



St Kevin's Catholic Parish



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Parish Office Hours: Tue to Fri: 9am to 4pm
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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 Easter

29/30th April, 2023

World Day of Prayer for Vocations (Good Shepherd Sunday)

Our Presider today is: Fr Terry Kean

A Word From our Lay Ecclesial Leader...

My car radio is tuned to the ABC. The other day, on my way home from work, I caught the daily news. There is anticipation for the upcoming federal budget. A politician cleverly said the federal budget is like a family household budget. You cannot get all that you want. It's about choices. What are the really important things we need to prioritize this year?

This politician was lobbying for an increase in the jobseeker payment. The same news bulletin discussed the rental crisis and the pressure faced by many families with the rising cost of living.

These are complex social problems. There is no easy fix. You need a multi-thronged approach to address poverty, underemployment/unemployment, homelessness. Setting spending priorities is not a simple task; I would not like to swap places with the Treasurer right now. Yet, there is a guiding principle that is very relevant for the federal budget. It's found in this Sunday's Gospel. Jesus says: 'I have come that you may have life to the full'.

What does 'living life to the full' mean in 2023? It's about being brave by not giving into fear and greed. To prioritise the welfare of the vulnerable over large profits; to strive for a society where fairness is more important than the accumulation of wealth.

I know this sounds like a political statement. In some ways it is, because we cannot divorce *politics* (from the Greek 'affairs of the cities') from our faith; it shapes how we live in society. Following Jesus, living life to the full is not about living life with the fullest bank account, but with a heart filled with love.

Tiziana D'Costa

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Pope Francis tells us:

There can be no greater joy than to risk one's life for the Lord! I would like to say this especially to you, the young. Do not be deaf to the Lord's call. If he calls you to follow this path, do not pull your oars into the boat, but trust him.

Let us pray for the young people in our community, and in our families and circle of friends. May our prayers help them to be open to the Lord's call to consecrated life or priesthood.

A Vocation View

On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, pray for yourself. Pray to know if God is calling YOU to be a Priest, Sister or Brother. Pray!

A prayer request

You might know of a young person in the parish, in your family or an acquaintance whom you think would make a good priest or religious. Why not pray for them by name on a regular basis? Carry them with you 'spiritually' to Mass on Sunday and place them on the altar at the offertory. Sometimes the Lord uses us as his instruments to encourage vocations.

Pledge to Pray

The Vocations Office in Melbourne has partnered with some others in a project, 'Pledge to Pray' - an on-line platform for individuals to pledge prayers for vocations. It is based upon the idea of the 'Invisible Monastery'. You are invited to 'pledge a prayer' for vocations at www.pledgetoprayer.com.au this is a site dedicated to encouraging prayer for vocations in Australia.



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:

Domenico Iracono, Maria Iacono, Kevin Steven Cheng Su Kong, Maria Mandile, Roberto Milanes, Anthony Smyth, Gonzalo Seno and José Enrico Seno.

Recently Deceased:

LITURGY ROSTER

Fourth Sunday of Easter – 29/30th April 2023

1st Reading: Acts 2: 14, 36-41 2nd 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

Fifth Sunday of Easter – 6/7th May 2023

1st Reading: Acts 6: 1-7 2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2: 4-9 Gospel: John 14: 1-12

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Lucy Halliburton	Kathy Pearce	Maryanne McNamara
8.30am	Pauline Erickson		Adrian Teo
10.00am	Tony Byrne	Jessica Bartholomeusz	Kaye Byrne



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 and donate online.

