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Pastoral Worker: Mrs Rebecca Sandwell

Lay Ecclesial Leader: Mrs Tiziana D'Costa

Parish Priest: Fr Charles Balnaves



ST KEVIN'S PARISH

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Year C – 20th/21st August, 2022

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.

From the PP's Desk...

Words, Words, Words, ...

Last Saturday about two hundred people from across 25 parishes gathered at the Veneto Club to pray, learn and discuss matters relating to leading towards missionary renewal. I was enormously pleased to have really good representation from both St Greg's (8) and St Kevin's (5): people who came along with open but questioning minds, willing to engage with the matters being discussed quite openly and frankly. These people will help us frame our next steps and I hope they will be able to participate in taking those steps as well: but that will be their choice, they have helped us take a significant step along the way towards who we want to be as Christians for the future.

Several things struck me about the day overall.

Firstly that there was no claim from anyone that they have all the answers or want to impose a 'cookie cutter' solution: and the diocesan staff were first to show that. This is good because it means we can work with our communities and devise ways forward that suit us. I am sure there will be broad similarities for all parishes on this journey but each can find their Jesus Experience and allow that to inform them.

Secondly the speakers didn't claim to be experts, they merely shared their experience openly and freely. They left us to seek to choose from their experience the things that suit us in a timing that suits us.

Thirdly the way forwards will involve each of us taking risks: sensible risks but risks none-the-less. The principal risk is in reaching out and inviting people to come. One speaker, the leader of Alpha Australia, said she has found that the best approach to inviting people is to just ask ... and leave it at that, leaving it to the person asked to decide for themselves. She was talking about inviting people we know a bit, so there is a measure of trust that exists. It is enough to say "we are running an Alpha program, would you like to come? ... (silence)" - don't try and fill the space with explanations. Trust your credibility with people. Often the answer will be 'no' but keep on inviting.

I've mentioned the Alpha Program before: a series of about 11 evenings and a retreat weekend: people gather in tables of about 8, share a meal, watch a video on something important ... and discuss the topic openly. As the weeks progress the topics involve more and more about Jesus, and each week people are given the choice to continue or leave the group. This generates the possibility over time of significant numbers of existing Christians becoming more engaged with their faith and coming to a personal experience of Jesus Christ as well as the possibility of new converts.

But!! There has to be a whole vibrant parish community to support that effort—providing a variety of ways to come to faith (RCIA perhaps) and to live the faith together. That is the work we have been doing through the forum two weeks ago: seeking to re-energise, re-focus all the ministries of the parish.

It's a journey—I've only just scratched the surface: welcome to the journey! Come and talk to me about the details, about how you can walk the journey with the rest of the parish. **God bless, Fr Charles**

What's happening in our Parish this week?...



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|------------------|--|---|
| Saturday | 5.30pm | Mass |
| Sunday | 8.30am & 10.00am Masses | |
| Tuesday | 8.30am | Adoration |
| | 9.15am | Mass |
| | 1.00pm | Needlecraft Group |
| Wednesday | 9.30am | Christian Meditation in Chapel and on zoom (please contact the Parish Office to provide email address) |
| | 11.00am | Adoration |
| Thursday | 8.30am | Adoration |
| | 9.15am | Mass |
| Saturday | 5.30pm | First Communion Mass |
| Sunday | 8.30am & 10.00am Masses (First Communion Mass @ 10.00am) | |



This weekend, our second collections will go towards an appeal for the **Serra Australia Foundation**. Serra, named after St Junipero Serra, is a worldwide movement within the Catholic Church whose objective is to encourage and support vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life. The Serra Australia Foundation Inc provides funds to cover the cost of activities which directly promote vocation.

The Foundation is this weekend conducting an appeal for funds to enable it to continue its work. On the table in the narthex are brochures which outline the work of Serra and include a form to make a donation Also on the table are vocations prayer cards/bookmarks.



CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal

Thank you from CatholicCare Victoria

CatholicCare Victoria is deeply grateful for the support of our parish during last week's CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Because of the generosity of our parish community, CatholicCare Victoria can continue to ensure that vulnerable individuals and families in our community have the opportunity to live life to the full. Thank you for helping those in need!



to those of you who have ensured that the parish office has a copy of your Working With Children Check as well as signing our Code of Conduct document.

If you haven't done so yet, please ensure that the parish office has a copy of these documents at your earliest possible convenience. Thank you all.



Next weekend, (27/28th August) at both the 5.30pm Saturday evening and 10.00am Sunday morning Masses, we will celebrate the First Communions of our students of St Charles Borromeo School. All are welcome to join in this wonderful Sacrament and pray for our children as they travel along their faith journey.

MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP



ST KEVIN'S PARISH, TEMPLESTOWE

Inaugural Parish Men's night a hit!

The inaugural Parish 'Men's Night' on a wintry 12 August Friday evening was very much enjoyed by those attending. Why was it a hit?

To find out you'll have to wait until a brief report and photo are published shortly on the Parish website once the usual photo approvals are arranged! Meanwhile the 2nd Men's Night will be on Friday 9th September, with an additional element included for that occasion, also to be described shortly. These events are for men of all ages across the Parish and school communities, and friends outside the Parish, so do make people aware of this new Parish initiative and do keep the next date open.

