



# 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                                      Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time                                      26/27<sup>th</sup> August, 2023  
    Social Justice Sunday  
    First Eucharist Commitment Masses

**Our Presider today is:** Fr Charles Balnaves

### ***From the Keyboard of Fr Charles...***

**Hello** and welcome again to St Kevin's!

Why am I welcoming you to your parish? Because as the leader, the parish priest, I want to say I love that you respond to God's call, to Jesus Christ calling you. I love that you come together seeking to be the community that is the presence of Jesus Christ. And I welcome you to his table. It is so easy to become accustomed to each other, to cease truly seeing each other. So welcome and thank you for your faith.

#### **Church layout:**

You will notice that the chairs are much more tightly drawn in around the altar this week. We had a Liturgy Group meeting during the week and one item was 'how can we best improve the liturgical space, the visibility and placement of the altar particularly so that we can celebrate at the table more effectively?' As we talked we realised the chairs had moved themselves into classroom lines instead of semi-circles – so we rearranged them around the altar. That isn't the end though. Somehow we need the altar table to be raised sufficiently to be visible without dominating. Have you seen a church where you think this being visible / being among the people is done superbly well? Please share your experience and your thoughts.

#### **The Voice:**

I was part of a conversation during the week about the balance or difference between praying in a way which suggests success of the referendum on a voice to parliament for our First Peoples and telling people how to vote in that referendum. The discussion was robust but respectful. And that summed up something important: the conversation / discussion leading up to the vote in this important referendum needs to be respectful and we need to listen, listen deeply, daddiri<sup>1</sup> deep listening. Listen to the call of the Holy Spirit for justice and compassion and right relationship. And listen to the concerns about how to respond to that call. I have said already, I shall vote yes, and that remains true. It is my belief that this is what the Holy Spirit is calling us to as a first step along the way of truly becoming one nation that welcomes our First Peoples fully for who they are and gives them the respect as people created in the image of God – people who can grow past the evils of the past 250 years and become whole again. But you ... you will see the world differently ... and that is as God intends. I try hard to keep the Holy Spirit as my inspiration – it is something we all need to do.

<sup>1</sup> Daddiri: Miriam Rose's explanation of an Aboriginal way of stopping quietly, settling, entering into the space one is in, being present, and hearing what is being said, or what is happening, and hearing with an open heart and mind and soul.                                      **God Bless, Fr Charles**

### **Catholic Bishops' Social Justice Statement for 2023-2024 released - what do you think of it?**

This weekend we celebrate Social Justice Sunday. The Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement for 2023-2024, *Listen, Learn, Love: a New Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples* is being distributed to church communities, and among other things will give more background to the Referendum on the Voice. A copy is available on our Parish website SJA Page together with a 6 minute video of its Foreword, but here is a quick summary: At the heart of the Social Justice Statement is a section by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Community, NATSICC, explaining why the Uluru Statement is asking for a Voice to parliament as a further positive step to help overcome acute disadvantage and promote progressive engagement with our First Peoples. The bishops well know there are differences of view about the referendum and that Australians are free in good conscience to vote as they see fit. At the same time the bishops are highlighting the urgent moral issues involved, so as to allow our Indigenous people the same rights and opportunities other Australians enjoy, as we also collectively look ahead to a more unified and productive future for Australia.

**John Costa SJA**

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass (1 <sup>st</sup> Eucharist Commitment)
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	(1 <sup>st</sup> Eucharist Commitment @ 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
	11.00am	Bookish Morning Tea
Thursday	8.30am	Adoration
	9.15am	Mass
Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	Masses (Baptism @ 10.00am)



### 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, Lynda O'Meara and Milda Sarzetakas.

### Anniversaries:

Phyllis Dunn and Carlito Gonzalez.

### Recently Deceased:

Terese and Nicolette Lucarelli (nee Anderson)

### Feast Days this week:...

**28<sup>th</sup> August** St Augustine

*Remembered as a model pastor and as a preacher and writer whose thought has had an enduring influence in Christian history.*

**29<sup>th</sup> August**

The Passion of St John the Baptist  
*The execution of John the Baptist is recorded in the gospels and is placed by the historian Josephus at the fortress of Machaerus near the Dead Sea. As early as the fifth century, a commemoration of John the Baptist was kept on this day at Jerusalem.*

## LITURGY ROSTER

### Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time – 26/27<sup>th</sup> August 2023

