

St Kevin's Catholic Parish



Parish Office Hours: Mon to Fri: 9am to 4pm 26 Herlihys Road, Lower Templestowe 3107 PO Box 985, Templestowe 3106

Telephone: 9850 5983 Fax: 9850 1545

Parish Priest: Fr Charles Balnaves
Lay Ecclesial Leader: Mrs Tiziana D'Costa

Business Manager: Mr David Hii
Pastoral Worker: Mrs Ana Saro

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

Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Baptisms Weekend 16/17th November, 2024

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves

From the Desk of our PP...

Retreat:

Taking a retreat is surprisingly difficult. Letting go of ... parish life, setting aside your needs so that I can spend time just with Jesus. I know this can't be a 100% setting aside, but it needs to be as close as possible, so I am trying hard to relax in body, mind, soul and strength: to devote all of these to my love of Christ Jesus, his Father and his Holy Spirit. I am writing these words now so I don't have to interrupt the retreat when I am deeply immersed on the fourth day of five.

It is the second day and I with the 16 other retreatants have received three talks. The first talk challenged us to look back into the beginnings of our lives and trace where our personal faith comes from, who was key to me finding Jesus and making him central to my life. The second talk challenged us to delve into the truth that it is ONLY Jesus Christ, the Son of the one true God, who explains where we come from and where we will end up. This morning's talk challenges us to enter into the reality that evil only comes about because we make choices. Evil is not an independent 'power' in itself. Evil is the consequence of choices made (by Satan, or by us). There was 40 minutes of context for each of these topics – but that is the essence so far.

These three challenges are not new. But as I retreat from the cares of daily parish life and actually spend serious time reflecting I gain fresh insight, I am renewed.

I see again how vitally important my mother was in nurturing my faith and this time around I see also how central my father was in helping my faith grow. In the past I've seen his presence as 'silent and stern' but now, this time, I am seeing how he was firm and constant and faithful.

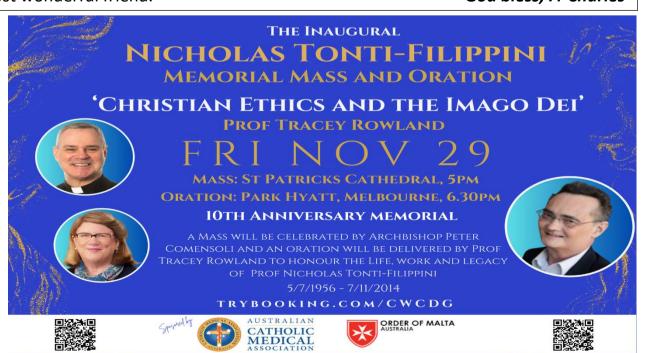
I see again that as I test the claim about Jesus Christ – it is true! This is not just as an article of faith but a reality that informs every aspect of my life.

And evil – yes, a most challenging topic. I happen to have been pondering 'evil' recently because of how often I hear things like "The Axis of Evil" or "the person who did that IS EVIL." If a person or a group IS evil then ... they have no choice, they cannot avoid what they do. But that is never true. YES Satan can tempt us, as the serpent tempted Adam and Eve and as the devil tempted Jesus in the wilderness. But ... we are always left with the choice between doing what is just and merciful or doing what is evil and heartless.

Thank you for accepting my absence for this important interlude, this moment of retreat through which I hope to return more fully immersed in Christ Jesus, my Lord and Saviour and most wonderful friend.

God bless, Fr Charles





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

Saturday 5.30pm Mass

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

Monday 9.00am Little Kev's Playgroup

Tuesday 8.15am 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:

Brooke Evans, Anne Materazzo, Melissa Wirata, Sharon Hibbert, Rosemarie Cameron, Dorothea (Dot) Sharkey, Alexandra Franke, Aisha Yahiat, Jane O'Brien, Bernard Mohar, Angelina Amalfi, Alexander, Felipe, Anne, Izabella Fantin, Lucy Bisetto, Guadalupe Cameron, Elysia Pozzebon, Shiela O'Donoghue and Wang Wei Qiao.

Anniversaries:

Kim West, Karl Haussegger, Nina Luca, Wally McCormack, Bruna Niero, Assunta Raiola and Gillian Barrington

Recently Deceased:

Joan Cullen

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this week:

For religious orders in Australia – that their gifts of the Holy Spirit will continue to be lived and that vocations may abound.



Feast Days this week:...

