



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

Easter Sunday

30th/31st March, 2024

Our Presiders today are: Fr Charles Balnaves (Easter Vigil), Fr Isaac Zaki (8.30am) and Fr Gerry McKernan (10.00am)

Parish Priest Easter Ponderings... Christ Jesus! **HE IS RISEN!!** Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Have a marvellous Easter Weekend, Easter holiday. Travel safely if you are travelling.



As I write these words it is Wednesday evening – another 18 hours or so till we start the roughly sixty hours of the Easter ceremonies – the Triduum [Tri (three) duum (days)] over which our celebration stretches from Last Supper to Resurrection.

I find myself wondering how these marvellous moments will enliven me this year – I always look forward to the surprises that await me as the Holy Spirit catches me unawares – every year.

I find myself wondering how you will be surprised by Easter this year.

I find myself wondering how we will be surprised.

The parishes of Doncaster and Templestowe are changing with the recent deaths of a number of parishioners: Gracia Gatti and Domenico Spizzica and Salvatore Vecchio at St Greg's; Tony Fitzsimons, Margaret Mangan, Connor Whyte at St Kevin's. And on a personal family level my wife's Uncle Serge's death.

Connor was young at 18 but the others – older, here for decades and decades – as we lose the older voices, we lose something of the history, the felt/lived history of our families and our parishes and when we lose the young we lose something of the possibility of renewal.

It's not just these deaths (and others) – St Greg's and St Kevin's are changing in so many other ways. The variety of backgrounds of children in our schools. The variety of backgrounds of new people coming to Mass. The demographics and the built environment (so many units and town houses). The regulations that demand change in our organisations. We are changing.

I don't think we should just let that change happen and carry us unthinking into a future. We are disciples of Christ Jesus – so we must be intentional disciples, seeking to be an intentional part of the mission Christ Jesus has of bringing the Good News to all corners of Doncaster and of Templestowe (well his vision is global in reach, ours is parish wide and that is big enough for me).

I am excited to find what surprises God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, has in store for us this Easter Sunday and Easter Season.

Have a most blessed Easter! God bless, Fr Charles

A word from the Lay Ecclesial Leader...

Early Wednesday morning, a couple of weeks ago, I was walking along Swanston Street outside the State Library.

There were a lot of police around for a climate change protest. One protester stood at the street corner and was bellowing at passersby. She pushed her leaflets into people's hands; she yelled at them to take action on climate change; she accosted some and screamed in their face: 'don't you care about our planet or is it just me you don't like?'. Everyone felt very uncomfortable to be addressed this way: they retreated into their phones or kept their head down waiting desperately to cross the road.

The protester's message is very important: we need to take good care of our planet. But the delivery was all wrong; the protester's angry, confrontational tone was so strident that people shut down. Important message, wrong delivery.

We recently said goodbye to two beloved parishioners: Tony Fitzsimons and Margaret Mangan. At their funeral, we remembered their kindness, gentleness, and loyalty. Throughout their life, Tony and Margaret delivered a message of Christian love and service in a way few will ever forget.

Jesus had a crucial message, and his delivery was exceptional. In the events leading to his death, he could have fought the Roman authorities, incited anger and reprisal. He did none of these things. He bravely and quietly watched the events unfold. His reaction speaks louder than words.

In our society, there is a lot of strident, harsh communication. Everyone is competing to be heard. Often, this is not effective to get the message across. As Christians, we have an important message to deliver to the community at Easter time – a message of hope. We celebrate the resurrected Jesus alive in every aspect of our being, calling us more deeply into his life. The best way to deliver this important message may be through loving, gentle and kind actions – let's show by example. Have a wonderful Easter.

Blessings, Tiziana

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
Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	MASSES



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, Rosanna Campagna and Fr Brendan Dillon.

Anniversaries:

Rita Skubal, Rita Farrella, Wilma Barrow, Diane Hubbard, Mary Collins, Greg Ireland, Denise Rogers, Tyson Maffei, Mary Borg and Fr Ernie Smith.

Recently Deceased:

Feast Days this week:...

