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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

**Pastoral Worker:** Mrs Rebecca Sandwell

**Parish Priest:** Fr Charles Balnaves



## 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.

**18/19<sup>th</sup> December, 2021**

**Year C**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Our Presider today is:* Fr Charles Balnaves

## FAREWELL TO OUR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, FRANCES MATISI



Oh dear! Thank you Mrs Matisi!



The year is racing away! *(Next weekend, we celebrate Christmas!)*

**This Sunday morning, we of St Kevin's have the privilege to give a big parish "hug" to Frances and send her on her way as Principal at St Mark's in Dingley.**

*(Frances doesn't officially leave us until January 28<sup>th</sup>.)*

**We do so with grateful hearts, recognising the outstanding contributions Frances has given to our community.**

We are very happy to be able to share with you that Ms Gabee Leone has been appointed as Acting Principal for our St Kevin's school for the beginning of the 2022 school year. Gabee is currently the Deputy Principal at St Mary's in Greensborough and comes to us with extensive leadership experience in Catholic Primary schools and exceptional knowledge of the teaching and learning process. She is amazingly well qualified to continue Frances' fine work.

That more than for any other school, skilled people want to lead St Kevin's is a tribute to all involved in the school community and

**ESPECIALLY YOU FRANCES.**



**Thank you and Blessings!!**



# Christmas Mass Times 2021

24<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Eve

5.45pm Carols

6.00pm Mass

8.45pm Carols

9.00pm Mass

25<sup>th</sup> Dec - Christmas Day

9.00am Mass

**Please Note:** This will be the only Mass at St Kevin's on Christmas Day.

26<sup>th</sup> Dec - Boxing Day

8.30am

10.00am

1<sup>st</sup> Jan - New Year's Day

9.00am

**Please Note:** This will be the only Mass at St Kevin's on New Year's Day



## ***Living the Gospel – Looking for Signs***

When Mary went to visit Elizabeth she was not looking for a sign that she had made the right decision.

Rather, because she had accepted God's will the sign was given to her.

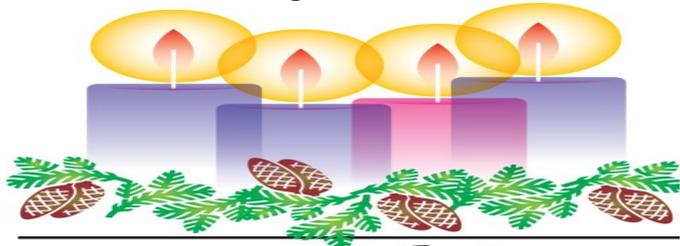
Her acceptance and action came first.

The sign came later as a confirmation.

At times we look to God to provide us with a sign that our impending action is the right choice.

However, faith acts in trust and confidence; it doesn't wait around for a green light from God.

When we do act in faith, the flow-on effects are the sign of confirmation.



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**

Lord, make us turn to you;  
let us see your face and we shall be saved.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord;  
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

## **Response to Prayers of the Faithful**

Lord, graciously hear us.

## **Communion Antiphon**

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear  
a son;

and his name will be called Emmanuel.

## **Covid-19: Opening Up – a thought:**

For better or worse the ball is in our court to look out for each other and seek to limit the opportunity for spreading disease, most obviously limiting Covid-19 in all its variants. It is up to each of us to: stay home and get tested if we are unwell; get vaccinated or boosted/get our children vaccinated; wear masks when we feel it necessary for the protection of others.

Nothing new there really but with the end of most mandates we are back to being responsible for each other: somehow that seems to be what Jesus Christ asks of us at all times.

