



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

Fifth Sunday of Lent

16/17th March, 2024

Baptisms and Baptism Presentation Sunday

Our Presider today is: Fr Isaac Zaki

A word from the Lay Ecclesial Leader...

In this final week of Lent, John's Gospel asks us to 'see' Jesus for who he really is. What does this mean?

Joan Chittister says that during Holy Week *'the starkness of the community chapel is simply an external reminder of the internal emptiness that develops when we barter the real richness of life for the trinkets of living'*.

What are the 'trinkets of living' that stop us from seeing Jesus? Where do we find Jesus in our daily life? How do we hold true to Jesus and find 'real richness of life'?

There is no 'one size fits all' answer. For some, it may mean making better choices about the company we keep, or the career we pick. For others, it may mean choosing inclusion over division, and how we give of ourselves to others.

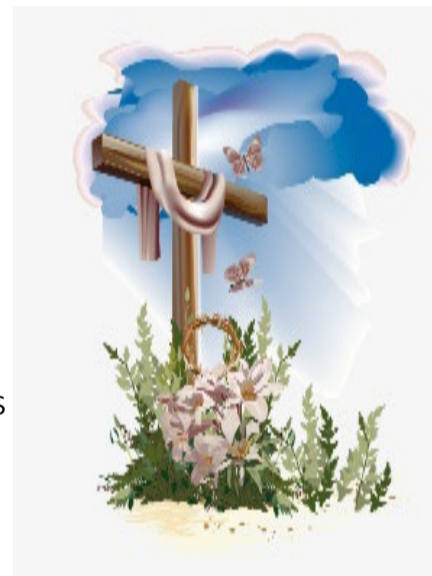
Pope Francis says we should strive for a life given in service, a life that is modelled on God like qualities of closeness, compassion and tenderness. I think the details are up to us.

As Holy Week approaches, and we look forward to the rituals and ceremonies, let us be drawn to Jesus and 'see' him for who he really is. Let us discern how we are called - in our own life - to be his disciples.

Blessings, Tiziana

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 @ 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



From the desk of our PP...

Week 5! Just a week to go and we enter into Holy Week.

I have put large swaths of my time aside in this week for me to work myself through all the Easter Liturgies (Palm Sunday; Holy Thursday; Good Friday; Easter Vigil; Easter Sunday).

I was talking to one of my brothers some years ago and he commented that his students could tell when he used the same lecture notes from the previous year. New students and they could tell. After pondering this for some time we concluded that the key lay in ourselves.

If I approach Easter this year as just a repeat of the last eight Easters as a priest presiding at the liturgies—then that is what it is. But putting the time aside to work through and think through the liturgies my experiences and growth and hopes and imaginings arising from the past year and looking to the future—these all become a part of the details: and that means the various Masses / Services reflect “now” “today” “the movement of the Spirit in my life / your lives.”

This is as it should be. Christ Jesus came among us, and will be with us for all times and in all places. So our celebration of our beloved Saviour should be fresh. Something new for our lives each and every year through celebrating Easter.

I pray that enough of the time I have sought to put aside will actually be available for me to be ready to help you share in the full sorrow and joy of the Passion, Death and Resurrection.

God bless, Fr Charles

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	(Baptisms and Baptism Pres @ 10am)
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	Palm Sunday Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	Palm Sunday Masses & Bap @ 10am



We pray for Better Health:

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, Frankie Pettinella, Margaret Enriquez, Lucia Butler and Rosanna Campagna.

Anniversaries:

Rose Liew, Corina Bertolini, Val Giannarelli, Giuseppina Ziino, Augusta Giannini, Eileen Lescai, Lindsey Hulm, Betty McClusky, Margaret Lee, members of the Fernandes & Hughes families, Jean Lawrey-York, Peter William Hughes & James Gregory.

Recently Deceased: Margaret Mangan and Tony Fitzsimons

Feast Days this week:...

18th March St Patrick

Remembered for his simplicity and pastoral care, for his humble trust in God and for his fearless preaching of the gospel to those who had enslaved him in his youth. Specially honoured in Australia as many Irish people who came to settle here brought with them the faith and zeal of St Patrick.

19th March St Joseph

A carpenter, Joseph was an upright man who, as husband of the Virgin Mary cared for Mary and the child Jesus. 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

Fifth Sunday of Lent – 16/17th March 2024

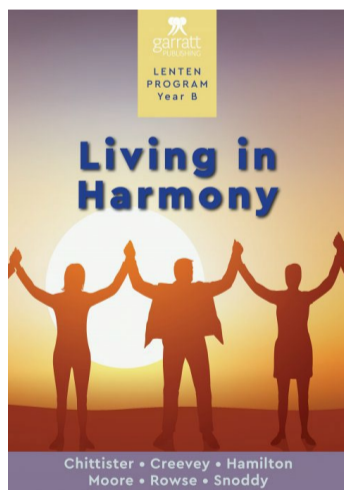
1st Read: Jeremiah 31: 31-34 2nd Read: Hebrews 5: 7-9 Gos: John 12: 20-33

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

Palm Sunday – 23/24th March 2024

1st Read: Isaiah 50: 4-7 2nd Read: Philippians 2: 6-11 Gos: Mark 15: 1-39

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Daniel Marini	Bredenia Raquel	Anne Maguire Maryann McNamara
8.30am	Julie O'Donnell	Pauline Erickson	Adrian Teo Penny Teo
10.00am	Frances Johnson	Jessica Bartholomeusz	Lyn Murphy Raffaela Dinelli



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.

