



St Kevin's Catholic Parish



Parish Office Hours: Tue to Fri: 9am to 4pm
26 Herlihys Road, Lower Templestowe 3107
PO Box 985, Templestowe 3106
Telephone: 9850 5983 Fax: 9850 1545

Pastoral Worker: Mrs Ana Saro
Lay Ecclesial Leader: Mrs Tiziana D'Costa
Parish Priest: Fr Charles Balnaves
Assistant Priest: Fr Isaac Zaki

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 B

Fourth Sunday of Lent

9/10th March, 2024

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves

From the desk of our PP...

Thank you!

I have a lot of people to say thank you to this weekend, not because it's an important weekend particularly but because it is an appropriate moment to give this thanks.

Thanks to Nadia and Ana and Frances and Tiziana for supporting the life of the parish so beautifully as the staff of the parish with so many smiles and laughs. And to Margaret, Carmel, Alfred, and Tiziana for the advice and deep-thinking you are doing with me.

And the Parish Finance Group

James Whelan has resigned from the Parish Finance Group after a decade of service. Thank you James for your insights and business approach and clarity of thinking and dedication.

Thank you also to Ashwin D'Costa and Peter Norman and Tiziana D'Costa for your thoughtful / knowledgeable participation. We are meeting soon to discuss the parish finances and our investment strategy and to begin planning for a Stewardship / Thanksgiving Campaign later in the year (about August). The parish operates at a significant deficit (over \$330,000) which is covered by earnings on investments and by some sale of shares within the investments so increasing our revenues is vital for the long term future of the parish.

And the Parish Pastoral Council

Thank you to Parish Pastoral Council members: Tiziana D'Costa, Peter Sheehan, Claudia Raioli, Adrian Teo, Ana Saro, Pauline Erickson, Carmel Sheil, Margaret Turner, and school principals Miranda Zuzic and Gabee Leone. You are making a difference to the life of our parish. We are beginning to bring an even more intentional focus to the plans we have for the parish so that we can become more vibrant and vital as disciples of Christ.

And thank you to all who read our bulletin and listen to my homilies each week

and who provide me with feedback/comment so that I can grow in my ability to shepherd you, and grow my thinking.

God bless, Fr Charles

EASTER TIMETABLE 2024

- 27th March: Communal Penance Service at 7.30pm – St Gregory the Great, Doncaster
- 23rd/24th March: Palm Sunday – Masses as per usual
- 28th March: Holy Thursday – Mass at 6.00pm
- 29th March: Good Friday – Stations of the Cross @ at 10.00am – St Gregory the Great
– Passion of our Lord @ 3.00pm – St Gregory the Great and St Kevin's
- 30th March: Easter Vigil Masses @ 8.30pm – St Gregory the Great 6.30pm – St Kevin's
- 31st March: Easter Sunday Masses @ 8.30 and 10.00am



BOOKISH MORNING TEA – PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE AND TIME! – YES AGAIN!

We have had to change the dates of our Bookish Morning Tea again – sincere apologies for any inconvenience / confusion caused. They will now take place every **Thursday fortnight** with the next one scheduled for Thursday 14th March. Please note this change of date in your diaries. Also we are changing the commencement time to 11.00am. All are welcome to come to the Parish House on this morning at 11.00am for a chat, browse through the book swap library and a delicious morning tea! Hope to see you there!!!

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	
Tuesday	8.15am	Adoration
	8.45am	Stations of the Cross
	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
	9.45am	Lenten Reflection Group
Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	



We pray for Better Health:

Fr Brendan Dillon, 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, Lynda O'Meara, Milda Sarzetakas, Andrew Amalfi, Ana Saro, Tracey Tucker, Fr Terry Kean, Teresa Paolilli and Frankie Pettinella.

Anniversaries:

Loretta Kearney, Mary-Ann Southwell and Galdino Marini.

Recently Deceased: Dottie Kasprzak and Connor Whyte (son of Elizabeth and Nicholas)

Feast Days this week:...

19th March St Joseph

Although his feast day is celebrated next week, a novena can be begun for him on Sunday, 10th March and continue every day until Monday, 18th March. Joseph was likely born in the small town of Bethlehem, where Jesus was also born, but he moved to Nazareth with Mary and Jesus after returning from Egypt in order to keep Jesus safe from Archelaus, the ruler of Judea. St Joseph was obedient to the Father in Heaven, and that obedience deepened his union with Mary his spouse, making their marriage the ideal family for the Son of God.