**1<sup>st</sup> Read: Isaiah 22: 19-23 2<sup>nd</sup> Read: Romans 11: 33-36 Gos: Matthew 16: 13-20**

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Janet Parsons	Margaret Turner	Maryanne McNamara
8.30am	Daniel Marini		Pat Rowland
10.00am	Pauline Erickson	Liz O'Connell	Geraldine Williams

### Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023

**1<sup>st</sup> Read: Jeremiah 20: 7-9 2<sup>nd</sup> Read: Romans 12: 1-2 Gos: Matthew 16: 21-27**

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Rachel Marini	Lucy Halliburton	Lynne O'Brien
8.30am	Julie O'Donnell		Penny Teo
10.00am	Miriam Ayoub	Tony Byrne	Kaye Byrne

## MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP



ST KEVIN'S PARISH, TEMPLESTOWE

The next **St Kevin's Men's Social Group** takes place on **Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> September @ 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](mailto:tiziana.dcosta@cam.org.au)

St Kevin's Parish warmly welcomes through the Sacrament of Baptism...



Isla Antonella Costenaro

Daughter of Jason and Breishen

Little sister of Emerson



**This weekend we celebrate First Communion Commitment Masses.**

Today, children in our Parish community will make a commitment to grow more deeply in faith by preparing to receive Jesus, the Bread of Life, in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Their parents also will commit themselves to nurturing their child's faith development. Let us remember to keep them in our prayers.

**Next Sunday (Father's Day) we will also be holding the Annual Priests Retirement Foundation Appeal.**



Caring for those who cared

The Priests Retirement Foundation was established in 1990 and contributes to the ongoing care of retired priests across the Archdiocese of Melbourne. This includes, but is not limited to, the provision of suitable accommodation and health care and medical out of pocket expenses.

'We spent our lives trying to do things for other people and now we need a bit of assistance ourselves. And the Foundation helps us enormously.' —Fr Ted Teal, retired priest

Within the Archdiocese, there are two purpose-built retirement homes: Justin Villa in North Balwyn and George Maher House in Clifton Hill. Priests may also choose to live privately in their own house (often inherited) or a house or unit where the rental is funded by the Foundation. The physical and mental wellbeing of all retired priests is continually overseen by two highly qualified nurses also funded by the Foundation.

**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.**

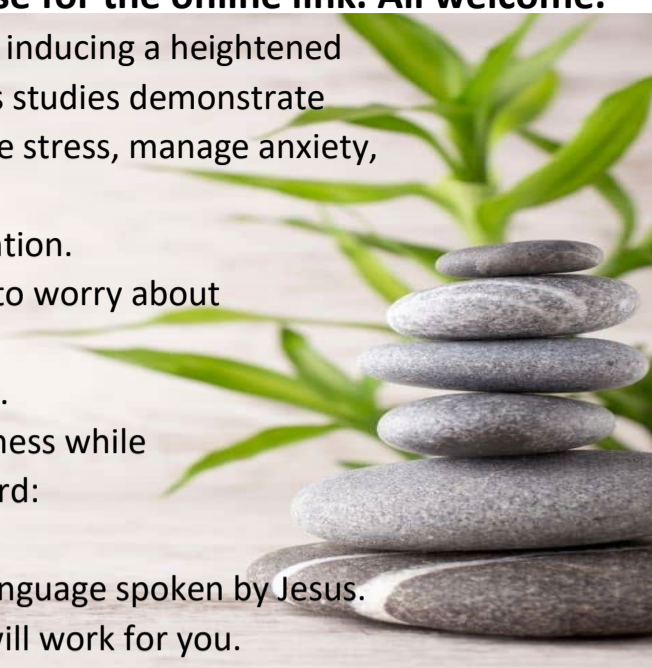
Meditation is credited with inducing a heightened state of awareness. Various studies demonstrate the practice can help relieve stress, manage anxiety, reduce inflammation, improve memory and attention.

Meditation is not the time to worry about what is happening, or what others are thinking.

It is a time of self-forgetfulness while focussing on the sacred word:

the mantra **MARANATHA**,  
"Come Lord" in Arameic, language spoken by Jesus.

As you begin, trust that it will work for you.



**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.

**St David's 'Spring Song' Concert**

After a remission originally enforced by covid, St David's Anglican Church in Doncaster East is to have a series of two 'Spring Song' concerts in the coming weeks. The first one being -

**Gilbert and Sullivan Favourites by the Cantate Singers  
Sunday September 10th at 2pm**

Tickets \$30, \$25 concession (pensioners & seniors.) Includes afternoon tea.

