

St Kevin's Catholic Parish



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26 Herlihy's Road, Lower Templestowe 3107 Parish Office Hours: Tue to Fri: 9am to 4pm Email: templestowe@cam.org.au **Pastoral Worker:** Mrs Ana Saro

Lay Ecclesial Leader: Mrs Tiziana D'Costa

Parish Priest: Fr Charles Balnaves 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

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time CatholicCare Appeal Weekend

12/13th August, 2023

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves

From the Desk of the PP...

We have had a number of important Feast Days over the past week and another on this coming Tuesday:

The Feast of the Transfiguration

The Feast of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

The Feast of St Lawrence

The Feast of the Assumption

They are important for what they are in themselves of course but important also for what they mean to me.

The Transfiguration: every year, when this feast comes about I look at people around me and see how they have changed—because of their being disciples of Jesus Christ—and how they have changed others. The Greek is metamorphosis—a slow but complete change.

St Mary MacKillop—she was the saint which the people of Bannockburn and the rest of the Meredith Parish chose as their saint—a saint to capture the aspirations of the parish for the future and for today. St John the Evangelist (the previous patron in Bannockburn) remains a part of the history and is included in the new church in small ways. Forward looking!

St Lawrence—a deacon—was an inspiration for me as I formed and prepared for ordination myself—to be a deacon (till the call to priesthood came later). He is a saint for the poor, a saint who found ways to look to the future with hope amidst great trial and adversity (the destruction of the Roman church, its bishop, Pope Sixtus, and his own martyrdom).

The Assumption—Our Lady, the Mother of God—taken straight to heaven after a lifetime of being a sinless disciples of Jesus Christ. A constant presence and support for the early church, little though she gets scriptural mention. A symbol for us of what human goodness looks like, a symbol that compares admirably with her son's divine and human goodness.

It seems to me that this collection of feasts can inspire us in our needs today: we need to metamorphose (somehow) so that we can shine to the world in new ways. We need to be forward looking—keeping the past to nourish us but seeking to be more. We need to recognise the great trials posed by our world of today that seek to draw people away from a focus on Christ towards ... other things.

We need to continue to look to Our Lady as the exemplar of how best to live our lives in and with Christ. These Feasts give us some guidelines, pointers, indicators about looking into our own faith, and our community of faith, seeking to discern how we might change for the better. I continue to work with people in the parish to discern some collective ways to move ahead within the context of our history. It is slow work. Please, feel free to make suggestions about how you might help imagine and realise our future.

God bless, Fr Charles.

Yes or No? An Invitation to Connect with Aboriginal Spirituality

Sherry Balcombe, Coordinator of The Aboriginal Catholic Ministry (ACM) is inviting up to four people from each Parish in Melbourne Archdiocese to explore Social Justice and Aboriginal Spirituality, in the light of the Uluru Statement of the Heart and the Voice Referendum. All are welcome, but there are limited spaces at the site, so only up to four representatives from Parishes in the Melbourne Archdiocese can be accommodated to spend a day at ACM, 434 St George's Road Thornbury on one of the following dates: Wednesday 13th September 2023, Friday 6th October 2023, or Friday 13th October 2023. Requests for attendance can be sent to odette.locastro@cam.org.au but need to be received by 5th September at the latest. The program will commence at 10:00am and conclude at 2:30pm. Program details are available on request. Lunch will be provided.

John Costa, SJA.

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

Saturday 5.30pm Mass

Sunday 8.30am & 10.00am (Baptisms @ 10.00am)

Tuesday 8.30am Adoration

9.15am Mass

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

10.15am Adoration

Thursday 8.30am Adoration

9.15am Mass

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, Eugenia Pozzebon, Margaret Turner, Graham & Jason Gooden, Miriam Ayoub and Lynda O'Meara.

Anniversaries:

Faye Whitehead, Jopie Lun and June Gillespie.

Recently Deceased:

Diana Carnell, Jim Monaghan.

Feast Days this week:...

14th August St Maximilian Mary Kolbe He was condemned to death by starvation and finally killed by lethal injection. Remembered for his energy and poverty, his compassionate ministry and his self-sacrifice.

15th **August** The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This feast day was adopted in Rome in the mid-seventh century and was renamed the 'Assumption' in the next century. It celebrates Mary's passing over, body and soul, from this world into the glory of her risen Son.