John Costa

LITURGY ROSTER

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time – 20th/21st August 2022

1st Read: Isaiah 66: 18-21 2nd Read: Hebrews 12: 5-7, 11-13 Gospel: Luke 13: 22-30

| Time | Commentator | Lector | Communion |
|---------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 5.30pm | Janet Parsons | Daniel Marini | Maryanne McNamara |
| 8.30am | Paul Polidano | Rebecca Sandwell | Pat Rowland |
| 10.00am | Mishika Perera | Julie O'Donnell | Lyn Robinson Tony Robinson |

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 27/28th August 2022

1st Read: Eccles 3: 17-20, 28-29 2nd Read: Heb 12: 18-19, 22-24 Gospel: Luke 14: 1, 7-14

| Time | Commentator | Lector | Communion |
|---------|------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| 5.30pm | Pauline Erickson | Bredenia Raquel | Lynne O'Brien |
| 8.30am | Frank Ozzimo | Kirsten Collins | Paul Polidano |
| 10.00am | Tony Byrne | Lucy Halliburton | Geraldine Williams Carmel Shiel |

We pray for Better Health: Michael Doyle, Angelina Amalfi, Fr Brendan Dillon, Jill Hodson, Ella Dunn, Betty Natoli, Rick Gaillardetz, Bastine D'Cruz, Mary Calleja, Batoul Barak, Louise Dipetro and Mary Hodgekinson.

Anniversaries: Joachim Cheng Kai On, Jean Pierre Yon, Micheline Cotillon, Graham "Polly" Farmer, Bruno Orlandi, Frank "Bluey" Adams and Vincenza Venuto.

Recently Deceased:

A Word From Our Lay Ecclesial Leader...

This weekend I reflect on Salvation. Who is saved? Can only Catholics be saved? What about people who are not Catholic (or Christian) but are still committed to peace, justice and serving others? Richard Leonard says that 'in the Second Vatican Council the bishops thought generously about how God has a relationship with all people who in turn relate to God, even if they do not name it in the same way we are able to. The Council did not resile from believing that Jesus is the way to the Father, but they also affirmed that God can work in an infinite number of ways to assist people to salvation. It is Church teaching now that our relationship to all people who share the best of our values must be characterised by acceptance, collaboration, dialogue and charity.

What an uplifting message! Salvation is about love. We are saved by God's love. We are saved when we follow love.

Blessings, Tiziana

Newly Appointed Federal member for Menzies Visits our Parish and St Kevin's School

Keith Wolahan spent time in our Parish and St Kevins on Tuesday afternoon to learn about what we do and our local community involvement. He listened carefully, and apart from al else was impressed with the knitting Group he chatted with along the way, highlighting that his mother was also a knitter. The Q&A with students of St Kevin's was most impressive and greatly enjoyed by all. Keith said that his role is to represent the views and support the needs of Menzies Residents, and invited all in our parish to contact him at any time if they have issues they wish to bring before parliament. He will shortly also visit St Charles Borromeo School. Watch out for a website report and photos to come. **John Costa.**



**YOUTH
NIGHT**

Join us 7pm till 9pm

© The Parish room at St Gregory the Great

Open to all from Grade 6 to Year 9 a movie and pizza night is being held at St Gregory the Great Hall, on Friday, 2nd September. Come in your PJs and enjoy a lovely evening gathering with your friends. Please ring the parish office on 9412 8425.

For information on our Parish
Schools please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

St Charles Borromeo Primary School
Phone: 9842 7634



Responsorial Psalm

Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Alleluia!

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

[Isaiah 66: 18-21](#)

Any group that has a distinct identity has to wrestle with the dilemma of how closed or open to be. The Israelites of old were no exception. At times leaders and prophets warned them severely against consorting with neighbouring peoples; at other times they offered inspired visions of Israel opening its arms to all the nations of the world. Today's reading embraces the latter perspective; it's taken from the very last chapter of the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah's grand vision imagines a two-way movement. Israelites will be sent forth to the ends of the earth, even "to the distant islands that have never heard of me or seen my glory." Mirroring this movement, people from "the nations of every language" will stream to Jerusalem using every kind of conveyance imaginable. Not only will they witness God's glory there, but some will be made "priests and Levites." They will be admitted to the holiest professions in Israel.

Second Reading

[Hebrews 12: 1-4](#)

There's no shortage of advice about parenting on bookshop shelves or out in cyberspace. A fair portion of these deal specifically with fatherhood. It's unlikely, however, that many of them draw on the age-old letter to the Hebrews, much less the even older book of Proverbs from which the author quotes.

Today's reading poses a challenge for contemporary listeners. In pursuit of his goal of encouraging a community dispirited by trials, the author appeals to what would have been familiar disciplinary practice in a patriarchal society, that of fathers training sons. The pain being suffered by the Hebrews is the result of God's discipline, he argues, just as sons suffer for their good from their fathers' punishments. Of course, the issue of parental discipline is perennial, but this blunt account is likely to be unpersuasive nowadays, especially when cast in exclusively masculine terms.