



# St Kevin's Catholic Parish



26 Herlihy's Road, Lower Templestowe 3107  
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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

Third Sunday of Easter

22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2023

**Our Presider today is:** Fr Gerry McKernan

### ***A Word From our Lay Ecclesial Leader...***

Happy Easter! I hope you had a chance to spend time with family and friends and to relax. My family and I enjoyed a lovely family meal on Easter Sunday with my husband's relatives visiting from overseas. We had not seen them in over twenty years. We enjoyed delicious food, friendly chats and even a singalong. It was a happy reunion and a fitting symbol of the rejoicing and celebration of the Easter season.

In other news, Fr Charles has safely landed in the US. It is cold there, but he is already enjoying his time away. We wish him a wonderful well-deserved rest and safe travels. In his absence, it's still business as usual in the parish office. Please reach out to me, Ana, Nadia or Frances if you have any questions.

I leave you with an update on what's happened since Fr Charles' Progress Report on Parish Planning/Future Thinking. As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions.

### **Update on Progress Report**

You will recall Fr Charles wrote a progress report in March on parish planning and future thinking.

Following the report, Fr Charles and the four parishioners supporting him (Alfred Ablaza, Margaret O'Donnell, Tiziana D'Costa and Carmel Purdey) held small group consultations with parishioners from St Gregory's and St Kevin's. The consultations are designed to give parishioners the opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions following the Progress Report. The staff from both parish offices have also been consulted.

The consultations have given the parishioners from both parishes a chance to get to know one another and to exchange views. Each time, the dialogue was open, constructive and frank.

These are the themes that have emerged from the consultations:

- Widespread support for consultation, dialogue and cooperation between the parishes.
- Keep communication open and up to date on parish planning.
- Widespread acceptance that Fr Charles is the parish priest of two parishes and two communities. We need to work together to alleviate the obvious pressures of one parish priest looking after two parishes. Sharing resources where appropriate, for example, administration could be a way forward to address this.
- Acknowledgement that each parish has its own history, traditions and culture.
- Support for sharing of resources (eg safeguarding committee) and learning from each other.

Stay tuned for more updates after Fr Charles' return from leave.

*Tiziana D'Costa*



## ANZAC DAY 2023

### Why is Anzac Day important?

On Anzac Day, we recognise the courage, mateship, skill, and perseverance of those who have served, fought, and given their lives in the military. On Anzac Day, we show love, honour and support for those who fought to enable freedom for people all over the world, but were not able to make it home.

Today we pray especially for all military and emergency services personnel.

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	Masses
Tuesday	8.30am	Adoration
	1.00pm	Needlecraft Group
Wednesday	9.30am	Meditation – via zoom only – all welcome.
		Please contact the parish office so we can send you the link
	11.00am	Adoration
Thursday	8.30am	Adoration
	9.15am	Service of the Word with Communion
Saturday	5.30pm	Confirmation Commitment Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	Masses (Confirmation Commit @ 10am)



### We pray for Better Health:

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 & John Reardon, Anne Strickland and Nicholas Raquel.

### Anniversaries:

Kathleen Veronica McNamara and Mardi Doyle.

### Recently Deceased:

Fr Robert (Bob) John Thomas Maguire.

## LITURGY ROSTER

### Third Sunday of Easter – 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> April 2023

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 2: 14, 22-33 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Peter 1: 17-21 Gospel: Luke 24: 13-35

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Janet Parsons	Daniel Marini	Lynne O'Brien
8.30am	Julie O'Donnell	Paul Polidano	Penny Teo
10.00am	Mishika Perera	Liz O'Connell	Geraldine Williams

### Fourth Sunday of Easter – 29/30<sup>th</sup> April 2023

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 2: 14, 36-41 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Peter 2: 20-25 Gospel: John 10: 1-10

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Janet Parsons	Margaret Turner	Anne Maguire
8.30am	Pauline Erickson	Miriam Ayoub	Frances Bettiol
10.00am	Carmel Purdey	Carmel Shiel	Joe Batiller



### Project Compassion 2023

Thank You!

Caritas Australia would like to THANK YOU for supporting Project Compassion 2023.

If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit [lent.caritas.org.au](http://lent.caritas.org.au) and donate online.

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

### Patiently waiting in hope for unity

Notwithstanding **60,000** years background in this land it has only been since **1967** that Indigenous people have been included in the Australian census, and give the right to vote! In **2015** Indigenous Leaders met with Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Opposition Leader Bill Shorten at Kirribilli House and issue the Kirribilli Statement. In response, the Prime Minister and Opposition Leader established the *Referendum Council*. In **2017** The Referendum Council held a National First Nations Constitutional Convention at Uluru to ratify the decision making of the Regional Dialogues. The Convention delegates drafted and overwhelmingly endorsed the *Uluru Statement from the Heart*, which is graciously offered to the Australian people. It calls for a constitutionally entrenched First Nations Voice to Parliament, and a Makarrata commission to oversee a process of treaty-making and truth-telling. The Referendum Council handed down its final report, which endorses the Uluru Statement from the Heart and its call for Voice, Treaty and Truth. It has been shared with all our parishioners. The Uluru Statement has been endorsed by Australian Bishops and the Plenary Council. On 20 March **2023** the Attorney General Government presented the Referendum Bill to Parliament. Much time has passed. All voters will soon be called to vote - **John Costa, Social Justice Action (with edited extracts from [ulurustatement.org](http://ulurustatement.org))**



### LOST/TAKEN

A blue and pink coloured umbrella was taken from the kitchen area of the Church during the Easter Vigil Mass last Saturday night.

This umbrella has great sentimental and monetary value and the owner would appreciate its timely return.

### 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)



**Our Parish** now has a **Book Swap Library** set up in the Parish House.

Please feel free to come to the Parish house and have a browse and stay for a chat and a cuppa!!



