



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

Assistant Priest: Fr Anton Aseervathampillai

Business Manager: Mr David Hii

Pastoral Worker: Mrs Ana Saro

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PO Box 985, Templestowe 3106

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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

Second Sunday of Easter

26/27th April, 2025

Anzac Day Weekend - Divine Mercy Weekend

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves



Words From the Desk of our PP...

Pope Francis: RIP

I heard the news at 7 pm on Monday evening that Pope Francis had died. I was not really surprised given his health challenges recently. But I found myself gripped by a sense of loss similar to what I felt when my wife died. A keen sense of loss and also a sense that ... my life / my world has been upended. For me Pope Francis exemplified for me the call of Christ to see the good in others, to listen to the deep needs of others and to respond with care and love and mercy and justice.

Imperfect? I am sure. A sinner? He said so. A good and genuine and committed disciple of Jesus Christ our Lord: absolutely! I know you join me in praying for this soul with great hope that he is already resting in the arms of our Lord Jesus Christ. Pope Francis: Rest in Peace.

Easter Season:

Holy Week was amazing: attendance was up dramatically from last year! Praise the Lord! And your enthusiasm / prayerfulness seemed to me to be palpably more intense.

Thank you indeed, again and again. Thank you to everyone who came and joined in worship and doubly thank you to all who committed their time and talent to ensuring all our services were vibrant and vital. Sacristans, liturgy groups, singers and musicians, and all the tens and tens of people who helped in any way: thank you.

Safeguarding: Are the requirements onerous?

Yes! The compliance requirements for safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults have increased! Legislative and Archdiocesan regulations have tightened and broadened and we must comply. Sorry!

You will note the explicit addition of 'vulnerable adults' to the language. This is a good thing but does mean that many ministries that were previously only requiring a WWCC now require a Police Check (eg involvement with Children's Liturgy). The change is quite broad so very many of you have been asked or will be asked to do extra things to meet the changed requirements.

I am sorry that these increased requirements are needed, but they are needed, and I ask for your patience. You are all trustworthy people: I know that! But as with having a driving licence we need to show our capacity / suitability on an ongoing basis.

David and Ana are working hard to get our Safeguarding records up to date and expanded for these new requirements. Thank you to those who have responded already and if you haven't responded, then please do respond to their requests in a timely manner and seek their assistance if you need help to fulfill the requirements.

In listening to the radio on Wednesday, there was a man speaking about his experience and the sense of what he said was that seeing our visible efforts to implement good practices gives him some real comfort that at a working level we, the church, are serious about stopping the possibility of abuse in the future. Thank you for helping build or rebuild trust of Christ's Church among the broader community.

God bless, Fr Charles. Alleluia, Alleluia!!!

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	Masses
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
Thursday	8.15am	Adoration
	9.15am	Mass
Friday	9.30am	Adoration at St Gregory the Great Church
Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	



We pray for Better Health:

Elysia Pozzebon, Wang Wei Qiao, Michelle, Melissa Wirata, Michael Angelo Yambao, Rosanna Campagna, Gabriella Cunico, Alexandra Bateman, Alan Benn, Federico Aspromonte, Peter Ryan, Anton Urbas, Rosemarie Cameron, Eugenia Pozzebon, Dr Noel Smyth, Aileen Kent, Ruth Shiel, Fr Frank Maloney and Rachel Hally.

Anniversaries:

Domenico Iracono, Maria Iacono, Kevin Steven Cheng Su Kong, Maria Mandile, Roberto Milanese, Anthony Smyth, Gonzalo Seno and José Enrico Seno.

Recently Deceased:

Nady Botrous and Jim McGill

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for Easter Week:

For the repose of the soul of Pope Francis and for the College of Cardinals in electing a new Pope.



Feast Days this week:...

28th April St Peter Chanel
Honoured as the first martyr of the Church in Oceania.

29th April St Catherine of Siena
Remembered for her holiness and determination and though she never learned to write, for the quality of her teachings. Remembered as a mystic and a reformer of religious life.

2nd May St Athanasius
Sent into exile a number of times. Venerated as the 'Father of Orthodoxy' for championing the true and equal divinity of the incarnate Son of God.

3rd May Ss Philip and James
Philip, from Bethsaida, became a disciple of Jesus and one of the twelve. James, son of Alphaeus, was also one of the twelve called by Jesus.

