



# 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  
**Pastoral Worker:** Mrs Ana Saro  
**Lay Ecclesial Leader:** Mrs Tiziana D'Costa  
**Parish Priest:** Fr Charles Balnaves

Email: [templestowe@cam.org.au](mailto:templestowe@cam.org.au)  
Website: [stkevinsparish.org.au](http://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 Palm Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2023  
Our Presider today is: Fr Gerry McKernan



### Parish Priest Ponderings...

Time has flown: Easter is upon us! Just a week to go. Thank you to all those who are helping to make sure that we are prepared: palms large and small to help us 'get into the groove' of that amazing procession of Jesus into Jerusalem and the contradictions it exposes as the week proceeds.

I issued a "Progress Report" last week, outlining the work done by the small group helping me to think and discern about the future of our parishes. A copy is available in the entry of the church and on parish websites. So far, the feedback I've received is positive although also questioning. But, I am pleased to say, it is uniformly constructive questioning. We have had two consultation sessions, with another to come next week. The feedback given at those sessions points towards many ways in which our parishes of St Gregory's and St Kevin's can and should work together, beyond the ways that have already started.

There are already some fruits from all this thinking we are doing: a "Welcoming Group" has been started (or perhaps re-established) at St Greg's, saying 'hi' to everyone as they arrive but also seeking to do more to draw new people into our community. The "Men's Group" at St Kevin's has deepened in providing a safe space for discussion and sharing. Three parishioners are seeking to begin a "Landing's" program which is intended to gently help people come back into more active attentiveness to and engagement with, their faith. A youth group is being formed at St Kevin's, with some hope to share some efforts with St Greg's. Small things? Maybe. But the Holy Spirit is active, drawing us day by day further into being the Salt of the Earth and Light to the World that is core to being disciples.

In case you hear rumours: Bulleen Parish will be needing a new Parish Priest after Easter as Mgr Franco Cavarra has decided that this is his moment for retiring. Also, East Doncaster and Donvale Parishes will be needing a new Parish Priest as Fr Jerald Mariadas has been asked to move elsewhere later this year (he doesn't know where yet). The Archdiocese **will** be seeking priests to take up the leadership of those parishes.

My holidays will start a week after Easter, 17<sup>th</sup> April to 17<sup>th</sup> May. I shall be travelling overseas to visit a number of friends in various places, to relax, to sleep (despite jet lag), to see new things (I am going to the Lake District in England). I have been looking at the weather as it is early Spring so most places I am going will be cool with daytime maxima of 12-15<sup>o</sup>c but not much rain (though who knows these days). I am hoping to keep things quiet and gentle along the way so that I come back relaxed and renewed.

*Thank you for your help and support and care, God bless, Fr Charles*

## HOLY WEEK 2023

6<sup>th</sup> April: Holy Thursday – Mass with washing of the feet @ 6.00pm  
7<sup>th</sup> April: Good Friday – Stations of the Cross @ 10.00am – St Gregory the Great  
– Passion of our Lord @ 3.00pm – St Greg's and St Kevin's  
8<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Vigil Masses @ 6.30pm – St Greg's 8.30pm – St Kevin's  
9<sup>th</sup> April: Easter Sunday Masses @ 8.30 and 10.00am



**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults.



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

<b>Saturday</b>	5.30pm	Palm Sunday Mass
<b>Sunday</b>	8.30am & 10.00am	Palm Sunday Masses
<b>Tuesday</b>	8.30am	Adoration
	9.15am	Mass
	1.00pm	Needlecraft Group
<b>Wednesday</b>	9.30am	Meditation – via zoom only – all welcome.
		Please contact the parish office so we can send you the link
	11.00am	Adoration
<b>Thursday</b>	8.30am	Adoration
	6.00pm	Holy Thursday Mass
<b>Friday</b>	3.00pm	Passion of our Lord
<b>Saturday</b>	8.30pm	Easter Vigil Mass with Baptisms of RCIA Cand.
<b>Sunday</b>	8.30am & 10.00am	Easter Masses



### We pray for Better Health:

Michael Doyle, Fr Brendan Dillon, Rick Gaillardetz, Bastine D’Cruz, Mary Calleja, Batoul Barak, Louise Dipetro, Mary Hodgekinson, Lianney Susanto, Kevin Parker, Melissa Wirata, Jane O’Brien, Dorothea (Dot) Sharkey, Trish Wilson, Danielle Hardy, Maeve & Joe Reardon, Anne Strickland and Nicholas Raquel.

### Anniversaries:

Rita Skubal, Rita Farrella, Wilma Barrow, Diane Hubbard, Mary Collins, Greg Ireland, Ennio Andrea Raiola, Denise Rogers and Tyson Maffei.

### Recently Deceased:

Fr Salvatore Dimattina (a retired priest) and Fr John Tolland (founding priest of St Catherine of Siena Parish, Caroline Springs).