The Octave of Easter

Is an eight-day period that begins on **Easter Sunday** and concludes with the **Second Sunday of Easter**. During this time, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. These days serve as a time to reflect on and experience the profound mysteries celebrated during Easter, such as the empty tomb and the victory over death. Let us bask in the glow of the Resurrection, rejoicing in the new light that shines after the darkness of Christ's crucifixion. Each day is a reminder of the hope and joy brought forth by His triumph over sin and death.

LITURGY ROSTER

Easter Sunday – 30th/31st March 2024

1st Read: Acts 10: 34, 37-43 2nd Read: Colossians 3: 1-4 Gos: John 20: 1-9

Thank you to our wonderful and talented team of Volunteers who selflessly give of their time to organise and prepare our Easter Ceremonies., so that all may participate and be moved.

You have been contacted with your allotted task. Thank you once again.

Second Sunday of Easter – 6/7th April 2024

1st Read: Acts 4: 32-35 2nd Read: 1 John 5: 1-6 Gos: John 20: 19-31

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Janet Parsons	Kathy Pearce	Lawrence Ceconello
8.30am	Paul Polidano		Frances Bettiol
10.00am	Miriam Ayoub	Bernard Butler	Tony Robinson

Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord!

Happy EASTER



Tiziana D'Costa, Ana Saro, Frances Johnson, Nadia Bolzonello, Fr Charles Balnaves and Fr Isaac Zaki wish you peace, joy and good health. May Easter 2024 overflow with hope and wonder for each one of us.

MEDITATION NEWS:

There will NOT be a Meditation Session next week. We shall recommence on Wednesday, 10th April at 9.30am.

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.

All of us have distractions.
All of us have concerns.
All of us worry about things.
All have responsibilities, some of which are hard.
What we must do is put our life in harmony with the pilgrimage to our own heart.

It is a journey that gives us fresh spirit, and a clear heart.

Meditation is not walking away from our responsibilities. It is being open, fully, to the gift of Life.

A MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER Weekend is for YOU...

“Live Your Best Married Life in Love”

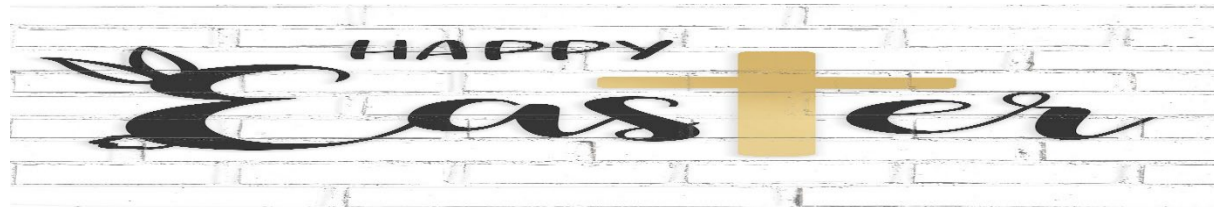
Every relationship is a journey and the grind of everyday life can easily cause you to lose touch with your spouse. This weekend gives married couples time to nurture your relationship and some tools to keep passion alive in a gentle, supportive environment, away from pressures and distractions of daily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

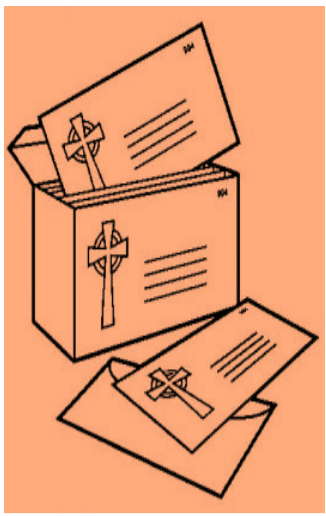
Please check our website for more details

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





Thanksgiving Envelopes

The next batch of parish thanksgiving envelopes have been prepared and are awaiting your collection from the table in the Gathering Space. In order to save the parish from postage costs, please make sure you collect yours before leaving Church today.

Thank you everyone for your generosity in supporting our parish.

A huge *thank you* also to Peter Norman for all his help and dedication towards this ministry.

Project Compassion 2024

Happy Easter from all at Caritas Australia!

Thank you for your continued support for Project Compassion – past, present and future. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow

On Monday, 8th April, we celebrate the

Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord.



