



St Kevin's Catholic Parish



26 Herlihy's Road, Lower Templestowe 3107
PO Box 985, Templestowe 3106
Telephone: 9850 5983 Fax: 9850 1545

Parish Office Hours: Tue to Fri: 9am to 4pm
Lay Ecclesial Leader: Mrs Tiziana D'Costa
Parish Priest: Fr Charles Balnaves

Email: templestowe@cam.org.au
Website: stkevinsparish.org.au
Facebook: 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.

Year A

Fourth Sunday of Advent

17/18th December, 2022

Baptism Weekend

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves



From the desk of the PP...

On Wednesday of this past week I had some space in my day to do a bit of catching up. I have a tendency to use scraps of paper as well as my notebook for making note of what needs doing. As I worked through the various scraps of paper (about forty of them) I was also sorting files, and I ended up with files all over the place.

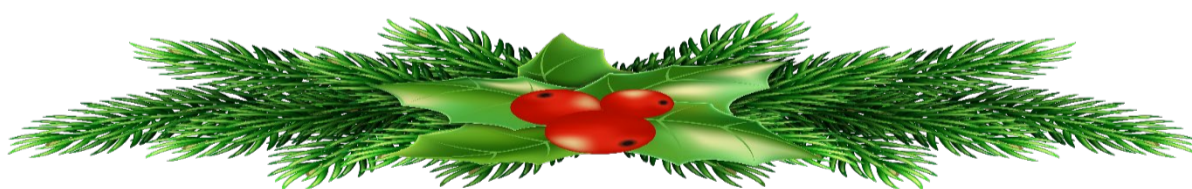
It reminded me of a management psychologist who visited my office, many years ago now. She arrived at the door of my office and said "Ah yes!! I see what Ron (her boss) meant: you are a raging 'P'". Apparently with the personality profile method the company was pushing at the time, I am classified as 'perceiving' on one facet of my preferences. This type of personality is comfortable with situations where there are many things happening, and no way to finish one thing before the next starts. That was the nature of my role at the time: lots of different projects to be looked after.

Of course I am not defined by a personality profile type, but it remains a real facet of my life that I am ok with having many things on the go at once. And that is useful as we progress along the path of me helping lead two parishes with so much happening. There is Christmas fast approaching. And brochures about Lent and Easter arriving already. There are schools finishing the year and funerals needed and visits to the sick and Masses at aged care facilities. And there is all the thinking that is happening in the Parish Pastoral Councils of the two parishes and working with the many ministries of the two parishes. And ... I am on the board of CatholicCare Victoria and, and, and ...

And do you know what happens along the way?: The important things get done first. Things get finished, things get done: because people step up to help. Thank you!! Our parishes would cease to operate at all in a functional sense if you didn't help. More importantly: without the giving of self that you do to help things happen we would lose the knowledge of Christ that is essential to being Christian.

As we enter the final week leading to our celebration of the truth of God-with-us in Jesus the Christ: please, take a few moments to just sit back, stand back, and allow the joy of Christmas to enter into your days.

God Bless, Fr Charles



Christmas/New Year Mass Times 2022

- 15th December - Reconciliation Service 7.00pm
- 24th December - Christmas Eve 5.45pm Carols
6.00pm Mass
9.00pm Mass
- 25th December - Christmas Day 9.00am Mass
Please note: this is the only Mass on Christmas Day.
- 31st December - New Year's Eve 5.30pm Mass
- 1st January - New Year's Day 8.30am Mass
10.00am Mass

St Kevin's Parish warmly welcomes through the Sacrament of Baptism...



Olivia Joy Teh Escobar

Daughter of Frederick and Monica

Little sister of Adelina, Erika,
Nicolas and Miguel



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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	Masses (Baptism @ 10am)
Tuesday	8.30am	Adoration
	9.15am	Mass
	1.00pm	Final Needlecraft Group for 2022
Wednesday	9.30am	Final Christian Meditation for 2022 followed by break-up morning tea. (If you prefer to attend meditation on zoom, please contact the Parish Office to provide email address)
	11.00am	Adoration
Thursday	8.30am	Adoration
	9.15am	Mass
Saturday	5.45pm	Christmas Carols
	6.00pm	Christmas Eve Mass
	9.00am	Christmas Eve Mass
Sunday	9.00am	Christmas Morning Mass



We pray for Better Health:

Michael Doyle, Fr Brendan Dillon, Jill Hodson, Betty Natoli, Rick Gaillardetz, Bastine D'Cruz, Mary Calleja, Batoul Barak, Louise Dipetro, Mary Hodgekinson, Izabella Fantin, John Nigro, Lianney Susanto, Kevin Parker and Melissa Wirata.

Anniversaries:

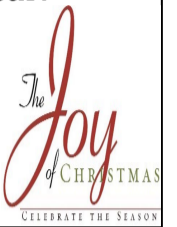
Ken McKenzie, Alan Behrendorff, Tom Materazzo and Paul Materazzo.

Recently Deceased:

Brian Upton and Fr Joseph Patrick Hynan PE

Please note Christmas Day is a Sunday 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.