We may be interested in what prayer and meditation can teach us about ourselves. Meditation is a journey into unlimited knowledge and wisdom, a journey into the mystery of God. The point of the Gospel message is that the experience of meditation is not self-knowledge but the journey beyond the self, into God.

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. Thank you.

MEDITATION NEWS:

There will NOT be a Meditation Session during Holy Week nor the week after Easter. We shall recommence on Wednesday, 10th April at 9.30am.

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 via the Parish Council.

Please RSVP as soon as possible or by Monday 18 March at the very latest 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.

An Omission:

I gave thanks to a number of groups of people around the parish last week. I chose them because they are very active at present. I omitted to include John Costa as a member of the Parish Pastoral Council (sorry John).

God bless, Fr Charles

Communal Penance Service

Wednesday, 27th March at 7.30pm

St Gregory the Great Church



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

Feast Days and Days of Solemnity

This **Monday, 18th March**, we celebrate the Feast Day of **St Patrick**.

Mass will be celebrated on this day at St Gregory the Great Church, 71 Williamsons Road, Doncaster at 5.00pm.

This **Tuesday, 19th March**, we celebrate the Feast Day of **St Joseph**.

Masses will be celebrated on this day at St Kevin's at 9.15am and also at St Gregory the Great Church Doncaster at 5.00pm.



**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.

Baptism and Reception of New Members

Welcome Jennifer Bradley/McKelvie

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



*Austin, Phoenix and Xarias Harrison
under the care of Jennifer Bradley/McKelvie*

and

*Ellie and Irene Ye
Daughters of Jin and Jing*

Baptism Welcome

This weekend we welcome:

Jamie and Laura

who will be introducing

Claire Harper Butterworth

to our Parish Community in preparation for her Baptism next weekend.

Celebration
of the
Sacrament of Baptism



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.



PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Pastoral Council met last week on Thursday 7 March. You can now access the minutes and reports on the parish website: visit <https://www.stkevinsparish.org.au/>; select the tab 'About us' and 'Leadership' and you'll find them there.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 4 April. If you have any questions or suggestions about the matters raised, please reach out to me, Fr Charles or any of the Council members: John Costa, Pauline Erickson, Claudia Raiola, Ana Saro, Peter Sheehan, Carmel Shiel, Adrian Teo and Margaret Turner.

Blessings, Tiziana D'Costa

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

Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

[Jeremiah 31: 31-34](#)

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel and I will forgive their iniquity.

Our accompaniment of Israel through its ancient history concludes fittingly with the promise of a new bond between God and the Chosen People. The prophet Jeremiah delivers an oracle of hope and love to a demoralised nation. Struggling to cope with the Babylonian conquest and the loss of all that signified God's choice of them – the temple, the land, the monarchy – the people are at a low ebb. God offers to forge a new relationship with them, attested not by outward signs but by what is in their hearts.

God's way for them – the Law – will be written in everyone's heart. It's a revolutionary gift, radically inclusive, independent of power, status, wealth, merit and learning, for "they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks." The past is swept away by forgiveness and a new era begins.

This is a core text in both Testaments. The prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel echo Jeremiah in bearing the promise of a new and everlasting covenant. The author of the letter to the Hebrews cites the passage in its entirety and repeats part of it later. Mark and Paul allude to it in their accounts of the Last Supper.

Second Reading

[Hebrews 5: 7-9](#)

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He learnt to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.

No doubt these few verses from the letter to the Hebrews will bring Jesus' agonised prayer in the garden of Gethsemane to mind. However, the opening words – "During his life on earth" – suggests a pattern of prayer rather than a single occasion. The fact that Jesus quotes the psalms on several occasions, most notably on the cross, suggests he was in the habit of praying the psalms. If so, he would have cried out "aloud and with silent tears" often enough.

The author is intent on stressing Jesus' solidarity with us. It's a central theme of his letter. The humanity that Jesus shares unreservedly with us makes him our compassionate high priest. Like us, he too had to face the threatening power of death. The author adopts the prevailing view of his time, that suffering plays an important role in shaping character (he has more to say on this later). When he writes that Jesus' "prayer was heard," we know that Jesus was indeed not saved "from death" but "out of death."

This short text is charged with both feeling and faith.

Palm Sunday Walk for Justice and Peace

Rights for all,
including people
seeking asylum.

Permanent visas for all refugees

Sunday 24 March 2024



10.30am Parliament Gardens Cnr Spring and Albert Streets
#Justice4refugees #PermanentVisas
Organised by the Refugee Advocacy Network.
Enquiries: info@refugeeadvocacynetwork.org.au



Safeguarding is
everyone's responsibility.

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

