

26 Herlihy's Road
Lower Templestowe 3107
PO Box 985, Templestowe 3106
Telephone: 9850 5983 Fax: 9850 1545
E-mail: templestowe@cam.org.au
Website: 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.

21st/22nd December, 2019

Year A

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Entrance Antiphon

Drop down dew from above,
you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the
Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring forth
a Saviour.

Responsorial Psalm

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

A virgin will give birth to a son;
his name will be Emmanuel:
God is with us.

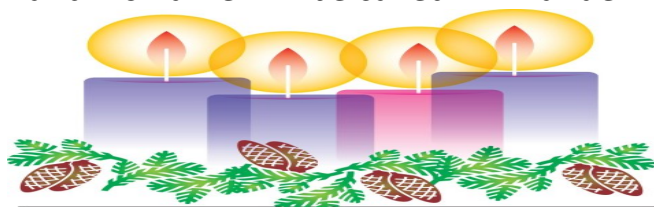
Alleluia!

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Put joy in our hearts Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear
a son;
and his name will be called Emmanuel.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF *Advent*

The Feast for the Frayed and Fatigued

North, South, East or West: the core Christmas message endures. This tiny baby is Emmanuel, a name which means 'God is with us'. God is with us in the actual reality, not the fairy tale version, of our lives. In Jesus, the human and the divine become one in a unique way. Jesus becomes fully human – not pretend human – not just taking on human flesh, but becoming human flesh. Christmas celebrates Jesus as God's gift to the world. His becoming one of us is the climax of God's self-communicating love, first revealed in Creation and now in Incarnation. He becomes one of us and is with us in all the joys and anxieties of our lives. As I approach Christmas, I acknowledge my tiredness and my sense of incompleteness. I acknowledge the evil, sin and pain in our world. Christmas doesn't abolish any of this; however, it does give us reason for hope and reason for joy. Rahner (theologian of 20th century) says God's message to us is the source of our joy and our hope: *I am here. I am with you. I am your life. I am your time. My love is unconquerable. I am here. It is Christmas. Light the Candles! They have more right to exist than all the darkness. It is Christmas – Christmas that lasts forever.*

Patty Fawcner

SPIRITUAL LIFE OF THE PARISH

Adoration –

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

Masses this week –

Christmas Eve: 6.00pm and 9.00pm

Christmas Day: 9.00am

Thursday (Boxing Day): No Mass

Friday: 9.15am @ St Kevin's Chapel

Saturday: 5.30pm (Vigil)

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

Christian Meditation – Has ceased for the year and will recommence 8th January

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

DIARY DATES FOR DEC/JAN:

24th Christmas Eve Carols @ 5.30pm

Christmas Eve Mass @ 6.00pm

Christmas Eve Carols @ 8.45pm

Christmas Eve Mass @ 9.00pm

25th Christmas Day Mass @ 9.00am

1st New Year's Day Mass @ 10.00am

7th Parish Office reopens for 2020

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

8th Meditation Recommences @ 9.30am

19th Baptism of Mohsen and his family

21st Mass @ Mercy Place @ 11.00am

22nd Baptism Preparation Session

Christmas Mass Times 2019

24th Dec - Christmas Eve 5.30pm Carols

6.00pm Mass

8.45pm Carols

9.00pm Mass

25th Dec - Christmas Day 9.00am Mass

Christmas Cheer:

Join us for a *Christmas Celebration* after 9pm Mass on Christmas Eve. You bring the food and we'll provide some drinks to go with it! Sounds like a good deal! So hope you can stay around for a while after 9pm Christmas Eve Mass.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Finally, our Advent patience is about to bear fruit. Sunday by Sunday, the prophet Isaiah has brought to life the ancient hopes and dreams of God's people; and along the way the apostle Paul (with a little help from James) has exhorted us to patience and tolerance. Gospel-wise we began the season with the end-time, then we focused for two weeks on the role of John the Baptist. Today we arrive with great expectancy at the beginning of the story of Jesus' birth. The key players – Mary, Joseph and the Holy Spirit – come to centre stage.

In Matthew's version, Joseph of the House of David is the focus of attention rather than Mary. In fact it is the long distant David – remembered as Israel's ideal shepherd-king and as the symbol of God's faithfulness to the covenant – who is the figure that unites all of today's readings. Caught up as we are in a world of expediency, spin and self-interest, Joseph, son of David, is presented to us as an icon of faith and integrity.

He is receptive to the revelation of a divine plan that he could never have imagined.