21st **November** The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This memorial originally marked the dedication of a sixth century church of the Virgin Mary near the Temple of Jerusalem. The East took it up as a celebration of Mary's presentation to God in the Temple at the age of three a non-biblical story from the apocryphal gospel of James. It celebrates Mary in her grace-filled life, wholly given over to the Holy Spirit from the time of her conception.

22nd November St Cecilia

martyred for the faith.

Though a late fourth century church in Rome was named after her, nothing is known of her life or death. She was named the patron of music. Remembered in tradition as a virgin,

LITURGY ROSTER

Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 16/17th November 2024 1st Read: Daniel 12: 1-3 2nd Read: Hebrews 10: 11-14, 18 Gos: Mark 13: 24-32

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Fiona Watson	Bredenia Raquel	Maryanne McNamara Lawrence Cecconello
8.30am	Frank Ozzimo	Pamela Rivera	Frances Bettiol Penny Teo
10.00am	Frances Johnson	Carmel Shiel	Tony Robinson Lyn Robinson

Feast of Christ the King – 23rd/24th November 2024 1st Read: Daniel 7: 13-14 2nd Read: Apocalypse 1: 5-8 Gos: John 18: 33-37

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Margaret Turner	Kathy Pearce	Fiona Watson Lynne O'Brien
8.30am	Jessica Bartholomeusz		Mary Waddick Paul Polidano
10.00am	Vianney Shiel	Bernard Butler	Lyn Murphy Tony Whelan

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

Open to parishioners and members of the wider community.

Why not try it? Contact the Parish House for the online link.

All welcome.

The more active and busy we are, the more important it is that our action is grounded in contemplation.

Contemplation means deep,

silent comm-union rooted in Christ and his love.



Our next Parish Bookish Morning Tea will be held on Thursday, 21st November at 10.00am and continues every fortnight.

All are welcome to join in the fun!

Looking forward to seeing you all then!!



The new Columban Calendars for 2024 are available from the table in the Gathering Space. \$10 each. Please place cash in the box provided. Thank you.





CANNED FOOD COLLECTION

For Christmas Hampers - You are invited to contribute

From November 1 – November 17 we are collecting
canned fruit, vegetables, pulses, tuna, fish, meat and
soups for families experiencing financial hardship,
homelessness, mental health issues and refugees and
asylum seekers.

(no glass bottles or jars please)

In 2023 CatholicCare Victoria prepared and delivered 620 Christmas food hampers to families facing financial hardship. Help us to help them gift nutritious food hampers to families in 2024.

There is a basket in the Gathering Space for your donations. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

Our sincere thanks.

Queries: Carmel Purdey carmelmpurdey@gmail.com



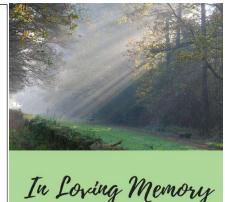
St Kevin's Annual Bereavement Mass 21st November @ 7.30pm

As a compassionate people, we are encouraged to come together on this important night in support of all who are grieving the death of a loved one. At this Mass, we shall also bless the plaques on our memorial wall. All are welcome, in particular those who have lost loved ones in the last 12 months.

For further information, please contact Lyn Murphy on 9857 4437 or 0419 897582.

Memorial Book:

If you wish to have a relative or friend inscribed in this precious book, please fill out a form from the table in the Gathering Space and hand it into the parish office. Thank you.



In Loving Memory



Fr Isaac Zaki, our Assistant Priest, will be leaving us soon and moving to Flemington Parish.

We will celebrate a 'Thank you and Farewell' event on Sunday, 24th November. It will begin with our usual Mass at 10.00am (which Fr Isaac will celebrate) followed by cake and coffee/tea afterwards.

All are welcome to come and to thank Fr Isaac for his time with us.

for... St Gregory's & St Kevin's

Christmas Party!

When: Sunday, 8th December

Where: St Gregory's Hall

after the 5pm Mass Time:

More information to come. In the meantime, please indicate your attendance on the sign-up sheets on the table in the Gathering Space.

table in the Gathering Space and hand them directly to him. Thank you. **HOPE REIGNS**

November is traditionally the month when we remember our

deceased loved ones. If you would like Father to include them in our prayers, please complete the appropriate envelopes which are on the



Dates: 28th November (Thursday) 5th December (Thursday)

12th December (Thursday)

17th December (Tuesday) Where: St Kevin's Church Gathering Space

Come and join our Lay Ecclesial Leader, Tiziana D'Costa, as she leads us into a reflection and discussion series on learning what 'Hope Reigns' means – seeking to help prepare you for the birth of Emmanuel, God with us.