## LITURGY ROSTER

### Palm Sunday – 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-7 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Philippians 2: 6-11 Gospel: Matthew 27: 11-54**

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Fiona Watson	Margaret Turner	TBA
8.30am	Pauline Erickson	Paul Polidano	TBA
10.00am	Tony Byrne	Ana Saro	TBA

### Easter Sunday – 8/9<sup>th</sup> April 2023

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 10: 34, 37-43 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Colossians 3: 1-4 Gospel: John 20” 1-9**

Thank you to our wonderful and talented team of Volunteers who selflessly give of their time to organise and prepare our Easter Ceremonies., so that all may participate and be moved. You have been contacted with your allotted task. Thank you once again.



### Project Compassion 2023

You can help by making a donation through Project Compassion boxes and envelopes, or by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

### Is there anything I want?

This weekend's Gospel Readings reflect on this. It also prompts questions on what we might also want for others, and society at large. We will all soon be called to decide on an Indigenous Voice. As the Government has only recently confirmed, the plan to conduct a Referendum on an 'Indigenous Voice will now proceed. It's very timely that St Kevin's Parish Social Justice Action group in collaboration with St Gregory's Parish has arranged a one hour online Forum by the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry on this and associated issues from 7:30 to 8:30pm on Wednesday 12 April. Attendance is encouraged for this timely event. Registration is essential. Details and Registration arrangements are available in the Newsletter, the Parish Website and in a brochure available outside Mass today (in the newsletter container area). If you're interested in attending please don't delay registration! You can also do so directly at <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=1034753&>

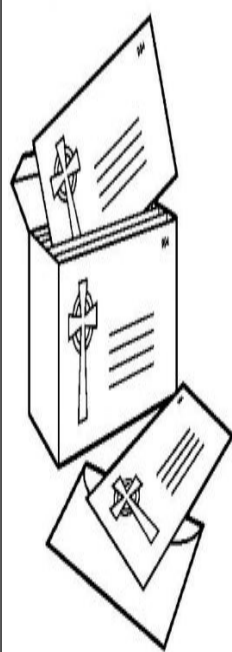
**John Costa Social Justice Action, 0409 967 207**

### Thanksgiving Envelopes

The next batch of parish thanksgiving envelopes have been prepared and are awaiting your collection from the table in the Gathering Space. In order to save the parish from postage costs, please make sure you collect yours before leaving Church today.

Thank you everyone for your generosity in supporting our parish.

A huge *thank you* also to Peter Norman for all his help and dedication towards this ministry.



## Move over covid!

**Thank God it's Youth Group (TGYG) is back!**

ST KEVIN'S PARISH  
**YOUTH GROUP  
IS BACK!**

**SATURDAY - 20 MAY 2023 - 6.30PM-8.30PM**  
**TWO GROUPS: GRADE 5-8 & YEAR 9-12**  
**DINNER PROVIDED**

FOR MORE INFORMATION SEE [HTTPS://WWW.STKEVINSPARISH.ORG.AU](https://www.stkevinsparish.org.au)



We have a number of items in our lost property box including:

- A ladies Swarovski watch
- A ladies watch with a gold band
- A ladies diamante ring

These items are available for collection from the office.



### THE 24<sup>TH</sup> MELBOURNE PASSION PLAY

Will be performed at Holy Cross Centre, 207 Serpells Road, Templestowe. Free entry. Free parking. BYO chairs, rugs, umbrellas, other personal items. Duration of the play is about 2 hours.

PALM SUNDAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> APRIL @ 1.30am

GOOD FRIDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL @ 10.00am



## HOLY LAND COMMISSARIAT

**HOLY LAND COLLECTION -GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 7<sup>th</sup> 2023**

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, April 7th. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing. Parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Whilst life in the Holy Land is returning to some new sense of normality (as is the rest of the world) the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world. In 2022 Australian Catholics were extremely generous and we were able to send to the Holy Land \$1.4 million [compared to \$1,126,098 (2021) \$406,023 (2020) and \$1.3 million (2019)]. The reality for the Holy Land mission is that they will continue to face challenges financial and spiritual and so we again ask Catholics around the world again to be as generous as possible, with their financial support as well as the spiritual support. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday. Thank you.

### PARISH PLANNING/FUTURE THINKING

Representatives of the Parishes of St Kevin's and St Gregory the Great have been meeting regularly since last September to assist and support Fr Charles as our two parishes seek to understand what it means to have a single parish priest, especially as we pursue answers to situations such as: coming out of Covid-19, rejuvenating our ministries and faith life, being the light of Christ in these suburbs, seeking to be disciples who go and make disciples.

The purpose of this group is not to put forward a final plan of action that is foisted upon the parishes. Rather it is to put significant time into discernment of ways in which we might journey forwards so that we can have a real basis for conversation.

You will find copies of this document on the table in the Gathering Space (green sheets). It has been written by Fr Charles outlining the outcomes of these meetings so far.

