



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
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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

13/14th May, 2023

Mother's Day Weekend

Baptism Presentation Weekend



Our Presider today is: Fr Gerry McKernan

A Word From our Lay Ecclesial Leader...

Mother's Day is a day of mixed emotions for me. I love spending time with my children and extended family; but it is also a day tinged with sadness because I lost my mother many years ago. Despite my mixed feelings, the celebration of 'mothering' is a good thing. I just wish we thought about it more often than just once a year.

Mothering is at the heart of what it means to be Church; it is about caring, protecting, supporting and understanding others. This is not limited to women, men can 'mother' too. Pope Francis uses Mother imagery for the Church. He has spoken of the Church of tenderness, the dwelling place of the living God. The pontiff says, in today's fragmented world - where it is easy to lose our bearings, a Mother's embrace is essential.

According to Sr Joan Chittister, we ought to view God as the 'mother'. This is not new theology. Take as an example the Book of Wisdom where God's creative energy is referred to as Lady Wisdom. Viewing God as Mother could mean living in a world that nurtures its weakest - as a birthing mother does, a world that preserves the planet, a world that is compassionate. When we rely on traditionally masculine images of God as the lawgiver, judge and omnipotent being, we strip away some of the motherly qualities that are so intrinsic to the Divine. The result is we live in a world with a shrivelled heart.

Wishing all the mothers and mother figures in our parish a wonderful Mother's Day.

Tiziana D'Costa

Baptisms Welcome!

This weekend we welcome:

Michelle and Julian Di Cristofaro

who will be introducing

Benjamin Ross and Bradley Bernie Chapman

to our Parish Community in preparation for their Baptisms next weekend.

Celebration
of the
Sacrament of Baptism



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 7-12
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.

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Baptism Presentation 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	Mass
Saturday	5.30pm	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, Nicholas Raquel, Eugenia Pozzebon, Margaret Turner and Pam Cohen.

Anniversaries:

Graham Lewis Morrison, Ron Polidano, Michael Williamson, Savina Baruta and Brendan Edwards.

Recently Deceased:

Enzo Pieropan, Russell Healy, Annesley Noble and Peter Maher.

LITURGY ROSTER

Sixth Sunday of Easter – 13/14th May 2023

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

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

The Ascension of the Lord – 20th/21st May 2023

1st Reading: Acts 1: 1-11 2nd Reading: Ephesians 1: 17-23 Gospel: Matthew 28: 16-20

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Hannah Halliburton	Christine Marini	Anne Maguire
8.30am	Frank Ozzimo		Pat Rowland
10.00am	Jessica Bartholomeusz	Liz O'Connell	Raffaela Dinelli



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!

The Budget, the Disadvantaged and the Future

The May 2023 budget has been generally applauded for focusing particular attention on 'the disadvantaged', although now including many *newly disadvantaged* people struggling to survive dramatic increases in cost of living, costs of education, health, food, transport, housing and rental accommodation. Add to that the already noticeable risk of food and resource shortages, pandemics, not to mention the substantial consequences of climate change. These challenges don't exclude our 'lucky country', as bushfires and floods further remind us. Very local examples in hills of the *Dandenongs* and low-lying *Maribyrnong* bring this closer to home. Many such challenges arise from unprecedented circumstances that are both local and global. Warfare, human displacement, injustice, uncertainty, fear and resulting mental ill-health affect more, including very young people as new records now alarmingly reveal. It's also generally believed that budgets to come won't be able to remain as generous. However despite the gloom there's much to be encouraged by. Goodness abounds, good things are happening with many people collectively helping make them happen, often with necessary new ways of doing things. Our young people are a key to this. Let's listen deeply to them, and to each other. Our Faith gives us a clear Mission, and mandate, as Easter reminds us. Synodality can drive us further. Locally that of course includes all of us in St Kevin's and St Gregory's Parishes doing our bit to help, not just locally, but equally also in the world around us - doesn't it!

John Costa, St Kevin's Social Justice Action, 0409 967 207

COULD MEDITATION BENEFIT YOU?

Meditation is considered a valuable tool for increasing positive mood, attentiveness, self-discipline, reducing stress and supporting physical health and even increasing pain tolerance.

Christians also have the opportunity to use this tool for developing spiritual maturity and strength. St Kevin's runs Christian Meditation sessions each Wednesday 9:30-10:30am.