Booklets are available from the table in the Gathering Space. They cost \$10 each (please place money in the same collection box as for payment for Columban Calendars).

All are welcome to purchase a booklet to take home, read and reflect upon, regardless of whether you would like to attend the Advent Reflection Series or not.



Twilight session at Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre **East Melbourne**

Awakening to the Divine in Nature

This interactive seminar will enable you to deepen your spirituality through interconnection with all of life. Includes input, sharing of ideas and a reflective experience in Fitzroy Gardens.

Facilitated by Peter Hay, a passionate explorer of ecological spirituality as a way of bringing us into a more authentic way of living in these critical times. He is a spiritual director, professional supervisor and a lecturer at Heart of Life, teaching units in Spiritual Leadership and Ecological Spirituality.

To book, please use this link below:

Twilight session: Awakening to the Divine in Nature Tickets, Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, East Melbourne | TryBooking Australia

Thursday, 21st November 2024 Day:

Time: 5.45 pm to 7.45 pm.

Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre, 362 Albert Street, Venue:

East Melbourne

Price: \$40 (Light refreshments provided at 5.30 pm)

For further information, please refer to the flyer on the noticeboard in the Gathering Space.

JUBILEE 2025

HOPE Reign:

Archdiocesan Celebration

Sunday 24 November 2024 (Feast of Christ the King), 11am St Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne

All are invited to the 11am Mass at the Cathedral as we celebrate the end of the Year of Prayer and look towards the beginning of Year of Jubilee 2025. Each parish and community are invited to send representatives where they will be commissioned to share the joy of the upcoming Jubilee Year in their



'One year to go' until ACYF

Sunday 24 November, 12 noon - 2pm

Straight after Mass, our celebrations continue in the Cathedral grounds as we mark 'one year to go' until the Australian Catholic Youth Festival which will be held right here in Melbourne in late 2025. Join us for this mini-festival with food, live music, activities and fun!

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

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading Second Reading

Daniel 12: 1-3

A reading from the prophet Daniel

When that time comes your own people will be spared.

Like the New Testament book of Revelation, that of Daniel is classified as an apocalypse. This term refers to writings that use visions, dreams and coded symbols to encourage people suffering persecution. Often depicting cosmic-scale upheaval and warfare, they promise the ultimate victory of good over evil and the vindication of the just. Their perspective is long-range, but their aim is to boost morale in the here-and-now. Jesus himself engages in apocalyptic talk before his passion and death.

The persecution in question is that of the Jewish people by the Syrian king Antiochus IV Epiphanes who desecrated the Temple and its altar around the year 167 BC. Daniel presents Michael (named again in Rev 12:7) as a celestial warrior-prince guarding the people. The martyrdom of Jewish conscientious objectors gave strength to an emerging belief in the resurrection of the dead. This passage from Daniel contains one of the Old Testament's most explicit references to it. Interestingly, it states that both just and unjust will awaken to an everlasting existence of life or shame, but not all of them.

Hebrews 10: 11-14, 18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified.

Our final excerpt for this year from the letter to the Hebrews (we hear in Year C from chapters 11-12) restates a core theme of the work. Christ's self-sacrifice is an offering made onceand-for-all. It has accomplished its purpose. It is all-sufficient. It never needs to be repeated or supplemented. By contrast, offerings under the old system were and remain ineffective, no matter how often they are made.

All the same, while sin has been definitively forgiven, the victory won by Christ has still to be played out in time. While earthly life continues, the work of overcoming Christ's enemies and of sanctifying the faithful continues.

This reading is more straightforward and simply expressed than some of the earlier passages, even as it provides plenty of grist for the theological mill.

Taken from "Break Open the Word"

Social Justice and the lead-up to Advent on 1st December

The Advent journey which commences on December 1st marks the beginning of a new Liturgical year (Year C). It's a focused annual opportunity in anticipation of 'Christmas' to review and renew our faith, and the mission we're called to follow. The first week of Advent routinely focuses on the key theme of 'Hope', and the overall theme this year described in the helpful blue booklets available in the Gathering Space is "Hope Reigns"! Given the misery and gloom currently prevailing across the world, how can we be hopeful? Yet there are many ways, and for almost each of the issues there is at least some glimmer of hope, which relies on actions we choose to take, to the extent we can. We've certainly mentioned very good responses to local appeals for help, and generous donations to various help agencies. Perhaps there's more still we might be able to do, privately or collectively? Lead-up to our Advent journeys is an excellent pre-opportunity to self-explore some of these issues? *- John Costa SJA*