*Happy Holidays*

Our hard-working Parish Priest is having a well-deserved holiday – his first since commencing with us 18 months ago.

This means we will not be celebrating weekday Masses. Instead, we are offering a Service of the Word with Communion every Thursday morning at 9.15am. All welcome.



**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.



**Confirmation Commitment**



**Next weekend**, both the 5.30pm Saturday evening and 10.00am Sunday morning Masses will be **Confirmation Commitment Masses**. Please come and pray, together with the children and their families, as they continue to travel along the path of their faith journey.



New **Liturgy Rosters** beginning the first weekend of May and continuing for the next few months, have been emailed to all Mass volunteers this week. Please check your email inboxes and note your rostered dates.

Thank you all for your ongoing support of our parish.

**Oceania bishops publish response to Synod of Bishops document**

The *Oceania Discernment on the Working Document for the Continental Stage* was published on Thursday, 13 April 2023. The media release and link to the document are available at: <https://bit.ly/OceaniaResponse>

**Continental Discernments Around the World**

The Continental Stage of the synodal process came to an official end on Friday, 31 March 2023. This stage not only included the celebration of seven continental assemblies but also further listening and discernment by the people of God. The fruits of these discussions have led to each continental assembly writing a Final Document which will contribute to the work of the first session of the Synod of Bishops on 4-29 October 2023.

The seven continental documents will form the basis for the *Instrumentum Laboris*, which is the working document for the first session of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops. This will be produced by the Preparatory Commission, set up by the General Secretariat of the Synod. Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB is one of the members of the Commission, with the other members announced here: [Press Release of the General Secretariat of the Synod](#)

The Final Document of each continental assembly is available through the Synod webpage here:

[https://www.synod.va/en/synodal-process/the-continental-stage/final\\_document.html](https://www.synod.va/en/synodal-process/the-continental-stage/final_document.html)

Thank you for your interest and commitment to the Synod. We will continue to provide information as we draw closer to the 1<sup>st</sup> assembly.

**A Pondering From Fr Charles during his absence:**

Thirty years ago my family and I were visiting the Minnamurra Falls near Kiama, New South Wales. There was a sign by the path and it said: "A small stone taken is nothing. A pretty flower taken is nothing. But there are two million visitors to these falls each year. If each person takes a stone – there would be nowhere to put the paths along this river. If each person took a flower – the three varieties unique to these falls would become extinct."

Small things: consequences!

That's a rather negative view. But let's take a positive view.

If each visitor donated \$1 to the management trust for Minnamurra Falls, that national park could do wonders to improve the environment and the sustainability of the falls park lands.

Small things: consequences.

Allowing that there are health / infirmity matters that limit many people, if each person who attends Mass committed to assist with one ministry for an hour a month (in addition to gathering in praise and joy around Word and Eucharist) that would make 1800 hours at St Greg's, 1000 hours at St Kevin's. Imagine what that commitment could lead to.

Small things: consequences.



*Stay safe, God bless, Fr Charles.*



**Next Sunday** we celebrate **Good Shepherd Sunday – the World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. During this coming week, perhaps you may like to make a prayer each day for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Perhaps there is a young person you may know to pray for by name this week.

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

Lord, you will show us the path of life.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:  
make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

## Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Be with us Lord.

### REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### First Reading

##### Acts 2: 14, 22-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.*

Given the length of the reading, it may seem that we are hearing Peter's entire Pentecost day speech. In fact it's only the middle (albeit the longest) section. The first part, in which he draws on the prophet Joel to explain the phenomena of the event (eg the cosmic signs and the prophetic speech), is never heard. The third part serves as next Sunday's reading.

The body of the speech focusses on the person of Jesus. Luke establishes a pattern that will be repeated in later speeches. He has Peter interpret Jesus in the light of the traditions that his Jewish audience would have been familiar with, in this case Psalm 15/16 and the patriarch-prophet David.

The reading itself falls into three parts. In the first, Peter argues that Jesus' rejection, death and resurrection were all foreseen by God and brought to fulfilment by God's power. Evil human agency has been overtaken by the saving will of God. The second is an excerpt from Psalm 15/16 expressing trust and confidence in God's life-giving love. The psalmist is sure of being saved from the shadowy realm of Sheol and of living on in God's presence. In itself it is not an expression of belief in life beyond death, but that is how Peter now applies it to Jesus.

This third part is the most difficult for contemporary Christians. Peter argues that the psalm, attributed to David, was a prophecy of life after death. However, since David was dead and his burial place known, he must have been prophesying about Jesus, not himself. Having made this point, Peter returns to the event of the day, the outpouring of the Spirit. What this means is dealt with in next Sunday's passage.

This is a taxing reading for both lector and listeners. It is long and complex, though its key messages are simple: "You killed him, but God raised him to life" and "what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit".

#### Second Reading

##### 1 Peter 1: 17-21

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.*

After the lavish hymn of praise that constituted last week's reading, today's is quite different in tone. It's an admonition.

Readers of this letter are warned to be mindful of their situation.

They are not to forget the price that has been paid to secure their freedom.

Their ransom from a "useless way of life" was not paid in worldly treasure but in the "precious blood" of the perfect lamb that was Christ.

Since they are not yet dwelling in their heavenly homeland, they must be "scrupulously careful" about how they live.

While this passage does contrast in spirit with last Sunday's, it has one thing in common.

It too is a single lengthy sentence in the original Greek. Even when broken down to three or four sentences in English, it is still an elaborate text.

So much for Peter's complaint in his second letter about Paul's letters being "hard to understand"!

Having highlighted the incomparable value of Christ's sacrificial death and its present revelation, the reading ends with a clear affirmation of the recipients' "faith and hope in God".