LITURGY ROSTER

Fourth Sunday of Advent – 17/18th December 2022

1st Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-14 2nd Reading: Romans 1: 1-7 Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Margaret Turner	Bredenia Raquel	Maryanne McNamara
8.30am	Pauline Erickson	Rebecca Sandwell	Mary Waddick
10.00am	Vianney Shiel	Mishika Perera	Joe Batiller Lyn Murphy

Christmas Eve/Day – 24/25th December 2022

1st Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10 2nd Reading: Hebrews 1: 1-6 Gospel: John 1: 1-18

6.00pm	Fiona Watson	Lucy Halliburton	Lyn Murphy Lawrence Ceconello Rebecca Sandwell
9.00pm	Tiziana D'Costa	Lyn Robinson	Tony Robinson
9.00am	Frances Johnson	Pauline Erickson	TBA



Justice and Sharing for all, in our Parishes, Across the Land, and Over the Seas

Following their recent visit and presentation to our Parish at a Mass, Philippine visitors Emely Alcoseba, Marwen Ramos and Eusebio Patiga together with Kadasig Aid and Development President Glenys Gayfer wrote this week again expressing appreciation for our Parish support and included this photo of some of the Christmas and New Year hampers being provided to their 220 supported poor families. On another front locally, our St Kevin's and St Gregory's parishes shared friendly/joyful Christmas family time together there last weekend, and various people again expressed support for mutually sharing our Social Justice activities next year. As we look ahead to 2023 the Indigenous Voice proposal will shortly call us all to collectively consider and decide the way forward. Adding to what's already on our Social Justice webpage is a 20 minute video extract from a very helpful recent episode of 'The Drum' which constructively explores key Indigenous Voice issues. Watch out for it. Meanwhile, a fond farewell but best wishes to Jude after 8 months with us as he returns to full time priesthood studies!

- John Costa SJA

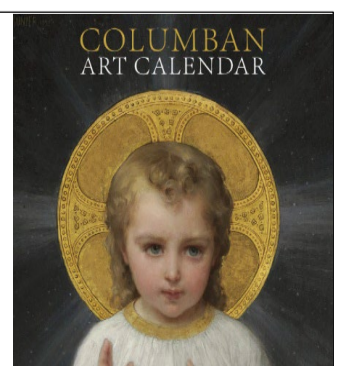
The Second Collection this weekend continues for the various programs provided by MacKillop Family Services. These include Home Care Services, Educational Services, Youth Services, Family Services and information on personal heritage.

Social Justice Action

2023 Columban Art Calendars

are now available from the table in the Gathering Space.

\$10 each – great Christmas presents! Please place payment in the box provided. Thank you.





Help Urgently Needed Please!

We are desperately seeking Commentators, Readers and Communion Ministers for the 8.30am Mass. Please help! The more volunteers we have, the less you will be rostered on. Please call Pauline on 0407 824 638 or the Parish Office.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

The Parish of Ivanhoe has a couple of vacancies for its Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 11th – 28th April 2023.

If you are interested please visit our Parish Website www.melbcatholic.org/ivanhoe and click on the News Page or phone Fr Bill Edebohls 0427 879 733.

Fr Gerry needs a replacement CD player so if anyone has a small reasonable quality one (like a bookshelf unit) that they no longer want maybe they would consider passing it on.

Also Julian Gannon, who did most of the physical AV installation in the church uses an old Dell Latitude D820 for his work to run special old programs. If anyone has EXACTLY one of these sitting in a cupboard, they might consider passing it on but it does have to be exactly this model. For both things please ring Vianney on 0414 466 596.

Free to a Good Home!

The next (final?) edition of “The Swag” magazine is available from the table in the Gathering Space.

NEED TO DISPOSE OF A VEHICLE?

Disposal of a car from a deceased estate, or when a family member has had to relinquish their licence or go into residential care, can be a challenging process - getting a roadworthy, taking photos to advertise on the internet, cleaning and polishing, taking calls (if they come), even garaging it until a prospective buyer turns up (if indeed they do!).

If you need to dispose of a vehicle either from a deceased estate or which is no longer required, please consider gifting it to the “Lifeboat Geelong Foundation”, a registered charity with tax deductible status which for nine years has been providing pastoral and practical support to nearly 150 victims / survivors of church-related sexual abuse.

Many of these suffer post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and have limited or no employment. A donated vehicle could vastly improve their quality of life.

If you would like to explore the possibility of gifting a potentially suitable vehicle to “Lifeboat”, please contact Fr. Kevin Dillon (0421 777 360, or frkdillon@outlook.com.au) or Adam Kaali (0411 486 605, or adam-kaali@hotmail.com).

A Safety Message

Victoria is currently experiencing a surge in Covid cases. As we wait for the wave to peak and subside, please take care of yourself and one another. Get tested if symptomatic, stay home if you are infectious, wear a mask if you cannot be in a well-ventilated space

See coronavirus.vic.gov.au.