LITURGY ROSTER

Fourth Sunday of Lent – 9/10th March 2024

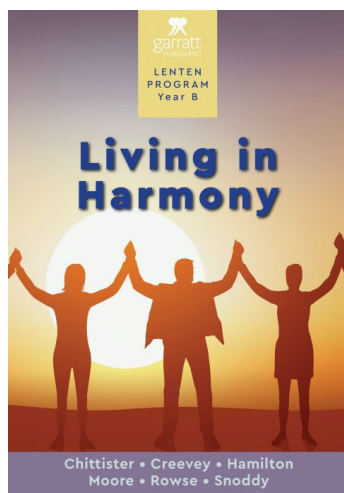
1st Read: 2 Chronicles 36: 14-16. 19-23 2nd Read: Ephesians 2: 4-10 Gos: John 3: 14-21

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Margaret Turner	Bredenia Raquel	Anne Maguire
8.30am	Jessica Bartholomeusz		Penny Teo
10.00am	Frances Johnson	Lyn Robinson	Lyn Murphy

Fifth Sunday of Lent – 16/17th March 2024

1st Read: Jeremiah 31: 31-34 2nd Read: Hebrews 5: 7-9 Gos: John 12: 20-33

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Hannah Halliburton	Christine Marini	Lawrence Ceconello
8.30am	Frank Ozzimo		Mary Waddick
10.00am	Julie O'Donnell	Tiziana D'Costa	Tony Whelan



Stations of the Cross are conducted at 8.45am every Tuesday morning during Lent after Adoration at 8.15am and 7.00pm every Friday at St Gregory the Great Church, 71 Williamsons Road, Doncaster.

Our weekly **Lenten Program** in St Kevin's Chapel continues every Thursday morning directly after the 9.15am Mass during Lent. This program is guided by our Lay Ecclesial Leader, Tiziana D'Costa, who uses the Lenten Program booklet written by various theologians. This booklet is provided for you all to use during the Program or for you to study at home if you are not able to attend every session.

There is no charge for this booklet, however a donation would be appreciated.



St Kevin's Christian Meditation, each Wednesday 9:30am ONLINE via Zoom.

Open to all parishioners including members of the wider community. Why not try it?

Contact the Parish House for the online link.

All welcome.

Each time we meditate, we learn to wait on God, to attend to God.

We put aside all empty thinking like:

'Am I enjoying this?

Am I becoming wiser? Holier?

Is this a good thing to do?

Is it a waste of time?'

Meditation is a pilgrimage.

It is a journey away from self,

into the Mystery of God.

A gift to us and an amazing blessing in our lives.

Help Wanted!

We are now in the Season of Lent and Easter is fast approaching. As we enter into this extremely busy time of the Liturgical Year, we are asking for some assistance please with our Easter Ceremonies.

If you are not planning time away this Easter Season, please consider being involved in your parish this year, even if it is in a small way – every little bit helps!

Please call Fr Charles on 9850 5983 for more information or indeed to express your desire to offer any support. Or add your name/s to the sign-up sheets on the table in the Gathering Space.

EASTER ROSTER. All Mass volunteers will have by now received an email with a link to a google doc for the roster for Holy Week and Easter. Please mark your availability as soon as possible in order to give the coordinators enough time to organise each service.

Thank you.



Invitation to parishioners to participate in the final (critical) stage of the 'Synod on Synodality'

You are invited to a meeting on **Wednesday, 20 March from 7.00 pm to 9.00 pm in the Gathering Space** to provide input on the critical, second and final stage of the Synod on Synodality.

During the meeting, we will provide input to the Synod on how synodality might be or is already being introduced in our Parish.

Please RSVP as soon as possible or by Friday 15 March to templestowe@cam.org.au; or by ringing 03 9850 5983. We look forward to seeing you there.

Peter Sheehan and John Costa on behalf of the Parish Pastoral Council.

Church Parking



We encourage you very strongly to please park in the school grounds carpark NOT in the street. Please think of our neighbours! With cars parked sometimes on both sides of the street in front of the Church it makes it difficult if not dangerous for our neighbours to use their driveways and similarly for others just driving down the street. We are sure we have all noticed the increased difficulty at the top of the hill since the apartments have been built. Let's not add to the difficulty.

A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Weekend is for YOU...

"Live Your Best Married Life in Love"

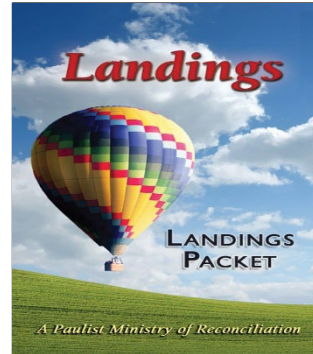
Every relationship is a journey and the grind of everyday life can easily cause you to lose touch with your spouse. This weekend gives married couples time to nurture your relationship and some tools to keep passion alive in a gentle, supportive environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily living. Every married couple deserves a Marriage Encounter weekend!! The weekend is based around Catholic values and couples of all faiths are welcome.

Please check our website for more details

Date: 12-14 April, 2024 - St Paul Retreat - Wantirna South

Information/Bookings: Phone **Mercy & James 0409 183 676** or

Email: vicbookings@wwme.org.au Website: wwme.org.au



Landings offers a safe place for those who have disconnected from their faith to share their experiences. The informal meetings over a coffee and cake are all about compassionate listening: to welcome and encourage people to re-engage with their faith. The meetings are run by lay people.

The program continues every Wednesday evening from 7 to 8.30pm held here in our parish. If you know of any inactive Catholics who may be interested in discussing their faith and/or are considering returning to the faith, please contact Ana Saro, our pastoral worker, at the parish office.



YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU

Would you like to be a Lector, Commentator or Eucharist Minister at St Kevin's?

