



# 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

Fifth Sunday of Easter

6/7<sup>th</sup> May, 2023

### Confirmation Commitment Weekend

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

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

On Wednesdays, I teach in the city. As I walk along Swanston Street, early in the morning, I never fail to notice the bodies of the homeless asleep on the pavement, wrapped in their sleeping bags. A few meagre possessions scattered around them.

I am always moved by the sight. Homelessness is one of the greatest challenges people ever face. It is a reminder to me that I have been fortunate in my life to have always had a roof over my head. But a home is much more than that. A good home is a place where not just your physical, but your emotional and spiritual needs are met: a place where you feel safe, and loved for who you are.

This weekend, it is comforting to hear Jesus' message in the Gospel not to let our hearts be troubled. We are told he is the Way, the Truth and the Life, and he is preparing a home for us. A home of faith where we learn the Way (of fighting for peace and justice for everyone), the Truth (of speaking up against injustice) and the Life (valuing the dignity of every person).

The home of faith that Jesus makes for us is the springboard from which we go out to the world to share the Way, the Truth and the Life with a world that is often selfish and greedy. This, then, is the best kind of home.

*Tiziana D'Costa*

#### Confirmation Commitment

**This weekend**, we celebrate our children who will be receiving Confirmation on Sunday afternoon, **28<sup>th</sup> May – Pentecost Sunday**.



May our children be blessed with deeper Faith in God's Love for them and in our love for them.

Please pray, together with the children and their families, as they continue to travel along the path of their faith journey.

#### 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)

#### Parish Mass Count



As we have now entered the merry 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 are provided on the bench in the sacristy near the money bags.

This information is then forwarded to the Melbourne Archdiocese. It is a process in which we are able to maintain an up-to-date picture of Mass attendance in the Archdiocese, both in our parishes and migrant community centres.

This annual count taken in May is important for our pastoral planning activities and allows for comparisons to be made across the years.

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

|           |                  |  |
|-----------|------------------|--|
| Saturday  | 5.30pm           | Confirmation Commitment Mass                                 |
| Sunday    | 8.30am & 10.00am | Masses (Confirmation Commit @ 10am)                          |
| 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           | Mass   |
| Sunday    | 8.30am & 10.00am | Masses   |



### 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:

Gerry Mangan, Roberto Milanes, Mario Gerosolimo, Maria Di Cosmo, Rosa Giannini, Lucy Molony, Silvana La Greca Angela Hernet, Maureen Catherine Trezise and Zac Shiel.

### Recently Deceased:

## LITURGY ROSTER

### Fifth Sunday of Easter – 6/7<sup>th</sup> May 2023

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 6: 1-7 2<sup>nd</sup> 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        |

### Sixth Sunday of Easter – 13/14<sup>th</sup> May 2023

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Peter 3: 15-18 Gospel: John 14: 15-21

| Time    | Commentator      | Lector          | Communion     |
|---------|------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 5.30pm  | Pauline Erickson | Margaret Turner | Lynne O'Brien |
| 8.30am  | Julie O'Donnell  |                 | Mary Waddick  |
| 10.00am | Vianney Shiel    | Frances Johnson | Tony Whelan   |



### 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!

### Refugee families in our midst

#### - new opportunity for parishioners to be neighbourly

A few good people in our Parish and St Gregory's Parish indicated interest last year in supporting local refugees including those living within our Parish. That was timely because recently some new refugee families have arrived locally, in some cases with children now attending our Parish schools. There are other recent refugees, including from Myanmar, living within our geographical area. Our Social Justice Action group in collaboration with St Gregory's have been exploring ways we can readily offer assistance and would love to discuss these with anyone interested or potentially interested in this work.

- Please contact either the Parish Office, or 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.

## MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP



ST KEVIN'S PARISH, TEMPLESTOWE

The next **St Kevin's Men's Social Group** takes place on **Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> May @ 7.30pm in the Church Gathering Apce**. 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](mailto:tiziana.dcosta@cam.org.au)

### Ever wondered what happens to all our beautifully handmade, bespoke blankets and beanies?

The parish of St Kevin's is very proud indeed of our Craft Group Ladies who work fervently throughout the year to provide warm blankets and beanies to the following organisations:

- \* Missionaries of Charity Fitzroy and Timor
- \* St Kilda Mums
- \* Exodus Community
- \* Sacred Heart Missions St Kilda
- \* Parish Nursing Homes
- \* Beanies for Charity
- \* Sick Parishioners



Would you like to join us? We meet every Tuesday afternoon @ 1.00pm in the Church Gathering Space.

No experience necessary! – on the job training provided!