Thank you, Tiziana

Meditation Christmas Break-Up

Our last Meditation Session for 2022 will take place on Wednesday, 21st December at 9.30am. Gerry Lewis, who has been leading these sessions online, will be in Melbourne at that time and has kindly agreed to lead the final session for 2022, followed by morning tea. All are welcome to join us.

You’ve got a lot to give beyond Christmas gifts.



In January you can prepare for mission at home or abroad.

Palms Australia has trained Australians to live and work within cultures and communities overseas since 1961. Now four days of that training will be available for parishioners interested to assist harness the diverse gifts of our community and make it stronger.

Palms’ [Neighbours Without Borders](#) program (January 7 – 11) will “**focus on building communities that are welcoming to all, with particular attention to those on the margins of society and the church**” as urged by the recent Plenary Council. Completing a further four days (January 12 – 15) will prepare you to meet one of the [many requests Palms has from communities in Africa, Asia and the Pacific who need educators; health professionals; administrators and others](#) to assist build on the strengths of their people who otherwise have little opportunity for training.

Enquire about Palms Orientation for mission via www.palms.org.au or call 02 9560 533 or 0422 472 567.

A Christmas Message from Archbishop Comensoli

In his Christmas message for 2022, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli reflects on the God who came to dwell with us and for us, touching the earth with the bare soles of his feet. He invites us to ‘stand barefoot with Jesus’, encouraging us this Christmas and in the year ahead to ‘come before him barefoot in our frailties yet alive in the wonder of our humanity—made in his image—ready and willing to live as the people of God he has created us to be—fraternally, lovingly, caringly; generous, forgiving and hopeful.’

‘May Jesus, the barefooted child of the living God, fill you and your loved ones with abundant joy and peace. Happy Christmas!’



Farewell to Liza Jansz who has worked in our parish office for many years.

Liza has decided to cut down on her workload (she was looking after three parishes as well as helping run her husband’s business as well as her own!).

We wish you well in all your future endeavours Liza. We will miss you in the parish office as well as in our parish community.

Liza’s last day with us will be this Tuesday, 20th December.

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

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

Lord come and save us.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading

Isaiah 7: 10-14

One verse of today's reading from the prophet Isaiah will be familiar because Matthew cites it in his account of Jesus' birth: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel". Few, however, may be aware of either the original context of this saying or the controversies about its interpretation.

Ahaz became king of Judah in the middle of the 8th century before Christ. Isaiah's testy encounter with him took place as the kingdom faced a crisis of survival in the face of regional power-plays. Long before that, the prophet Nathan had conveyed God's promise of enduring sovereignty to David and his descendants. Isaiah chides Ahaz for not putting his faith in this divine pledge.

The historical meaning of the sign Ahaz is given is obscure. It is unclear who is signified by the pregnant woman and whether she was simply a young woman or more specifically a virgin. Following Matthew, Catholic tradition has identified her as the virgin Mary.

Second Reading

Romans 1: 1-7

Only once – on this Fourth Sunday of Advent in Year A – in the entire three-year cycle of readings for Sundays and feast days do we hear the formal opening of Paul's magisterial letter to the Christians of Rome.

It is a dense text.

The address begins with Paul's self-introduction and finishes with a greeting to the letter's recipients.

These two items frame a concentrated resumé of the thesis that Paul will expand on in the course of a full sixteen chapters.

Key words are introduced here, such as God, Christ, faith, grace, holiness, pagans and saints.

Conscious that he is writing to a Christian community of mixed origins, Paul skilfully establishes common ground between Jewish and Gentile believers.

As both "a descendant of David" and "Son of God," Jesus is good news for all.

Notably, the reference to David forges an explicit link with the first reading and the gospel.

Veterans of the armed services who are former members of the Young Christian Workers (YCW) movement in the Archdiocese of Melbourne are entitled to financial benefits under a patriotic fund established by the YCW in 1949. The fund includes coverage of former YCW members who were in the armed services in the 1960s and early 1970s.

If you are, or know of, a Veteran who was involved in the YCW, or you know of a Veteran who may have been involved in the YCW, please contact Brian Lawrence at brianlawrence@optusnet.com.au

Caritas Australia Global Gift Christmas Cards

This is a great way for supporters to share joy this Christmas with a gift to their loved ones that will truly make a life-changing impact. Each gift represents a donation to Caritas Australia that will support vulnerable communities and help them forge a path out of poverty. More information can be found on the flyer in the Gathering Space and samples of the cards are on the table.



Santa Casa Retreat Centre, Queenscliff, Victoria

accommodates a retreat, meeting or workshop for up to 22 people. This retreat centre by the sea is perfect and less than a two-hour drive from Melbourne. Santa Casa is a welcoming and inspiring setting, where people can pray, reflect, share with each other, be nourished in body and spirit, and make renewed plans for their ministry. More information can be found at www.santacasa.org.au

Interested in undertaking a course at Yarra Theological Union next year?

Then please feel welcome to take home a handbook which explains a range of courses being offered at their Box Hill campus. These handbooks are available from the table in the Gathering Space.