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

St Kevin's and St Gregory's Social Justice Collaboration Success

The 45 people who registered for the recent joint St Kevin's and St Gregory's Parishes 'Indigenous Voice and Issues' online Forum on 12 April, and the 9 who joined a related excursion on April 20th to the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in Thornbury were pleased not only to HEAR ABOUT The Voice but to helpfully HEAR FROM a Voice 1st hand. We also learned about a very successful programme supported by the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry to help provide an education for Koori Kids who otherwise couldn't afford an education of their choice. Hearing first hand case studies highlighted both the importance and effectiveness of such encouragement and education for Koori kids, both for their personal development and the wider benefit to society. The one hour Forum and its Q&A were recorded and anyone interested can request a link to the video from St Kevin's Social Justice action or the Parish Office. Following from last weekend, our 2nd Collection today and next weekend together with a parallel collection shortly at St Gregory's will help support the highly successful and important work of the Opening the Doors Foundation. Just before the 2nd collection we'll watch a 1'40" video from just one of the many Koori kids who have benefited from the Opening The Doors Foundation, which we're invited to support

- John Costa, Social Justice Action, 0409 967 207

8.30am Mass procedural changes.

Beginning next week at 8.30am Mass, parishioners will notice some procedural changes. In the preparation of the new roster to begin next month, it was clear that there are no longer enough volunteers to cover the roles of Lector and Commentator at 8.30am. Therefore it has become necessary to combine the roles for this Mass **only**.

The volunteer will no longer process the Lectionary or the book of Gospels at any time throughout the Mass. The books will be in place on the lectern and the volunteer will move from the commentary position to the lectern as need be. There may be some hiccups while we become familiar with the new procedure, but all will be sorted in time.

Mass Count As we enter the month of May it is time for our Annual Mass Count. Please consider assisting with counting the number of Mass attendees. Counters are requested to count the number of folk who are at Mass. Counting sheets will be provided on the bench in the sacristy near the money bags.

MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP



ST KEVIN'S PARISH, TEMPLESTOWE

The next **St Kevin's Men's Social Group** takes place on **Friday, 12th May @ 7.30pm in the Church Gathering Apace**. Open to men of any age (older teenagers are welcome (with their guardian) - parishioners and non- parishioners alike. All are welcome. Invite a friend, relative or neighbour along. Supper is provided. BYO alcoholic drinks. \$7 donation suggested to cover costs. For catering purposes, please add your name to the sign-up sheet at the entry of the church, or you can ring the parish office on 9850 5983, or email Tiziana at tiziana.dcosta@cam.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 50th year anniversary since Family Groups first began in Sydney.

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

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

We shall celebrate this event on Sunday, 30th 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.

Some Upcoming Reflection Days at Heart of Life Centre:

'Dare to Dream!', via Zoom, 5x Wednesday, 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 May, 5.00-6.30pm (AEST).

"We have had dreams and there is no one to interpret them..." and Joseph said to them, "do not interpretations belong to God?"
Join our director, Clare Shearman, and guests in our 'dream lab'. Based on the Dreams session previously offered as part of the Siloam Program, this five-week program will explore the significance of our dreams, include the practice of dream circles, provide guidance and practice for working with dreams—our own and others', consider the potential for our dreams to personally and collectively shape the future.

Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost \$130. Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

'Pondering Grief' (in-person event), Saturday 20 May 2023, 10am – 3.30pm (AEST)

This day offers an invitation to reflect on and honour our inner life of change and transition. With creativity, space and gentle guiding support, this workshop will offer a sacred place for the breadth of human experiencing and spirit to guide individual exploration.
Facilitated by Linda Espie a counsellor of loss, grief and bereavement for over 35 years. Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation. Cost: \$80 including 'Pondering Grief' book (BYO lunch). Book and pay via website www.heartoflife.melbourne, email info@heartoflife.melbourne or tel 9890 1101.

A Pondering From Fr Charles during his absence:

By the time this is issued I shall be on my way from the United States to the United Kingdom.

I have no idea what I will have seen and done beyond attending a two day conference in Rochester, Minnesota and having spent nearly two days in aeroplanes.