LITURGY ROSTER

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 12/13th August 2023 1st Read: Kings 19: 9. 11-13 2nd Read: Romans 9: 1-5 Gos: Matthew 14: 22-33

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Hannah Hallliburton	Bredenia Raquel	Lawrence Cecconello
8.30am	Frank Ozzimo		Adrian Teo
10.00am	Carmel Purdey	Carmel Shiel	Raffaela Dinelli

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19/20th August 2023 1st Read: Isaiah 56: 1, 6-7 2nd Read: Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32 Gos: Matthew 15: 21-28

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Daniel Marini	Christine Marini	Anne Maguire
8.30am	Paul Polidano		Frances Bettiol
10.00am	Pauline Erickson	Vianney Shiel	Lynne Robinson



Mindfulness & Meditation – Saturday, 26 August 2023, 10 am – 3.30 pm (in-person)

When we are present to the 'now', centredness and relaxation become a natural part of life, and we know how to act from a heart of love. Facilitated by Paola Cheng who is a Spiritual Director, mental health social worker and meditation teacher, this is a day of prayer in the practice of Mindfulness and Meditation. We invite you to bring an open mind and heart to journey with others and within oneself. Bookings via https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/mindfulness-meditation/? or email info@heartoflife.melbourne. Cost: \$60 (BYO Lunch)

DINNER WITH THE ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE, PETER COMENSOLI, Friday, 1st September at Moonee Valley Racecourse 7.00pm for a 7.30pm Start. \$160 per person

Join the Knights of the Southern Cross Victoria to celebrate the 23rd annual Archbishop's Dinner. The dinner is held each year to raise funds for the Priests Support and Education Fund. This fund was established by the Knights of the Southern Cross to assist in the funding and education of seminarians and the post-ordination education of priests.

Guest speaker: Very Rev Dr Cameron Forbes

Fr Cameron Forbes trained at Corpus Christi College, the regional seminary for Victoria and Tasmania, and was ordained a priest in 2009 for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. Before joining the seminary, he studied arts and law and worked in governmental and legal fields. He holds a doctoral degree in moral theology from the Alphonsianum Academy in Rome, in addition to musical qualifications. Previously serving as parish priest of Mentone—Parkdale, he commenced as Rector of Corpus Christi College in 2023.

Compere: Mr Bryan Martin OAM

Bryan Martin has been involved in the thoroughbred industry for more than 40 years and has recently retired as one of Australia's most prominent race callers. He has raced racehorses for more than 30 years with Lindsay Park, Colin Alderson, Lee Freedman, Bart Cummings and John Symons. Bryan has extensive experience in managing racing syndicates. He has called races in every state of Australia, as well as New Zealand, New Guinea, Hong Kong, Dubai, Japan and Canada.

Parishioners can contact David Perrin on 9842 4951 to arrange payment and tickets.





This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal

This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria works with individuals, families and communities to build strength, resilience, and empowerment to reach their full potential. Your compassionate generosity will help the most vulnerable members of our community – those facing unemployment and homelessness, those experiencing mental health challenges, families struggling with relationship problems, people in hospitals and prisons, newly arrived refugees, and those experiencing grief and trauma.

Please donate to CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Your compassion and generosity will help the most vulnerable and marginalised in our community. You can donate using the appeal envelope available or donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au or call (03) 9287 5513. All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible.

St Kevin's Christian Meditation, each Wednesday 9:30am ONLINE via Zoom. Why not try it?

Contact the Parish House for the online link. All welcome.

Persevere in meditation. This takes courage.
Courage to leave behind all images,
especially ideas about yourself.
That is, about how good you may
think you are, or hurt, or angry.
Say the sacred mantra Word 'MARANATHA'
with fidelity.

'Hear the Word, hold to it fast. Your perseverance will yield a rich crop'

On Tuesday, 15th August,

we celebrate the

Solemnity of the

Feast of the Assumption

- a holy day of obligation.

Masses will be celebrated here at St Kevin's Church at 9.15am and at St Gregory the Great Church at 7.30pm.



Loyo Elementary School

St Kevin's Parish has joined with our St Kevin's Primary School in Social Justice focus to Loyo Elementary School in the Philippines. This year the Loyo community would like to build a small library for the students to access some books. They have asked if we would be kind enough to support them with the building of a library and/or some classroom supplies which they are in desperate need of. These include exercise books and grey lead writing pencils.

If you are able and would like to make a monetary donation for the building materials or for the purchasing of Filipino books, please put your donation in an envelope labelled 'LOYO DONATION' clearly at the front. This envelope can then be placed in the basket during usual Mass collections or delivered directly to the parish office. Thank you everyone.

Melbourne Catholic Professional luncheon Thursday 17 August, 2023 – 12.00pm – 2.00pm

Join us for the second Melbourne Catholic Professionals (MCP) event of the year!

MCP creates opportunities for Catholic professional men and women to network and support the life and mission of the Church in Melbourne. Through its program of luncheon events—hosted by Archbishop Peter A Comensoli—MCP draws people together from a range of different industries to share their faith, listen to exceptional speakers and enjoy a delicious meal together.