LITURGY ROSTER

Second Sunday of Easter – 26/27th April 2025

1st Read: Acts 5: 12-16 2nd Read: Apocalypse 1: 9-13, 17-19 Gos: John 20: 19-31

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Fiona Watson	Margaret Turner	Lawrence Ceconello Lynne O'Brien
8.30am	Frank Ozzimo	Pamela Rivera	Frances Bettiol Penny Teo
10.00am	Carmel Purdey	Jessica Bartholomeusz	Lyn Murphy Carmel Shiel

Third Sunday of Easter – 3rd/4th May 2025

1st Read: Acts 5: 27-32, 40-41 2nd Read: Apocalypse 5: 11-14 Gos: John 21: 1-19

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Janet Parsons	Kathy Pearce	Maryanne McNamara Anne Maguire
8.30am	Paul Polidano		Liz Polidano Mary Waddick
10.00am	Pauline Erickson	Bernard Butler	Raffaella Dinelli Tony Whelan

St Kevin's Columbarium: (Status)

We are required to obtain a Council Permit, which takes some time to obtain, and we don't have a full design yet, so we are not ready to start a waiting list / take formal bookings for spaces. Once we have the proper plans in place we will begin a formal process for reserving spaces and paying for them.

In the meantime, if you may be interested in having your cremated remains or the remains of family/friends interred outside the church, please let us know. Having your name / needs as an expression of interest will help us to know how to stage construction and will also help us show Council that there is significant demand. Call or email the office Ph 9850 5983; email templestowe@cam.org.au

ANZAC Day 2025



An ANZAC Mass for veterans and services men and women with Keith Wolahan MP will be celebrated this Sunday morning at 10.00am. Lest We Forget.



Attention all Mass volunteers.

By now you should have received by email, your dates and other information for the new roster beginning the first weekend in May. Please diarise those dates so that you know well ahead of time in order to arrange a swap if needed. If you haven't received your email, please contact Pauline on 0407 824 638.



POPE FRANCIS

Jorge Mario Bergoglio

17 December 1936

21 April 2025

*May he
Rest in Peace*

A life of Mercy, Hope and Joy

Today we share in the sorrow of billions of people around the world as we mourn the death of Pope Francis. The Holy Father died on Easter Monday, only hours after blessing the crowds who had gathered in St Peter's Square on Easter Day. It is especially poignant that we are giving thanks for the life of Pope Francis at Easter, a fitting time to remember a man whose inspiring life and papacy were so marked by hope, joy and mercy.

A special Mass will be celebrated for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis on Monday, 28th April at 7pm at St Gregory the Great Church.

May the peace of the risen Christ be with us all as we remember and pray for Pope Francis in the coming days and weeks.

Australian Catholics Mourn Pope Francis

Australian Catholic Bishops Conference President Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB says Pope Francis will be remembered as a man of simplicity, humility and compassion.

Pope Francis, born Jorge Mario Bergoglio, became the first non-European pope in centuries, the first Latin American pope, the first Jesuit pope and the first to take the name Francis when he was elected to succeed Pope Benedict XVI in 2013.

'The sad news of the death of Pope Francis, while it does not come as a surprise given his age and his declining health in recent years, will be received with great sadness by Catholics, and by people of good will, all over the world,' Archbishop Costelloe said.

'When Cardinal Bergoglio appeared on the balcony overlooking St Peter's Square on 14 March 2013, and was introduced to the world as the newly elected Pope Francis, his simplicity and humility set the tone for a papacy which would be marked by an emphasis on the mercy and compassion of God, and on the Church's vocation to be a sign and bearer of that merciful love in an increasingly troubled world.

'His famous description of the Church as a field hospital where wounds could be healed and hearts could be warmed was a call to a renewal of the Church's life and mission, grounded in a return to Christ as the source and inspiration of everything the Church sought to do and to be.

'The 12 years of the papacy of Pope Francis were not without controversy. His constant call that the Church should be open to everybody caused some to fear that he was putting at risk the integrity of the Church's faith and moral teaching.

'He himself insisted, however, that he was "a loyal son of the Church" who, in recognising his own sinfulness, had come to understand that it was the task of the Church, as it was the task of Christ, to embrace people in their brokenness and fragility and lead them to healing and wholeness.'

Archbishop Costelloe got to know Pope Francis better over the past couple of years in his roles as president of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia and as a key figure in supporting the Synod on Synodality.

'While the Catholic Church, and indeed the whole world, will now turn its attention to the election of a new pope, faithful Catholics will also be praying for Pope Francis, that the mercy and compassion of God which he proclaimed to the world will now embrace him as he enters into the mystery of eternal life,' Archbishop Costelloe said.

'They will also join with so many others around the world who will remember with gratitude the simple goodness of a humble man who was ready to make of his whole life a gift of love and service, not just for his fellow Catholics but for everybody.

'May he rest in peace.'

The process of the election of a new pope will unfold in the coming days and weeks.

Cardinal Mykola Bychok CSsR, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saints Peter and Paul, will be the sole attendee from Australia at the conclave.

Australian Church and civic representatives are expected to travel to Rome for Pope Francis' funeral.

Mass Count As we enter the month of May it is time for our Annual Mass Count. Please consider assisting with counting the number of Mass attendees. Counters are requested to count the number of folk who are at Mass. Counting sheets will be provided on the bench in the sacristy near the money bags.



Our next **Parish Bookish Morning Tea** will be held on **Thursday, 8th May** at 10.00am and continues every fortnight.



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



The next **St Kevin's Men's Social Group** takes place on **Friday, 9th May @ 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 contact the parish office on 9850 5983, or email templestowe@cam.org.au

Jubilee Year: "Hope does not disappoint" – Being Pilgrims of Hope:

A Pilgrims of Hope prayer card is now available for you to take: pick up your copy from the gathering space.

With the Parish Pastoral Council and Liturgy Group, we seek to bring this truth of being Pilgrims of Hope into everything we do. This truth informs and enlivens all that we seek to implement as disciples of Christ to the world around us.



For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE SECOND SUNDAY OF SUNDAY

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 5:12-16

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily.

The Acts of the Apostles takes up the story of the early Church after the Gospels end with Jesus' death and resurrection. In the early chapters, there are several vignettes giving an overview of the earliest Christian communities. This is the third of them.

They give an idealised picture of the Church which needs to be complemented by Paul's candid critique of the problems and struggles in the Churches he founded. Notwithstanding any factions, jealousy or failings, these overviews focus on the positives and inspire us with what is possible.

In this vignette, the community is growing and is widely praised. It is presented as continuing the ministry of Jesus, especially his healing ministry among the sick and troubled. Let it inspire and encourage you.

Second Reading

Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever.

This is the first of five Second Readings which are taken from the Book of Revelation or the Apocalypse. Probably written by a disciple of John (not John himself), it is addressed to a persecuted Church to give them hope.

It is a highly imaginative work that needs to be proclaimed and heard in the mode of poetic fantasy or legend. Its visions and symbols evoke the cosmic battle between good and evil and assure the Christian community of the ultimate triumph of good.

Interpretation of this book will be misleading and mistaken if one attempts to apply it to recent or current events. It is best not to try to give specific meaning to particular details.

Today's reading describes the risen Christ in glory: he is the Living One. *As we said when we marked the design on the Easter Candle: Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and the Omega. All time belongs to him and all the ages. To him be glory and power through every age and forever.*

Taken from 'Break Open the Word'

'Francis' - a humble and timely power in our Church and changing world, elevating our Christ given faith and social justice values

Just when the Church most needed to change in today's disturbing world, Pope Francis came along, and like the original Church at its beginnings, and in the Spirit of Vatican II, deliberately brought with him all of the people of the Church - the 'People of God'. As most of us will recall, people in St Kevin's Parish, my former Parish in Ivanhoe, many other Parishes, organisations and individuals around Australia and the whole world have already had an important opportunity together to prayerfully discern and collectively express what we believe "God is Calling us to make our Church today". Under Pope Francis these inputs at long last have resulted in a *totally new operational process across our global Church*, formalised at the Synod on Synodality which concluded in October 2024. That process now enables our Church, that is now collectively the People of God, together into the future, to progressively address many of the issues previously identified though not yet resolved, together with new issues ever arising in a fast changing, more self centred, uncertain, competitive world, amidst ongoing new discoveries and learnings. All this exists amidst a more desperate global environment, with associated growing need for peace, equality, justice, healing, inclusion, sharing, respect, and love.

The papal name choice 'Francis', conspicuously and directly reflected and encouraged the Church mission, powerfully demonstrated by St Francis of Assisi in respecting the natural environment, humbly supporting and caring for its creatures, the poor, needy, displaced, disadvantaged, excluded, and the sick. This is further challenged by intimately associated environmental and climate change, population growth and increasing power consumption. These values underlie the whole of Catholic Social Justice. Within our looted Parish resources these also provide a basis and focus for our Social Justice Action group. It was similarly for this reason that as a schoolboy in Ballarat long ago I chose the confirmation name 'Francis'. Thank You Pope Francis for lovingly and powerfully living and encouraging these values across the whole world. Within the Church may the new process of synodality that grew out of the 5th Australian Plenary Council and subsequent Synod on Synodality prevail, and its essential work continue. May you now Rest in well earned Peace.

- John Costa SJA

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

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