When I plan my holidays I rely on my friends and family to point me to good things to do at the 'other end' – during the time I spend with them. Partly that is because it allows them to show off what is important in the places they live. Partly because I don't make the time to trawl through travel books to find the things that really attract me. Partly because what I most want is to spend time with friends and family – the things and places of the world are often beautiful and awe inspiring but the truly great evidences of God's work in my life lie in the people I meet and the family and friends I spend time with.

On my last trip, back in 2019, on my way home my flight took me through Los Angeles and there was a long queue waiting to get through security. One guard had the most delightful laugh and joking way of moving us along "just move ahead here, keep the line going, ah, sonny tie your shoe lace but tie it loosely because you'll need to take your shoes off, ah, no no, we don't wear hats inside the lighting isn't bright enough to see with anyway so wearing a hat means we can't see your beautiful smiles ..." ... and so on – what could have been a difficult 40 minutes was delightful: graced, stress was lowered, the people who needed special checks were identified with a minimum of fuss and they were happy being checked.

Finding evidence of God's love – my life's work I suppose, my gift perhaps (I don't think I have personally met a person in whom I couldn't see goodness and joy that comes from God).

Hopefully I will come back to parish life full of the energy of the Holy Spirit, charged with the love that can be found in the odd places of the world.



Stay safe, God bless, Fr Charles.

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

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

[Acts 2: 14, 36-41](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles
God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

Today we hear the outcome of the address that Peter gave on Pentecost Day and we heard last week. The reading begins with a brief reminder of the occasion, then repeats the ringing conclusion to Peter's speech: "God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ".

His transformation from fearful denier to bold preacher is complete.

Luke idealises the result he achieves with his preaching.

The crowd in their thousands are moved to repentance, embrace the good news, and are baptised.

There's a degree of fluidity in the effects of the early apostolic preaching.

They include repentance, forgiveness of sins, faith, baptism in the name of Jesus, and the gift of the Holy Spirit, but these come in a variety of combinations.

It's worth noting that the trinitarian formula for baptism with which we are familiar – "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit" – only appears once in the New Testament, at the very end of Matthew's gospel.

This reading is full of emotive energy.

Peter speaks "with a loud voice," uses "many arguments" and urges them to save themselves "from this perverse generation".

The people are "cut to the heart," ask "what must we do?" and "were convinced by his arguments".

The power of the Holy Spirit throbs throughout the episode.

Second Reading

[1 Peter 2: 20-25](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter
You had gone astray but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Today's passage from 1 Peter gets off to a disturbing start. With no clue as to who is being addressed or why, the letter advises that unjust punishment should be borne patiently. It's unjust because it's meted out after one has done one's duty (or done what is "right" or "good" in other translations). A quick check of the preceding verses reveals that slaves are being addressed. This in itself is unusual. It acknowledges slaves as real persons, but at the same time the author takes the institution of slavery for granted.

To accept unjust punishment, he goes on to say, is to follow the example of Christ. The suffering Christ accepted is then described in terms taken from one of Isaiah's servant songs. This song is proclaimed in full at the solemn commemoration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday afternoon. Even in the Easter season we are mindful of the Lord's suffering and death.

At one point the prophet Isaiah confessed, "We had all gone astray like sheep". The author repeats this lament, but immediately concludes, "now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls". Two things are worthy of note here. Firstly, it is not just slaves who are being addressed at this point but the whole community. Secondly, the shepherd of the responsorial psalm is identified with Christ. This will be expanded on in the gospel.

Perhaps the abrupt start will capture the assembly's attention and rouse their curiosity in a way that makes them receptive to the account of Christ's example. As that account unfolds, we the listeners become more and more involved as we hear of our faults, our healing, our straying and our homecoming.

We now have a new way to undertake parish collections – please use this QR Code to make quick and easy contributions to our parish by following these simple steps:

1. Wave your mobile camera over it
2. Click on "Web Address"
3. Indicate your payment options

All contributions will go directly and securely into St Kevin's Church Account. You can also use this code to make donations to appeals such as the one this weekend – simply indicate when placing your payment options.