Mass will be celebrated at St Gregory the Great Church, 71 Williamsons Road, Doncaster @ 9.00am. All welcome.



Our Parish Bookish Morning Tea recommences this **Thursday, 4th April** at 10.00am and will continue every fortnight from then on.

Please feel free to come to the Parish house and have a browse and stay for a chat and a cuppa!!



MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP



ST KEVIN'S PARISH, TEMPLESTOWE

The next **St Kevin's Men's Social Group** takes place on **Friday, 12th April @ 7.30pm in the Church Gathering Space**. 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. \$8 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

A Night on the Camino De Santiago

Join Lawrence Ceconello from St Kevin's Parish Social Justice Action (SJA) group in a fascinating journey of discovery, as he takes you through the origins, history and culture that surrounds this legendary pilgrimage to the shrine of the apostle St. James, in the cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in northwest Spain. The Camino de Santiago is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a global treasure, attracting many thousands of seekers, adventurers, and pilgrims from all over the world each year, with each individual taking on their own challenge, be it spiritual, physical or psychological. There are various routes but ours will be the Via Podiensis, from the French town of Le Puy En Velay to St. Jean Pied De Port at the foot of the Pyrenees mountains, which he completed in May 2023. The Camino de Santiago is not just a path or a walking trail, but a transformative journey that enriches mind, body, and soul. This (free) online ZOOM EVENT is from 7:30pm-8:30pm on Wednesday 17th April 2024. REGISTRATION is essential, at <https://www.trybooking.com/CQMXU> Full details on Parish website SJA page.



Easter Celebrations!

(after the Vigil Mass at 8.30pm, 30th March)

All are invited to join with your fellow parishioners in the Gathering Space in a fitting celebration for Christ's Resurrection at Easter and the Baptisms at the Easter Vigil. Supper will be provided in the Gathering Space.

Happy Easter!



Archbishop Comensoli's Easter Message 2024

As we head into Holy Week and the Easter Triduum, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli invites us to walk alongside Jesus by praying the Stations of the Cross, a timeless devotion that we can pray on our own or with our family or fellow parishioners.

He has prepared a video message which has been placed on the Diocesan Website:

[An invitation to walk with Jesus this Holy Week | Melbourne Catholic](#)

Also, it is possible to download the Stations of the Cross Prayer Booklet from this same website using the following link:

[Stations of the Cross | Melbourne Catholic](#)

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

This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Alleluia, let the Spirit be fully alive in us.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS FOR EASTER SUNDAY

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 10: 34. 37-43

A reading from Acts of the Apostles

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

For the fifty days of the Easter season, as at no other time of the year, the liturgy of the word begins with a reading from the New rather than the Old Testament. Each year of the lectionary cycle presents a progressive selection of passages from the Acts of the Apostles. These run in parallel with the other two readings without any specific connection between them.

Paul is credited with being the "apostle to the Gentiles," but Peter is the real pioneer of this missionary outreach. The whole of chapter 10 is devoted to this and it's well worth reading in full. Peter's insight occurs entirely by divine initiative. He's given a vision while at prayer in the Roman stronghold of Caesarea. A sheet is lowered from heaven three times with creatures deemed unclean by Jewish Law but which Peter is told to eat. He eventually realised this was a sign that Gentiles were not to be regarded as unclean and off limits. None of this background is contained in the reading for today. What we hear is Peter's preaching to the Roman centurion Cornelius and his household. He presents them with a summary of the good news. Understandably what he has to say is still couched in terms that would have been more intelligible to a Jewish audience, but the conclusion is clear: "all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name."

Testimony like this is found in several other places in the Acts, underscoring its centrality for the early Christian community and its missionaries.

Second Reading

Colossians 3: 1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Each of the two alternative texts for today's second reading has an Easter pedigree. In pre-Vatican II times, the passage from Colossians used to be read at the Vigil service and that from 1 Corinthians on Easter Sunday.

The reading from Colossians may seem other-worldly. "Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on earth," the author writes. But the letter as a whole shows that the contrast between heavenly and earthly things is that between a life informed by the Spirit and a life subject to the power of sin and death. This very short passage glows with the glory of the resurrection.



Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

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