Ring 9842 4115 or 0438 034 739

Venue: 1111 Doncaster Road, Doncaster East (opp Tunstall Square)

**National Liturgy and Liturgical Music Conference - September 2023**

Fr Charles, together with a few parishioners have already registered for the [National Liturgy & Liturgical Music Conference](#) at the Hilton Brisbane from 28 - 30 September. If you would like to join them, you will need to get your registration in soon. Workshops are filling fast!

Featuring five keynote presentations, 50 wide-ranging breakout workshop options, facilitated discussions, conference Mass, daily prayer and ritual experiences, optional conference dinner, along with broad networking opportunities and resource displays, this "not-to-be-missed" event invites all involved in liturgy and liturgical music in parishes, schools and other Catholic agencies to participate in the premier liturgy-focussed gathering in Australia.

For full conference information, and to register, go to the conference webpage at: <https://mysteryandmission.com.au/>.

**STALL OF RELIGIOUS ARTEFACTS**

This weekend, 26/27<sup>th</sup> August, after our Masses, Silverius Culas will be holding a stall.

Items will include rosary beads, statuettes, jewellery, charms, prayer cards, etc.



A wonderful opportunity to find that special something for that special someone, or indeed, to keep them for yourself!

Cash or credit cards are welcome.



to those of you who have ensured that the parish office has a copy of your Working With Children Check as well as signing our Code of Conduct document.

If you haven't done so yet, please ensure that the parish office has a copy of these documents at your earliest possible convenience. Thank you all.



**Mary MacKillop Australian Pilgrimage  
17/10 - 28/10/2023**

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 available from the brochure on the table in the Gathering Space or you can contact the Sisters directly via email: [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au) or on 8912 4818.



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Our Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual and Pastoral Formation Reflection Day in September is offering an interesting workshop:

**Enneagram Day – Saturday, 9 September 2023, 9 am – 4.30 pm (in-person event)**

*This one-day practical workshop offers a transformational experience where you will gain invaluable insight into the unique way in which we relate and respond to the people with whom we share our lives, and the world around us. Facilitated by our Program Director Dr Lynn Moresi, she will dwell into topics of discovering your Enneagram Type; identifying your pathways of strength and challenge; understanding/interacting with other Types; handling conflict; and effective communication. Join this small group setting for a day of fun, laughter, challenge and insight. Places limited. Bookings via <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/enneagram-day/> or email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne). Cost: \$80 including notes (BYO lunch)*

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, your love is eternal;  
do not forsake the work of your hands.

## Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

### REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### First Reading

##### Isaiah 22: 19-23

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.*

This enigmatic oracle from the prophet Isaiah appears to relate to the reign of King Hezekiah in Judah some seven hundred years before the birth of Christ. While Hezekiah was a significant reformer and an active player in the geo-political games of the day, this oracle relates to internal palace affairs.

It seems that the master of the palace, Shebna, had failed in his duties. He is therefore summarily dismissed. The violent language describing his fate – he's to be "wound up into a ball" and "hurled into an immense country" where he will die – has been omitted from the lectionary. The bulk of the passage is devoted to the investiture of his replacement, Eliakim, who later proved to be a disappointment.

Eliakim's installation is described in grandly poetic terms – impressive garb, extensive authority and the promise of glory. The justification for the choice of this obscure text comes into view when we hear reference made to the key of the kingdom and Eliakim's power to open and close. We will be reminded of this when we get to today's gospel reading.

Except for those who are biblically literate, this reading will not be readily understood.

#### Second Reading

##### Romans 11: 33-36

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

*From him, through him, and in him are all things.*

After wrestling for three chapters with the vexed issue of Jewish rejection of Jesus, it's no wonder that Paul bursts into praise. He had come to a conclusion of sorts, as we heard last Sunday. As he saw it, the Gentiles' faith in Jesus was intended to make Jews jealous of what they were missing. They remained within the wide arc of God's mercy and would be saved in God's good time.

Nonetheless the whole situation remained humanly inexplicable. All that Paul can do is praise God for the mystery of it all. God's wisdom and knowledge are beyond human comprehension, as the prophet Isaiah had long since acknowledged and Job confessed. God remains everlastingly transcendent and sovereign, encompassing all that is.

When human understanding is brought to its limits, there is nothing left to do but confess God's glory.

This is a precious jewel of a text. It is suffused with wonder, awe and admiration.

#### **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.

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 go directly and securely into the Church account.

# Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults.