



St Kevin's Catholic Parish

26-44 Herlihys Road, Templestowe Lower



Mass Times

St Kevin's: 5.30pm Saturdays

8.30am and 10.00am Sundays

St Gregory the Great: 6.00pm Saturdays

9.00am, 10.30am and 5.00pm Sundays

Reconciliation at St Gregory the Great every

Saturday morning at 9.30am

Parish Priest:

Fr Charles Balnaves

Lay Ecclesial Leader:

Mrs Tiziana D'Costa

Business Manager:

Mr David Hii

Pastoral Worker:

Mrs Ana Saro

Postal Address:

PO Box 985, Templestowe 3106

Telephone: 9850 5983

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 C

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

25/26th January, 2025

Australia Day Weekend

Our Presider today is: Fr Isaac Zaki

Words From the Desk of our PP...

Australia Day:

A wonderful day, bringing to the fore all that is good and generous in the way Australia is present to the world. We celebrate being a part of helping Australia to be a place of mercy, justice, compassion, faith, hope, love (*agape*).

It is also a day of sadness for many: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders particularly given the injustice so frequently associated with European settlement. But I think also of refugees / asylum seekers / people in modern day slavery ... and all the children who die aborted.

As we celebrate this national day this Sunday, let us pray for Christ to be at the centre of everything we do, and everything our leaders / politicians / defence forces / businesses / community organisations do.

Coeliac / Low Gluten Hosts:

We have a few people who have come to me asking about low-gluten hosts, or receiving from the chalice. We have low-gluten hosts already consecrated and a second chalice can be provided when needed. Please, if you are coeliac/gluten-intolerant, see the sacristan or the presiding priest and let them know.

I am trying to train myself to always get the low-gluten hosts and have them ready for use, and I have requested our supply priests to do the same. Come and see the presiding priest at Communion to receive one of these hosts.

Adoration:

I haven't seen any problems so please don't fret but ...

I have had some question about Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and extending the hours of adoration. I am perfectly OK for this to happen – but just remember, please: when Our Lord Jesus Christ is exposed for Adoration there must ALWAYS be someone present. The exposed host can never be left unattended. Always have someone tasked to return the blessed sacrament to the tabernacle and clear up and if you somehow are unexpectedly the last and only person present find a way to return the blessed sacrament to the tabernacle before you leave.

Alpha:

There is still space – please, ask a friend who seems to need 'something' to lift them – and what better way to be lifted than to be lifted by Christ Jesus. Please call the parish office to book in on the upcoming session starting on February 19th or on one of the subsequent experiences.

God bless, Fr Charles



Australia Day

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

SUNDAY, 26TH JANUARY, 2025

Australia Day is celebrated each year on the anniversary of the first fleet from Britain landing in Sydney Cove. It is a public holiday, and the significance of the day differs amongst the nation's population.

Many Australians consider January 26 with national pride, flying the Australian flag from businesses, homes and cars. They attend festivals, fireworks, community and sporting events or gather for family barbecues at homes, parks or on the beach.

The main festivities for Australia Day always occurs on 26 January even if the public holiday is moved to an alternate date. Many people become citizens of Australia on Australia Day at Citizenship Ceremonies across the nation. It is also the day that the Australian Government awards the Order of Australia to selected Australians, which is 'an Australian society of honour for according recognition to Australian citizens and other persons for achievement or meritorious service'.

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	Masses (Baptism Present @ 10am)
Tuesday	8.15am	Adoration
	9.15am	Mass
	1.00pm	Needlecraft Group
Wednesday	10.15am	Adoration
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:

Elysia Pozzebon, Shiela O'Donoghue, Wang Wei Qiao, Nady Botrous, Michelle, Melissa Wirata, Michael Angelo Yambao, Rosanna Campagna, Gabriella Cunico, Alexandra Bateman, Alan Benn, Federico Aspromonte and Peter Ryan.

Anniversaries:

Crofton (Croft) Uniake, Jenny Henderson, Men Kong Cheng, Gerard Selleck, Roger Anthony Cheng, Patricia Wood, Jacob Cheong, Andreas (Andy) Sugeng, Frank Farmica and Alan McMillan.

Recently Deceased:

Elizabeth Brizzi

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time: We pray for peace, in Gaza and in all conflict.



Feast Days this week:...

26th January Australia Day
The liturgy marks Australia's national day with prayers seeking God's blessing on all its peoples and commending its destiny into God's hands.

28th January
St Thomas Aquinas
Remembered for his modesty, the prayerfulness of his personal life, and the abiding influence of his thought.

31st January
St John Bosco
Remembered for his cheerfulness and total trust in the providence of God.

LITURGY ROSTER

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - 25/26th January 2025

1st Read: Nehemiah 8: 2-6. 8-10 2nd Read: 1 Corinth 12: 12-30 Gospel: Luke 1: 1-4; 4: 14-21

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Daniel Marini	Bredenia Raquel	Lynne O'Brien Fiona Watson
8.30am	Erika Castro	Pamela Rivera	Frances Bettiol Pat Rowland
10.00am	Pauline Erickson	Frances Johnson	Geraldine Williams Tony Whelan

The Presentation of the Lord - 1st/2nd February 2025

1st Read: Malachi 3: 1-4 2nd Read: Hebrews 2: 14-18 Gos: Luke 2: 22-40

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Janet Parsons	Tasha Vercauteren	Anne Maguire Maryanne McNamara
8.30am	Paul Polidano		Adrian Teo
10.00am	Tony Byrne	Liz O'Connell	Kaye Byrne Raffaella Dinelli

Meditation Sessions will recommence for 2025 online via zoom on Wednesday 5th February @ 9.30am. Why not try it? Contact the Parish House for the online link. This invitation is also extended to all members of the wider parish community. All are welcome. Thank you all for joining each week throughout last year. We look forward to seeing you all again in a few weeks' time.



THERE'S A SEAT FOR YOU AT THE TABLE



Alpha
Wednesday evening at 6.30 pm
19 February to 16 April,
Plus a day retreat on Sat 29 March.

**Meals included
Free - donation welcome**

St Kevin's Parish
30 Herlihy's Road
Lower Templestowe

**To register email:
templestowe@cam.org.au; or
phone 03 9850 5983**

Find out more at
alpha.org.au

Parish BBQ & Lunar New Year Celebrations!

Join us for a BBQ to start 2025 and celebrate Lunar New Year with our fellow Parishioners



When: Sunday, 9th February after 10.30am Mass
Where: St Gregory the Great Parish
RSVP: Please email doncaster@cam.org.au
templestowe@cam.org.au
or
use the sign up sheet at the Narthex

Food and Drinks will be provided and outdoor activities for families (weather permitting)

parents and carers are requested to supervise children at all times
please email dietary requirements to doncaster@cam.org.au

BETHANY WAY RETREAT

'At the feet of Jesus: on retreat with Martha, Mary, and Lazarus

8 February 2025 12pm–4pm

Catholic Leadership Centre, 576 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

All are welcome to join for Mass at 11:30am. Lunch included.

This free retreat will introduce you to The Bethany Way—a journey of being formed in the faith and equipped to form others, whatever your field of influence. Grow to: pray more authentically, believe more deeply, articulate more clearly, love more faithfully.

RSVP BY 3 FEBRUARY www.trybooking.com/CXHY or proclaim@cam.org.au or 9926 5761



JUBILEE OF YOUTH PILGRIMAGE 2025

DATES Monday 21 July 2025 – Tuesday 5 August 2025

Itinerary 16 days / 13 nights

Turin (2 nights) | Lucca | Pisa (1 night) Florence | Siena | Assisi (3 nights) Rome—Jubilee of Youth (7 nights)

Bookings are now open for the Archdiocese of Melbourne's Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage 2025. This pilgrimage is open to Catholics aged between 18 and 30 years.

Harvest Journeys is the pilgrimage provider, and Fr Jude Johnson will accompany the pilgrims as their chaplain.

This graced and hope-filled journey will take in the towns and cities of Italy, the homes of great saints like St Francis and St Clare—and soon-to-be canonised saints Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati—before culminating in a visit to the Eternal City of Rome, where we will walk through the Holy Doors of St Peter's Basilica and participate in the Jubilee celebrations.

Embark on an incredible pilgrimage to encounter God and deepen your faith with fellow pilgrims.

Registrations for this pilgrimage will close on Friday 11 April 2025. Book now and be a pilgrim of hope!



'Marriage' with Matt and Cameron Fradd

Thursday 6 February 2025, 6.00pm–9.30pm (inc BBQ dinner)

ACU Cathedral Hall, 22 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy

Join internationally renowned speakers Matt and Cameron Fradd for an evening filled with inspiration, joy and practical wisdom on marriage. Whether you're single, engaged, newly married or have been together for decades, this event will provide insights, encouragement and laughs for everyone.

Cost: \$30 adults - \$20 concession/student

Free for children under 10

Free for priests and religious brothers and sisters



JUBILEE OF FAMILIES PILGRIMAGE 2025

DATES Tuesday 20 May – Wednesday 4 June 2025

Itinerary 16 days / 13 nights

Padua (3 nights) | Venice Ravenna | Bologna | Florence (2) Siena | Assisi (3) | Subiaco Rome—Jubilee of Families (5)

Registrations for the Archdiocese of Melbourne's 2025 Jubilee of Families pilgrimage will close on 7 February. The pilgrimage, which coincides with the Jubilee of Families, Grandparents and the Elderly, is open to all parishioners.

This graced and hope-filled journey will take in the towns and cities of Italy, the homes of great saints like St Francis and St Clare—and soon-to-be canonised saints Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati—before culminating in a visit to the Eternal City of Rome, where we will walk through the Holy Doors of St Peter's Basilica and participate in the Jubilee celebrations.

Harvest Journeys is the pilgrimage provider, and Fr Andrew McCarter will accompany the pilgrims as their chaplain.

Embark on an incredible pilgrimage to encounter God and deepen your faith with loved ones and fellow pilgrims.

For more information, contact Harvest Journeys at info@harvestjourneys.com, or call 1800 819 156.

Book now and be a pilgrim of hope! Registrations must close on Friday 7 February 2025.



Happy Lunar New Year, 29th January

The Lunar New Year in 2025 welcomes the Year of the Snake. Celebrated by millions around the world, this is a time for cultural traditions, family reunions, and hopes for good fortune in the coming year.

The Year of the Snake brings wise and intuitive energy. The Snake, symbolising wisdom and transformation, offers opportunities for personal growth and change.

This festival is celebrated worldwide, particularly in Asian countries like China. Festivities include red decorations, elaborate meals, thorough cleaning of homes and visiting family.

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

Your words, Lord,
are spirit and life.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

[Nehemiah 8: 2-6. 8-10](#)

A reading from the book of Nehemiah
They read from the book of Law and they understood what was read.

Ezra is the perfect model for readers on the parish roster – imagine your reading lasted from early morning till noon! But what is really astounding is not the length of the reading; it is what Ezra is able to call forth from the assembly. The people raise their hands in praise and bow down in adoration. He reads in such a way that the text is understood by the people. He moves them to tears.

This is a strong and dramatic narrative, filled with emotion and devotion. It emphasises the importance of the Scriptures in the spiritual life. For us Christians, it is Sunday which is the day sacred to our Lord, the day on which people have the opportunity to hear about the wonderful works that God does for us.

Second Reading

[1 Corinthians 12: 12-30](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians
Together you are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

It is good to see parts of the Bible that are funny. Paul is having great fun with this metaphor of the body and so should the assembly this week. The foot and the hand are having a conversation, the ear and the eye. What fun a cartoonist would have with these delightful visual images: *If your whole body was just one eye, how would you hear anything? If it was just one ear, how would you smell anything?* This is followed by an outrageous discussion of the way we clothe and decorate the 'least honourable' parts of the body most carefully.

What an extraordinary way to communicate the message about the way we work together, cooperatively, in the Church! There is also a strong message about the way we include and respect the weaker or more vulnerable members of the community. Ministry is mutually supportive and focussed on the good of the whole. The reading is a song to diversity and to unity.

Taken from "Break Open the Word"



Fr Anton Aseervathampillai: New Assistant Priest:

On 15th February we will welcome a new Assistant Priest for St Greg's and St Kevin's. Here below follows a brief biography in his own words:

"My name is Fr. Anton Punithakumar Aseervathampillai, but I go by Fr Anton. I was born on 4th September 1973 in Mullaitivu, the northern part of Sri Lanka. After having completed my Philosophy and Theology at St Francis Xavier's Major Seminary, Jaffna, Sri Lanka, I was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Jaffna on 23rd April 2005. I served for 3 years as an assistant priest before serving as a parish priest for 12 years in three different parishes. I came to Melbourne on 16th March 2020 as a chaplain to the Tamil speaking people from Sri Lanka, India, Malayasia and Singapore who live in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. I served for 5 years as a part-time assistant priest of St Andrew's Parish, Werribee. Serving in Doncaster & Templestowe will be my second appointment as a part-time assistant priest in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. I am so thrilled to be with you serving in ministry. As I begin my ministry with you, could I kindly request your continuous support and prayers to be a good and worthy servant of God."

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

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