**Happy Birthday!**

Happy Birthday to  
**Kath Bonzer**  
who will be celebrating her  
90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Wednesday,  
10<sup>th</sup> May. Well done Kath!  
Enjoy your well-deserved  
celebrations.

*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.



### Some Upcoming Reflection Days at Heart of Life Centre:

**'Dare to Dream!', via Zoom, 4x Wednesday, 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](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne), email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto: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](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne), email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) or tel 9890 1101.

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

May 7<sup>th</sup> – if all has gone well as you read this I shall be walking around in the Lake District. I have always wanted to visit here – my mother praised the beauty of the area and Jane Austen and Beatrix Potter were enamoured also.

I feel a bit like St Thomas in the Gospel this weekend 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?'

As I prepare these words May 7<sup>th</sup> is still three weeks away and I am embarking on my holiday trusting that the Lord is the way and will lead me to the places I need to be around: the Lake District – places that touch my heart and soul and help me see a little of the path ahead. I have no idea how but as my life has wound its way from mathematics, to coal mines, to married life and father hood, to the oil industry, to parish life, to death to life, to ordained life, to country parish, to two city parishes, all I ever see is the next step ahead – the Spirit always guides me.

I am hoping, that as I clear my mind and my heart and allow my body to relax, these weeks will help me be open to just resting in Jesus Christ and open to the Spirit helping me, with you, discern how best to lead St Greg's and St Kevin's into the things that go beyond the beauty that already subsists in these communities that gather each Saturday/Sunday.

**Stay safe, God bless, Fr Charles.**

### NEW PUBLIC LECTURE

On **8 May 2023** (10-11:30am) the ACU Centre for Liturgy will host Dr Lizette Larson-Miller who will give an online public lecture (via Zoom) entitled **"I am what I ritualise: identity, theology, and liturgy in a secular context"**.

The lecture will explore the misalignment of the domestic church (the household or family) and the official church, resulting in a lack of reinforcement and continuity, and a disregard for the notion that rituals shape us. It will ask – Who are we? What does theology have to do with it? And do our liturgies and rituals need to adapt or resist these changes? For more information and to register, please go to [www.acu.edu.au/News\\_CentreforLiturgy](http://www.acu.edu.au/News_CentreforLiturgy).

### NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE

**The Sisters of Saint Joseph** have prepared an Australian Pilgrimage, **"In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop"** commencing in **Melbourne on 17 October**, journeying through Victoria and South Australia, and ending at Mary MacKillop Place, North Sydney on **28 October 2023**. During the pilgrimage we visit many places associated with Mary MacKillop's life and ministry. More information is in the brochure on the table in the Gathering Space or you can contact Sr Annie Bond via email: [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au) or on 89124818.



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, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

### 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

God of Mercy, hear our prayer.

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

### First Reading

#### Acts 6: 1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.*

Luke's idyllic descriptions of the early Christian community in Jerusalem are leavened with a dose of reality as time goes on. Today we hear of division between two groups, Greek speakers of Hellenistic heritage, and Aramaic speakers of Palestinian descent. Typically Luke identifies the disadvantaged ones as socially vulnerable widows. He also calls the members of the community "disciples" for the first time.

It's notable that the problem of the widows' neglect is dealt with at a "full meeting of the disciples". The selection of candidates for their ministry is done by election and confirmed by the Twelve with prayer and the laying on of hands. Seven is a meaning-laden figure in the scriptures, here perhaps suggesting the number of Gentile nations in the land, complementing the twelve tribes of Israel. The names of all seven are Greek in origin.

Ironically, even though the seven were endorsed "to give out food," they are never described as doing so. Only two, Stephen and Philip, are ever mentioned again and their ministry is the very one the Twelve claim as their own, proclaiming the word of God. Another surprise, given their antipathy to Jesus, is Luke's reference to the many priests who "made their submission to the faith".

This reading tells the story of a significant development in the life of the community.

### Second Reading

#### 1 Peter 2: 4-9

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

*You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.*

Further evidence that the First Letter of Peter was written to encourage Christians living in an unsympathetic, if not hostile, society is provided in today's reading.

The author weaves together a number of Old Testament texts to remind them of Christ's rejection and vindication and their own glorious vocation.

Christ, the stone once rejected by the builders, has become the cornerstone.

There's much play with this stone image. Christ is the "living stone" and a "keystone".

For unbelievers, he's "a stone to stumble over," but for believers "a precious cornerstone".

Christian believers are now themselves "living stones making a spiritual house".

The climax of the reading is the depiction of the believers' high calling.

They are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart to sing the praises of God".

Some may be surprised to find that none of this is new. It's what God told Moses to say to the Israelites at Mt Sinai, now simply restated in the light of the Christ event.

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.

Thank you all.