New volunteers are always welcome. As you would be aware, we are now requiring two Eucharist ministers at each Mass, so the need is there for more volunteers not only for Communion, but in all areas. Please call the Parish office or speak to Father Charles, Tiziana or Pauline Erickson after Mass.

Baptisms Welcome

This weekend we welcome:

Janelle and Jin

who will be introducing

Irene and Ellie Ye

and

Jenny

who will be introducing

Phoenix, Austin and Xarias Harrison

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

Celebration
of the
Sacrament of Baptism



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION



Preparing Children for Reconciliation,
First Holy Communion
and Confirmation

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM AT ST KEVIN'S PARISH

Do you have a child/ren who does not attend our parish schools whom you would like to have receive a Sacrament this year? If so, the time to act is now!

Enrolments are currently being accepted for the Sacraments of First Eucharist and Confirmation.

Children need to be in at least Grade 3 level 2024 for First Eucharist and Grade 6 for Confirmation.

Please hop onto our website and download the registration/payment forms, complete them and send them back to us at the parish office as soon as you can as time is running out! [Sacraments - St Kevin's Templestowe Parish \(stkevinsparish.org.au\)](http://stkevinsparish.org.au)

On our website you will also see a series of diary dates which are most important that our Candidates and parents must attend.

Please contact the Parish Office or Ana Saro if you have any further questions. Thank you.

Project Compassion 2024

Lent is a time when we support the work of Caritas Australia in a special way through Project Compassion.

Caritas Australia helps to empower some of our most marginal sisters and brothers; it embraces some demanding situations because it says yes to our neighbours.

The theme for Project Compassion is "For All Future Generations". This year that theme asks us to think about the great yes that Mary said when the angel told her that she was to become the mother of Jesus.



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 my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading	Second Reading
<p>2 Chronicles 36: 14-16. 19-23</p> <p>A reading from the second book of Chronicles</p> <p><i>The wrath and the mercy of the Lord are revealed in the exile and liberation of his people.</i></p> <p>In spite of their length – 29 and 36 chapters respectively – the books of 1 and 2 Chronicles provide only one reading each in the three-year cycle of Sundays and feasts. The unnamed author, writing at an unknown time after the exile, reworks the history of Israel to highlight the monarchy and above all the Temple. Today's text brings 2 Chronicles to a close and leads into the books of Ezra-Nehemiah (the final verses of the one being repeated as the opening verses of the other).</p> <p>Each of the first readings for these Lenten Sundays highlights a key moment in the history of Israel. Today's moment is a dark one, the exile. The Chronicler sums up his thesis: the whole people have brought this disaster on their own heads by defiling the Temple with idolatry and refusing to heed the prophets. As a result the whole of Jerusalem, including the Temple, is destroyed, and the people exiled. But redemption comes unexpectedly from a foreigner – Cyrus, king of Persia – acting as God's agent and decreeing the rebuilding of the Temple. Fittingly, the arrangement of books in the Jewish Bible allows Cyrus' pledge to serve as a hope-filled conclusion.</p> <p>A climactic episode in Israel's history is condensed in today's reading. It's a drama in three acts – the prelude (the people's infidelity), the centrepiece (the destruction of Jerusalem), and the postlude (the decree of return).</p>	<p>Ephesians 2: 4-10</p> <p>A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians</p> <p><i>When we were dead through sins, he brought us to life.</i></p> <p>If anyone was suffering from Lenten fatigue, today's reading from Ephesians is the perfect antidote. It is a wonderfully affirmative summing up of the good news and, in particular, of Paul's teaching on salvation as God's free gift, not the achievement of human effort. Scholars are divided in their opinion as to whether Ephesians is by Paul himself or a later disciple. One feature of today's passage suggests the latter. In the letters agreed to be authentically his, Paul speaks of believers' resurrection as yet to be fully realised, whereas here the author declares resurrection to be a present reality.</p> <p>It seems that the Jerusalem Bible's lovely phrase, "we are God's work of art," is considered too free by more recent translators. They render it less attractively, in forms such as "we are what he has made us" (NRSV) or "we are his handiwork" (NAB). All the same, the image brings to mind the prophet Jeremiah's oracle of the divine potter (18:1-6). While the insistent message of the reading is that we are saved by the goodness and grace of God, good works have their place. They are the fruit of that saving love.</p>

Do you want to be well informed about world Catholic Church matters?

We all have the opportunity to be part of our parish group subscription to an online International Catholic News Service – "LA CROIX International".

You don't need to pay anything as the parish has a group subscription.

LA CROIX is an online Catholic daily service which provides quality news and information content about topics that matter in the world such as politics, society, religion, culture, education and ethics. There are regular journalists as well as guests from time to time, including from Australia and New Zealand. Inspired by the Second Vatican Council, it offers commentary and analysis on the Church in the world.

We need your email address to sign you up. If you would like to take this opportunity to have full access to the website

<https://international.la-croix.com/>

or to receive email updates, email your name to one of the parish offices-

St Kevins – Templestowe@cam.org.au or St Gregory the Great - Doncaster@cam.org.au

Please use the subject heading as LA CROIX.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

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