of the Missionaries of Charity in Fitzroy and the vulnerable people they support at Christmas was a great success.

Both Parish Schools provided wonderful gifts for all the members of 10 nominated families. There was less emphasis on donated food items this year, but, through the Social Justice collections at Masses during November, more than \$2000 was raised to allow the Sisters to buy suitable food and Christmas items to help with their celebrations.

Well done to everyone. We are looking for someone to manage this appeal next year. Very easy! Very rewarding!

### **Making Connections:**

- When you look at our contemporary world, what do you 'see and hear'?
- How distant is this reality from the kingdom of God?
- Who are the people today who gather "a great following"?  
What is their message? How different is that message from the one brought by John?
- Who are some of the 'great' people you have encountered in your life – not those who are famous or wealthy, but those who have had a profound influence on you.  
Share the memories of the gift you received from such people.  
Who are the great people who have made timeless contributions to the world?  
What has been their legacy?

For information on our Parish Schools please contact:

**St Kevin's Primary School**  
Phone: 9273 9999

**St Charles Borromeo Primary School**  
Phone: 9842 7634

**Happy Birthday**

to Fr Gerry who turns 74 on  
Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> December.

Thank you Fr Gerry for all that you  
do for us and for our parish.

### **Lost and Found Items**

We have many items that have been left behind after events in our Church and Gathering Space. Items include glasses, umbrellas and even a jacket. Please check the table in the Gathering Space before you leave today. Any remaining items will be donated to charity in the New Year.

### **Inspirational Quotes From Christian Meditation Network**

Meditation calls us to seek what is (not what has been or will be). So meditation is both mindfulness and an awareness that God is present, that God is now. When we start to meditate we leave all our thoughts behind, all ideas and pictures. We even leave our ideas about God behind. We do not have to look for any 'experiences'. In fact there are no real rules. 'Where the Spirit is, there is freedom'. To find this freedom of spirit we need only follow the way.

**Thank You** to our hard-working and magnificent members of our Needlecraft Group. You have helped and supported many families over these past few months. The last session for the year will be held on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> December and will recommence for 2020 on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> February. A safe, happy and holy Christmas to you all.

### **ROLL UP, ROLL UP!!**

**Visit our Advent Fair Trade stall this Sunday,  
15<sup>th</sup> December @ 8.30 & 10.00am.**

Come along and choose some great Christmas and Kris Kringle gift ideas. These gifts have been crafted with care and you know you are paying a fair price.

## **stkevinsparish.org.au**

All are invited to have a look and see lots of information about our wonderful parish.  
Have **you** had a chance to have a glance or two?

New this week, articles from –

John Warhurst - "Movement for Church renewal keeps growing"

Gerard O'Connell - "A dying boy wanted to be buried near Pope Francis' - his wish came true"

Donald Snyder - "German Catholic women"

Diana Butler Bass - "The God of Love had a really bad week"

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference - "It's time to get Australia's offshore detainees to safety."

### **Parish Library**

Aah holidays are coming up! A bit of time for a good read. Have you checked out your Parish Library? There just might be something there that may interest you. Our latest addition is a book entitled "See With the Eyes of the Heart" by Fr Christopher Monaghan CP

**Columban Calendars** are available from the table in the Gathering Space.  
\$10 each.

### **Please Note:**

**There will NOT be a 9.00am Mass at Holy Cross Centre on Christmas Day.**