If you would like to respond/have some comments, please don't hesitate to contact us via email: [templestowe@cam.org.au](mailto:templestowe@cam.org.au)

### We pray for...

- Alireza Sarsharmoghadam (Ali)
- Nafish Zanjanchi Nikiu (Nafi)
- Romina Sarsharmoghadam
- Amirhasein Sarsharmoghadam (Amir)



Who will all be baptised at our Easter Vigil this year.



*Spirituality in the Pub*

### ST ANDREW'S HOTEL

124 NICHOLSON ST FITZROY

Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> April @ 7.30pm



### THE VOICE – UNDERPINNING RECONCILIATION OR A DIVISIVE POLITICAL FOOTBALL?

The Federal Government intends to launch a referendum later this year as to whether Australians agree to add to our Constitution an explicit provision for Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders to have a voice to Parliament on matters that affect them.

Already there are dissenting voices among citizens, politicians and even some Indigenous people. The “No” arguments appear to include poor understanding of the Constitution, false fears, and disingenuous cases put forward. Can we reach an informed view before we vote?

Our presenter, **Fr Frank Brennan SJ**, currently Rector at Newman College, the University of Melbourne, is well-known as a lawyer and social justice advocate. Formerly In charge of Jesuit Social Services, he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1995 for his services to Aboriginal Australians. His latest book *An Indigenous Voice to Parliament – considering a constitutional bridge* has been released just recently.

**The St ANDREW'S HOTEL** provides a spacious and comfortable atmosphere. Meals available from 6.00pm –7.15 pm, but **PLEASE, IF YOU INTEND TO DINE, BOOK WITH THE HOTEL ON 9417 2817 quoting Spirituality in the Pub** to assist with setting out the necessary tables. Support the Pub that supports Spirituality in the Pub!

More information is available from the flyer on the noticeboard.

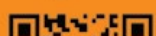
### Palm Sunday Walk

# Justice for Refugees



- > Permanent Visas for ALL Refugees
- > Fair Process, Work Rights and Income Support for all People Seeking Asylum
- > End Offshore Processing

**Sunday 2 April 2023, 1.30pm**  
State Library



For information on our Parish Schools please contact:

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

**St Charles Borromeo Primary School**

**Responsorial Psalm**

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?

**Gospel Acclamation**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!  
 Christ became obedient for us even to death dying on the cross.  
 Therefore God raised him on high and gave him a name above all other names.  
 Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**Response to Prayers of the Faithful**

Be with us Lord.

**REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF  
 PALM SUNDAY**

**First Reading**

[Isaiah 50: 4-7](#)

The book of the prophet Isaiah is the longest of the prophetic books and the most frequently used in the Lectionary. The breadth and diversity of its material allows particularly pertinent passages to be chosen for liturgical seasons such as Advent and Lent. This is especially the case in Holy Week. Each day features a reading from one of the four oracles known collectively as the Servant Songs. They are scattered through chapters addressed to the exiles in Babylon. The servant is a mysterious figure who could be the prophet himself, Moses, another salvific individual, or the people of Israel personified. Parallels with the suffering undergone by Jesus have led to the songs being given a Christian interpretation. Like Jesus, the servant is singled out by God for a mission that provokes hostility and involves suffering but advances the cause of salvation. The last and longest of the songs is proclaimed in full on Good Friday because the servant's ordeal is described in terms that are matched in the various passion narratives. Today's reading, from the third of the songs, is chosen for the same reason. It reports the servant's personal experience. He identifies himself as a disciple who declares what he has heard from the Lord, suffers physical abuse in return, but refuses to resist. "I set my face like flint," he says, in words that echo how Jesus "set his face to go to Jerusalem". This reading signals a marked change of mood after the upbeat celebration of Jesus' palm-strewn entry into Jerusalem.

**Second Reading**

[Philippians 2: 6-11](#)

At the very outset of Jesus' public ministry, as we heard on the first Sunday of Lent, the devil tempts him to use his divine powers for his own interests. At the very end, while Jesus hung upon the cross, onlookers taunted him to save himself. From start to finish Jesus refuses to play God. These stories are crystallised in the early Christian hymn that is today's second reading. "Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself ... and became as human beings are ... even to death on a cross". Coming on Palm Sunday, this reading serves as an overture to the Paschal Triduum, encapsulating all the themes of the paschal mystery that will be teased out over those holy days. It imagines Jesus' itinerary as an inverted parabola, starting on high from the divine realm, descending to the depth of the cross, and ascending again to glory. For Paul, as for the hymn, the cross is at the heart of the whole movement. It's the key to the mystery. The reading as it stands gives no clue to the community issues that prompt Paul to cite this hymn. It is self-contained enough to stand on its own merits.



**Holy Week**



**This year, we celebrate two big anniversaries for Family Groups.**

The first is the 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary since Family Groups first began in Sydney.

We shall celebrate this event on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June at the 5.30pm Mass followed by cheese and nibbles in the Gathering Space.

The second is the 30<sup>th</sup> year anniversary since Family Groups first began at our St Kevin's Parish.

We shall celebrate this event on Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> July at the 10.00am Mass.

All are invited and welcomed to attend these events, in particular any past members and parishioners.