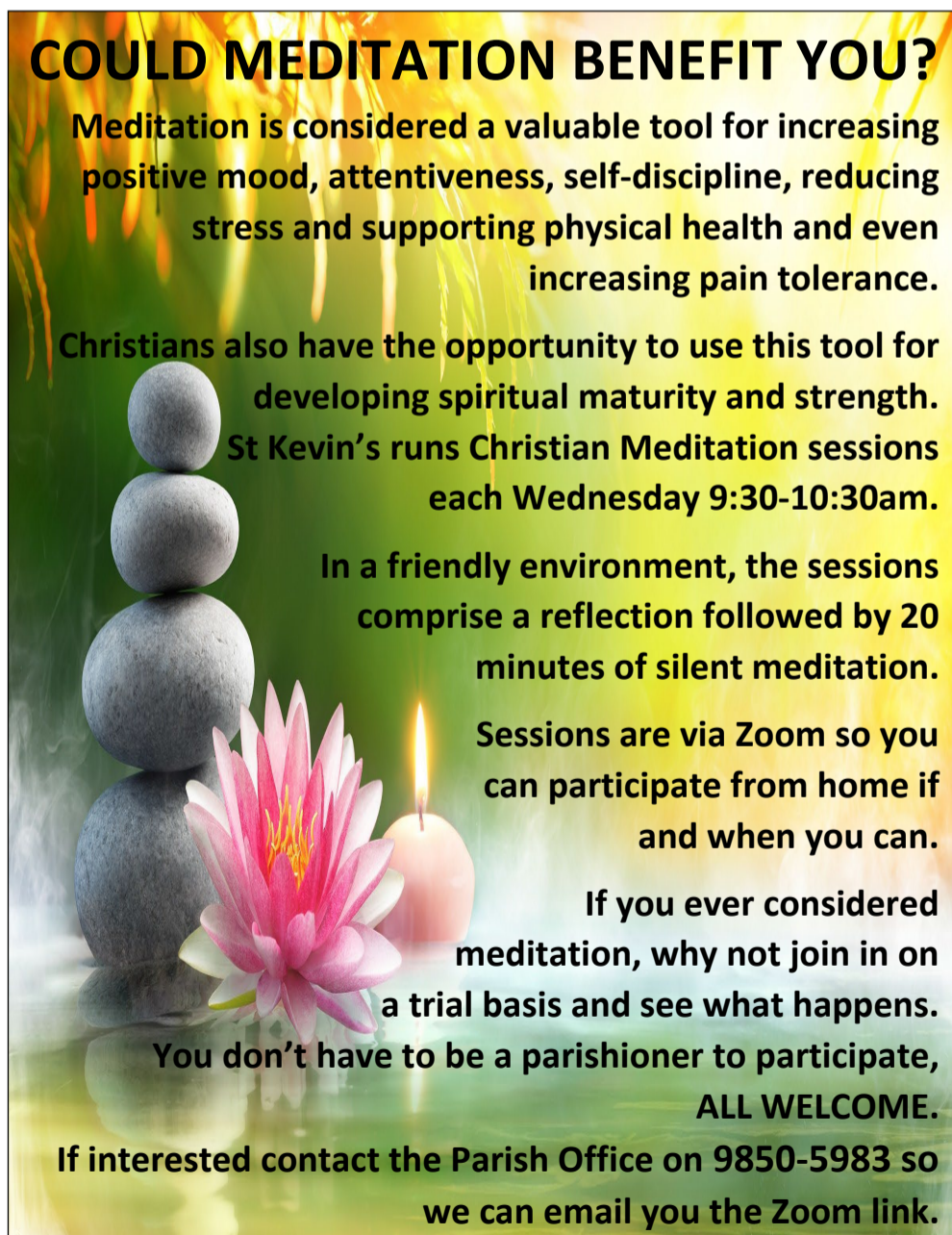
In a friendly environment, the sessions comprise a reflection followed by 20 minutes of silent meditation.

Sessions are via Zoom so you can participate from home if and when you can.

If you ever considered meditation, why not join in on a trial basis and see what happens.

You don't have to be a parishioner to participate, ALL WELCOME.

If interested contact the Parish Office on 9850-5983 so we can email you the Zoom link.



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.



PASSIONIST
FAMILY GROUP
MOVEMENT



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.

A Mother's Day Prayer

Lord we pray for all
MOTHERS
Beautiful and wonderful
they fill the earth
Gracious in Your call they
carry life
In a bond of love they bring
forth a child.



We ask You to bless all
MOTHERS today
May they feel the joys of motherhood
everyday
In all their struggles giving us a livelihood
May Your **LOVE** and **COMPASSION**
be with them for good.

May every **MOTHER** feel today
The pride and beauty of a family they bear
Through all pain and sorrow Lord
deliver them
In Your **STRENGTH** and **GRACE**
may they always stay.
AMEN!

Read full Prayer at christianstt.com

A Pondering From Fr Charles during his absence:

By the time you read these words I am back in Australia – spending some time in Perth (WA) – with my brother and with friends, some of whom I have known since 1977 when Tanya and I moved there and then decided to have children.