## LITURGY ROSTER

Christmas Eve/Day – 24/25<sup>th</sup> December 2020

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 9: 1-7 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Titus 2: 11-14 Gospel: Luke 2: 1-14

Feast of the Holy Family – 26<sup>th</sup> December 2020

1<sup>st</sup> Read: Samuel 1: 20-22, 24-28 2<sup>nd</sup> Read: 1 John 3: 1-2, 21-24 Gospel: Luke 2: 41-52

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.00pm Christmas Eve	Julie O'Donnell	Rebecca Sandwell	Anne Maguire Lynne O'Brien Tony Whelan
9.00pm Christmas Eve	Tony Byrne	Tiziana D'Costa	Lyn Murphy Lyn Robinson Tony Robinson
9.00am Christmas Day	Frank Ozzimo	Frances Johnson	Paul Polidano Raffaella Dinelli Joseph Batiller
8.30am Holy Family	Paul Polidano	Frank Ozzimo	Mary Waddick Pether Waddick
10.00am Holy Family	Miriam Ayoub	Trish Wilson	Mary Calleja Pat Rowland



**We pray for Better Health:** Jan Dalton, Terry Maher, Jane O'Brien, Pat & John Rowland, Maria & Werner Beismer, Michael & Mardi Doyle, Angelina Amalfi, Fr Brendan Dillon and Jadwiga Krolkowski.

**Anniversaries:** Ken McKenzie, Alan Behrendorff and Tom Materazzo

**Recently Deceased:** Paul Materazzo

### ***Christmas and New Year:***

My Christmas wishes are with you all as we prepare once again to welcome Jesus Christ into our hearts and our lives. I pray each of you and all of us are able to have a most blessed and graced Christmas. This will be my first Christmas and New Year with you: I know I will be away on Holiday for the New Year itself but I will still be with you because you have made me a part of the community. For which I say a most heartfelt "Thank You". It has been most humbling to be welcomed so warmly into the communities of St Gregory's and St Kevin's. Even during the oddities and deep challenges of arriving during lockdown you managed to make me most truly and warmly welcomed. Thank you.

With that measure of welcome for me, I will enter 2022 confident that we can form ourselves to become even more truly disciples who go and make disciples. Finding ways to be an even more wonderful presence of Jesus Christ for the world around us, a presence which lives that old line "they will know we are Christians by our love."

Thank you again to everyone, far too numerous to name individually, who has so actively made me welcome.

***Fr Charles***

**Archbishop Peter Comensoli** has written a letter on an '*Equal Opportunity Amendment Bill*' and what it means for the Catholic people of Victoria. He also suggests what actions we can take in order to make this bill a fair one for everyone. If you'd like to read it in full, please hop onto our website (in the 'What's Happening' page) or it is on the noticeboard in the Gathering Space.

For information on our Parish Schools please contact:

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

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



**Help Please!** We are seeking the services of a Church Cleaner. This is a short-term position only during January. Duties would include vacuuming and cleaning the bathrooms and kitchen areas. If you are able to help, please let Fr Charles or Rebecca know. We really would appreciate your help. Oh and you will be remunerated for your work 😊.

### **More Help Please!**

To adhere to government guidelines, we require 2 or 3 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 in using the QR Code or writing their names on the sheets provided.
- Ensuring Mass attendees are sanitising their hands before entering the Mass area.
- Ensuring chairs are put back to their original position.

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. Thank you all.

**COVID safe Confessions:** Fr Charles, when celebrating Mass, will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 30 minutes before Mass starts up till 10 minutes before Mass. If another priest is celebrating then you may approach and request the Sacrament but it is up to him to decide.

### **Services Over the Christmas Holiday Period**

Weekend Masses will continue as usual. Services of the Word with Communion will be held every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings at 9.15am. The Parish Office will be closed from Friday, 24th December 2021 and will reopen on Wednesday, 29th December 2021. We can be contacted via email: [templestowe@cam.org.au](mailto:templestowe@cam.org.au)

### **Christmas Cheer... NOT**

Unfortunately, our annual *Christmas Celebration* after 9pm Mass on Christmas Eve has been cancelled for this year.

The health and safety of our parishioners is of the utmost importance to us.

However, we look forward to recommencing this annual event next year. See you then!

**Mass on New Year's Day**  
***will be celebrated here at St Kevin's Church at 9.00am.***  
***Please Note: even though this is a Saturday, this Mass will be the ONLY ONE celebrated on this day.***

### **Advent Plenary Prayer**

God of this Advent time, as we watch, wait, long and hope, awaken our hearts to your presence. Encourage us in our efforts to listen humbly to each other. Inspire in us the words to speak boldly with each other. Create within us a spirit of discernment. Give us hopeful hearts as we continue our Plenary Council journey. We ask this in the name of Emmanuel—God-with-us. **Amen.**

