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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.

In the interests of public health, please take this newsletter home with you. Please do NOT return it to the table in the Gathering Space.



12/13<sup>th</sup> December, 2020

Year B  
Third Sunday of Advent

**Jesus**  
IS THE GIFT

#### Entrance Antiphon

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

#### Responsorial Psalm

My soul rejoices in my God.

#### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

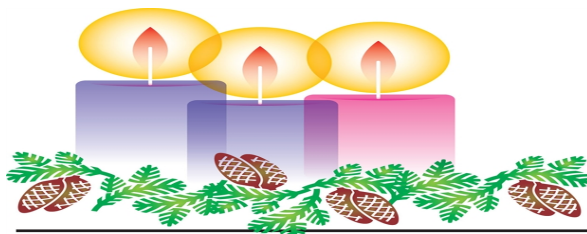
Alleluia!

#### Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord hear our prayer.

#### 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*

#### AN ADVENT PRAYER

It isn't just John the Baptist who points the way,  
is it, living God?

It isn't only the cry of a strange-looking man in a  
remote wilderness a long time ago,  
that speaks of the light coming into the world.  
You surround us with signs of the presence of  
Christ amongst us.

Scriptures and people, events in our lives,  
art and science, song and story, birth and death,  
mountain and mustard seed are all icons -  
pointing beyond themselves to a greater light,  
inviting us into divine encounter  
and transformation.

Let us never take for granted the signposts that  
you give,

nor despise the lone voice or sacrificial life.  
But forgive us, in this age of instant access, when  
we fail to look beyond the pointer or go further.

Give us imagination to seek that which is still  
hidden, patience to wait, the will to travel on,  
courage to reach towards the things we cannot  
grasp, humility to be led and met and taught and  
loved by you.

May we thank, yet never idolize, messengers you  
send, but rather hear the message and hunger for  
the light. *Advent Readings from Iona*

# SPIRITUAL LIFE OF THE PARISH

## Adoration –

Wednesday mornings @ 11.00am

## Masses this week –

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

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

**Saturday:** 5.30pm (Vigil)

**Sunday:** 8.30am & 10.00am

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

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

## DIARY DATES FOR DECEMBER:

15<sup>th</sup> Last day for primary schools 2020

16<sup>th</sup> Adoration @ 11.00am

Needlecraft Group @ 1pm

22<sup>nd</sup> Mass @ Mercy Place @ 11.00am

24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Mass @ 5.00pm

Christmas Eve Mass @ 7.00pm

Christmas Eve Mass @ 9.00pm

## Christmas Mass Times 2020

We are having an extra Christmas Eve Mass this year – thus the times are:

24<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Eve 4.45pm Carols

5.00pm Mass

6.45pm Carols

7.00pm Mass

8.45pm Carols

9.00pm Mass

25<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Day 10.00am Mass



Have you booked/registered? Yes our numbers for each Mass have increased but ... to comply with government regulations and to keep our community safe, we can only have 145 attendees. Yes. 145 attendees inside at each Mass. So register today! Please. We'd hate to think of you having to stand outside or be asked to come to another Mass.

Register via your parish website – [stkevinsparish.org.au](http://stkevinsparish.org.au) or ring the Parish House during office hours and Nadia, Rebecca or Liza will register for you.

### **Help Please!**

To ensure our community's health and safety and to adhere to government guidelines during these covid times, we require 3 or 4 people at each Christmas Mass to act as "Covid Marshalls" to assist us with our Mass Celebrations. Duties include:

- Arriving early to ensure our Church facilities are prepared accordingly.
- Ensuring Mass attendees are checking their name off the registration list.
- Ensuring Mass attendees are sanitising their hands before entering the Mass area.
- Spraying the chairs after Mass.
- Ensuring chairs are put back to their original position.
- Checking the computer operator has used disinfectant wipes to sanitise keyboard and mouse.

More information is available on the noticeboard in the Gathering Space. If you feel you can help, please indicate on the sign-up sheets provided. Thank you to those of you who have already indicated their willingness to help. We now only need three more helpers for the 7.00pm Christmas Eve Mass and three more helpers for the 10.00am Christmas Morning Mass. Thank you all.