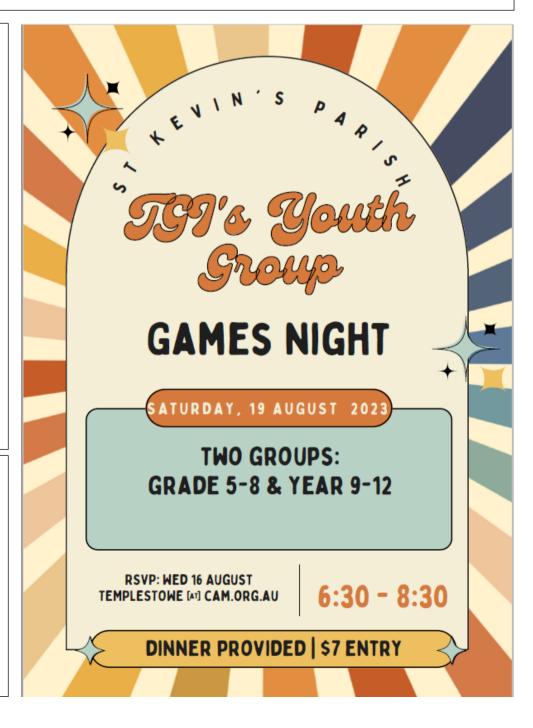
At our second luncheon for 2023, Dr Edward Simons, Executive Director, Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools, will join us as guest speaker.

Admission is free for MCP members, and \$192 for non-members. To book, simply hop onto Melbourne Catholic website.

For all enquiries, email events@cam.org.au

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the commencement of Dr John Billings' research in finding a natural, reliable method of Fertility Awareness for couples. During Natural Fertility Awareness Week, in August, a free webinar in recognition of Dr John Billings' work, entitled "Understanding Couple Fertility: the Male Perspective" will be held on Monday 21st August 2023 at 7.30pm.

Please follow the link to register for the Webinar on Eventbrite. https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/understanding-couple-fertility-the-male-perspective-webinar-tickets-678382479257?aff=oddtdtcreator



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, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

Second Reading

1 Kings 19: 9. 11-13

A reading from the first book of the Kings

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

The story of God's revelation to Elijah on Mt Horeb (Sinai) has a number of similarities to and differences from that of Moses' earlier encounter with God. Both events occur on the holy mountain. In each case there are powerful natural phenomena such as thunder, lightning, earthquakes and wind. In Moses' case these were a medium of God's communication, but the author of Elijah's story is at pains to declare that God was not in them. Nor does the writer go on to claim that God was in the ensuing "sound of sheer silence". On another occasion Moses was instructed to hide in a cleft of a rock so that he would be shielded from the divine glory as God passed by; he would only see God's back. Likewise, Elijah stands at the entrance to the cave where he had spent the night and covers his face with his cloak. In company with Moses, he hears the divine voice but does not see God. The Lord speaks to Elijah both before and after this display of nature, asking him what he's doing there. Elijah's reply is the same both times, implying that he was unchanged by what he had witnessed. And whatever contemplative note is struck by the image of "sheer silence" or the "sound of a gentle breeze", it is quickly dispelled by God's command to Elijah to anoint kings who would put the followers of Baal to the sword. The episode remains mysterious and open to interpretation. As it's recounted, it paints a dramatic picture of the powers of nature in full force, culminating in the surprise of silence and stillness.

Romans 9: 1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

Having resoundingly asserted that no matter what, nothing can separate us from "the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus", Paul now begins a long (three-chapter) struggle to make sense of his own people's failure to come to faith in Christ. It's an issue of intense importance to him; that's made plain by his invocation of conscience, Christ and the Holy Spirit at the outset. He writes of his great sorrow and endless mental anguish, even going to the extreme of offering to forfeit his own bond with Christ if that would save his people. It's notable that he calls them his "brothers". Paul does not see himself as being "converted" to Christianity but as having discovered Christ as the fulfilment of Israel's hopes.

He lists the blessings they had received: adoption as God's own, the Law, their rites, the patriarchs and the promises.

It's not simply the enigma of Israel's blindness, it's also a question of God's fidelity.

Has God abandoned his people and withdrawn the blessings given to Israel? Paul wrestles with these issues at length, but the lectionary offers us no more than this brief introduction and, next Sunday, the conclusion he comes to.

This is a challenging reading because it plunges listeners into Paul's pain without warning and without presenting a clear statement of the issue.

All we learn is that Paul wants to help his "own flesh and blood" who have been blessed with so much.

An Adjunct from Fr Charles

We need a few extra members for the Parish Pastoral Council and within that we desperately need someone from each parish who will take on the role of Chair – helping run meetings and helping draw together the priorities needed and the agenda. I consider the Parish Pastoral Council important, now and in the future. Can you help? I don't know you all, and certainly with most of you not well enough to know your gifts. Please! Pray! Discern! Take a risk!

Catch me, come and see me! Jesus the Christ needs your hands!

A convenient way to make contributions is to use this QR Code and 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 the Church account.