My mother came to visit – we had lived in Perth from 1956-1960 when we emigrated to Australia – and she didn't recognise the place. So very much had changed. As I get ready for my trip to begin in just 48 hours I find myself wondering what Perth will be like now since I haven't been there for fifteen years. A lot changes.

When we lived in Perth Tanya and I experienced an earthquake and the tail end of a cyclone. An engineer pointed out that the skyscrapers were built to US West-Coast standards but the earthquakes in Perth are totally different – the movements are different – the earth shakes differently. We can think ourselves all prepared but ... things change, new things arise.

How will Perth have changed this time? I don't know. I shall find out I suppose.

How will I have changed after these weeks away? How will you have changed?

I know you've been in the capable hands of the priests who will provide supply for every weekend.

I had lunch with Fr Len Thomas and Fr Bill Gill on the Friday before I left on holiday. I know them both from before my ordination and after my ordination. Len remembers that he provided supply in St Kevin's when Gerry went on sabbatical for three months and apparently I diffidently asked him, as the newly ordained Permanent Deacon "do you mind if I preach at some of the Masses" – my memory is that he readily allowed me to. His memory is of the oddness that existed for him in not preaching. I am expecting to feel a little of that oddness in these weeks away as I shall not be preaching – at least not formally – and I love the preparation and delivery of the homily – truly a moment of grace for me.

See you in a week. God bless, Fr Charles.

Some Upcoming Reflection Days at Heart of Life Centre:

'Dare to Dream!', via Zoom, 4x Wednesday, 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.



Fr Charles returns from leave this week. The first Mass will be celebrated this Thursday morning at 9.15am.

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 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

Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Be with us, Lord

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

[Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Multiple events have taken place between last Sunday's reading and this. Stephen, one of the seven chosen to give out food to the Greek-speaking widows in Jerusalem, has turned out to be a miracle-worker and eloquent preacher. In short, this leads to his arrest and stoning to death, with Saul (yet to become Paul) as an approving witness. The persecution that ensues impels another of the seven, this time Philip, to take the good news out of Jerusalem to Samaria. With this a new phase of the Christian mission begins.

Like Stephen, Philip engages in preaching and works of healing. These lead many Samaritans to be baptised "in the name of the Lord Jesus". The distinction Luke makes between this baptism and receiving the Holy Spirit is unusual. Presumably he is wanting to stress the validation of Philip's ministry by the apostles. His constant concern is to show how the growth of the Christian movement is so Spirit-impelled that murder and persecution serve only as a catalyst, not a barrier, to its progress.

None of that violent background is evident in the reading. From start to finish it is buoyed by the spirit of the good news.

Second Reading

[1 Peter 3: 15-18](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The first letter of Peter was written to encourage Christians who felt rejected or regarded with suspicion by their fellow citizens.

On the one hand, as we hear today, the author advises them to stay strong and accept their suffering after the example of Christ.

On the other, the letter's recipients are cautioned not to antagonise their accusers.

They are called to testify to their beliefs thoughtfully and calmly.

There is a good dose of common sense here.

The community is exhorted to avoid behaviour that might bring them to the attention of Roman authorities and create difficulties.

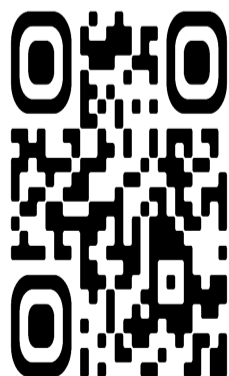
The passage concludes with what seems like part of a confession of faith.

What follows after it is an obscure passage that has not been included in the lectionary.

The major part of the reading is thus wise advice culminating in a credal statement.

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:

4. Wave your mobile camera over it
5. Click on "Web Address"
6. Indicate your payment options

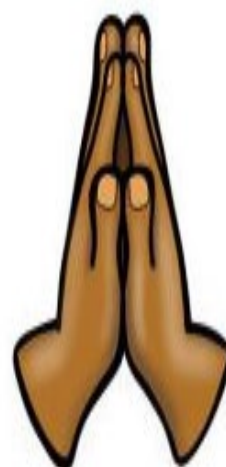


All contributions will go directly and securely into St Kevin's Church Account.

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 for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Confirmation Commitment



Unfortunately, not all of our Confirmation Candidates were able to come to our Confirmation Commitment Masses last weekend.

Therefore, it has been decided to celebrate a special Confirmation Commitment Mass to take place next **Sunday, 21st May at 10.00am.**

The children will all then be eligible to receive Confirmation on the following Sunday afternoon, **28th May – Pentecost Sunday.**

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