# LITURGY ROSTER

Fourth Sunday of Advent – 19/20<sup>th</sup> December 2020

1<sup>st</sup> Read: 2 Samuel 7: 1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 2<sup>nd</sup> Read: Romans 16: 25-27 Gospel: Luke 1: 26-38

Time	Commentator	Lector
5.30pm	Janet Parsons	Le Gall Family
8.30am	Kirsten Collins	Rebecca Sandwell
10.00am	Julie O'Donnell	Miriam Ayoub

I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  
Wonderful are your works:  
that I know very well.

**We pray for Better Health:** Jan Dalton and Lucy Molony.

**Anniversaries:** Laurie Sheehan (2<sup>nd</sup>), Chris Adams, Norman Ronald (Ron) Chambers and Merna Monaghan (Fr Chris' mother)

**Recently Deceased:**

## Reconciliation at St Kevin's Parish

If you wish to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, there will be two opportunities –

\* Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> @ 10.00am or

\* Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 7.00pm.

Both will be one-to-one (1<sup>st</sup> Rite).



RECONCILIATION

## An Advent Reading

### John 1 6-23

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

He himself was not the light; but he came to testify to the light.

***Please note*** Christmas Day is a Friday this year. The Liturgy Committee is putting a lot of work into helping us prepare. They have made the four 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.



## Help Please!

Gwenda Gidrey lives at Bluecross Ashby, 23-31 Ashford Street, Lower Templestowe, and requires assistance in coming to one of our Masses. If you feel you can help, please contact her on 8850 4500. Thank you.

God never gives someone a gift they are not capable of receiving. If he gives us the gift of Christmas, it is because we all have the ability to understand and receive it.

## Reflection on the Readings...

Q. How is this week's gospel similar to / different from last week's account (Mk 1:1-8)?

Q. Why do you think we have two accounts of the same event in the liturgy on consecutive weeks?

Q. Is there someone you know who witnesses to their faith through their actions?  
How do they do it?

Q. Are there forms of witnessing to faith that 'turn you off'?

Q. How can you effectively witness to your faith?

## Have you checked out our website lately? ([stkevinsparish.org.au](http://stkevinsparish.org.au))

In it you will find a notice regarding a 'Jesus is Christmas' Carols night and a document entitled 'Light from the Southern Cross'. It's quite hefty - 248 pages, but you may like to have a look through it and see what interests you. You will find these items in the "**What's Happening**" area of our informative and well-designed website.

For information on our Parish Schools please contact:

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

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

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

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

God is our Creator, Jesus is our Brother, and the Spirit dwells within each of us. So we are 'temples of holiness'. In meditation, we enter this sacred 'space' and open ourselves to the wonder and the mystery of God. Here we discover our own wonder.

In discovering our own value we discover God, who creates everything precious.

We discover that the world is charged with the greatness of God.



to our very own Parish Priest, Fr Gerry McKernan, who celebrates this special event on  
**Saturday, 19th December.**

*On this day, we shall celebrate our usual Mass with Fr Gerry at 5.30pm followed by a "Birthday Sausage Sizzle". All food and drinks provided.*

*Due to covid restrictions, we are only permitted a certain quota of people so please make sure you hop onto our website and register your attendance for this important event.*

*Come along and join in the fun! Especially as this will be Fr Gerry's last birthday celebration with us before he retires in a few months' time.*

#### **Person Wanted**

We are a professional couple looking for a person (male or female) who would be interested in working for us for up to five days a week. The position is located in a private home in Templestowe and we would like someone to help prepare meals, some general cleaning and/or gardening between the hours of 09:30 and 4:30. We are located on a rural property - so other tasks may be included in the position if the successful person had the skills, and willingness to undertake other tasks. The position could be either paid as a casual employee or as a permanent part time employee. Maximum hours a week could be up to 35 hours or less depending on the successful applicant and their availability.

The position could start immediately or could start early in 2021 by agreement. Applications should be sent to [administrator@kekeco.com.au](mailto:administrator@kekeco.com.au)

#### **Living the Gospel – A Witness? Me?**

It came as something of a surprise to me to think that other people might observe the way I treated others and draw conclusions about my motivation. It was when I started to work with young people that the truth of this was revealed. I realised that my actions could speak so much louder than anything I might say. I hoped that the young people I was working with might stop some time and think to themselves, 'I wonder why he treats us all that way? I wonder how it fits with that religion stuff he talks about?' Well, I can hope can't I?