Like Mary in the gospel of Luke, Joseph surrenders himself to God's mysterious purposes and allows himself to be guided by the spirit of God.

LAST WEEK'S GIVING

Envelopes	\$ 920.00
Direct Debit/Credit Card	\$ 1,040.00
Total	\$ 1,960.00 (1)
Priests' Living Costs:	\$ 965.00
Number of Envelopes:	45

SOCIAL JUSTICE @ ST KEVIN'S

December is "**Philippines month**". 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

Christmas Eve/Day – 24th/25th December 2019

1st Reading: Isaiah 9: 1-7 2nd Reading: Titus 2: 11-14 Gospel: Luke 2: 1-14

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion	Welcomers
6.00pm Christmas Eve	Fiona Watson	De-anne McAdams Margaret Mangan	Anne Maguire Lynne O'Brien Tony Whelan	Volunteer Family
9.00pm Christmas Eve	Jo Le Gall	TBA	Kirsten Collins Lyn Murphy Lyn Robinson Tony Robinson	Volunteer Family
9.00am Christmas Day	Frank Ozzimo	Carmel Shiel	Paul Polidano	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, Richard Ryan and Adriano Virgona.

Anniversaries: Ken McKenzie, Alan Behrendorff and Tom Materazzo

Recently Deceased:

Sustainability –

WANT TO PUT SOME KNOWLEDGE TO YOUR WORDS ON THE ENVIRONMENT?

Then check out-

Interested in learning about sustainability in a modern world?

The University of Tasmania has a new [Diploma of Sustainable Living](#) that can be studied online, at your own pace.

Taught by experts in different aspects of sustainability, the course draws on Tasmania's incredible landscape, multidisciplinary perspectives and unique environments.

*Thank
You*

For your cards, gifts and best wishes on the occasion of my birthday last week.

You are all very special people. Fr Gerry

Lost and Found Items

Several items 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.

Making Connections:

- Have you ever undertaken a bold and trusting action, even though you were dubious about the outcome?
- How was your trust rewarded?
- Spend some time thinking about how each of these characters would feel: Mary, the young maiden, who find herself inexplicably with child; Joseph, the man who must have doubted her fidelity and felt betrayed by her. Each character took a great risk in accepting this situation as God's will and being willing to see where it would take them.
- Have you ever had the experience of having made up your mind to do something, only to have doubt cast on your chosen path by an 'inner sense' or 'gut feeling'? How well did you trust in your own intuition? What was the outcome? Conversely, have you ever taken a great risk, with little idea of the outcome but with a willingness to follow that path wherever it may lead? Share your reflections.
- Try to be intuitive to God's voice this week. What is being communicated to you at this time in your life?

For information on our Parish Schools please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

St Charles Borromeo Primary School
Phone: 9842 7634

Did You Know...

- In Matthew's Gospel, Joseph is the main protagonist in the infancy narrative, while Luke's story of the birth of Jesus centres on Mary and her response.
- There are significant differences between the two accounts, which can be understood as reflecting the particular theological perspective of each author and the way each seeks to point to the identity of Jesus and address the concerns of his own community.
- Did you notice that there is no stable or manger in Matthew's account of Jesus' birth? Jesus is born at the home of Joseph and Mary, who live in Bethlehem. Look at the birth stories in Luke (chapters 1-2) and in Matthew (chapters 1-2) and see who visits the infant Jesus.

Inspirational Quotes From Christian Meditation Network

Jesus shares life with the Father. Jesus invites us to enter into this experience of love in its fullness. In meditation we develop full attention, full commitment so that we can share in the eternal moment of God's love of Jesus. We are called not just to think about this but to share it, to enter into it in the deepest part of our being. The result is deep peace and joy. Our minds and hearts grow beyond loneliness into companionship with God.

Thank You to all who supported our recent Advent Fair Trade stall last weekend. We hope you are all pleased with your purchases. Proceeds will go towards fair and just causes.

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

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

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

Mass on New Year's Day will be celebrated here at St Kevin's at 10.00am.

Something to Ponder... Above all, trust in the slow work of God.

We are, quite naturally, impatient in everything to reach the end without delay. We should like to skip the intermediate steps.

We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new.

And yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability..... and that it may take a very long time. And so it is with you.

Your ideas mature gradually.

Let them grow, let them shape themselves without undue haste.

Don't try to force them on, as though you could be today what time (that is to say, grace and circumstances acting on your own good will) will make you tomorrow.

Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will be.

Give our Lord the benefit of believing that his hand is leading you, and accept the anxiety of feeling yourselves in suspense and incomplete.

(Teilhard de Chardin)