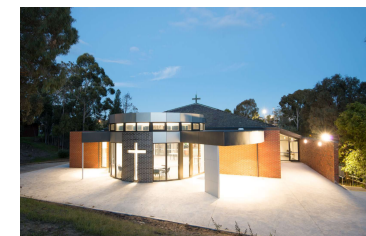




St Kevin's Catholic Parish

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

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

Second Sunday of Lent

15/16th March, 2025

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves



Words From the Desk of our PP...

Lent: A brief reflection

I had the privilege of hearing the confessions of a whole range of people who came to the Six30 Adoration session on last Thursday evening at St Patrick's Cathedral. It was a truly graced time. I have no idea who they were. I saw nothing of the Adoration (I heard a little singing through the sound insulation but no more).

But ...

I was struck again and again how much people love Jesus, and by how much his forgiveness means to them. Over and over. Every single person: loves Jesus. Yes, they were confessing sins but the sorrow in their voices showed their love of Jesus. It is amazing.

At a superficial level just about everyone who came to me came with similar sins. The same sorts of weaknesses that were present in the New Testament. The same sorts of weaknesses I hear in the parish. Variations – occasional surprises. But very similar.

Yet, despite the similarities, each person was unique. As I heard a little of the struggle for each person, I realised again and again that it was THEIR struggle. Jesus is walking with each of them personally. We are a community in Christ Jesus, and we must remain a community of the body of Christ if we cease to be Christian. But ... at the same time I am not just a part of a mob – I am myself and Jesus loves ME, and journeys with ME.

Our journey in faith through Lent this year may look similar to the journey of others, just as our sinfulness may look similar. But each of us has a path that is unique, a unique path for a unique person made in the Image of God, accompanied by Christ, and guided by the Holy Spirit. Exciting isn't it! And doubly so because Easter is just around the corner.

PS: take a few Project Compassion boxes and fill them up.

Melbourne Octet: Just five days away from Sunday. Friday 21st March 7:00-8:00 pm

The Melbourne Octet will lead us in song along with some parishioners and myself with reflections and prayers.

“A Meditation on the Cross – the Way into Hope”

Please Sign up on the sign up sheet or use the QR code.

God bless, Fr Charles.



Second Sunday of Lent
15th and 16th of March 2025

Toefuata'iga - (*Toy-foo-ah-tah-ing-ah*) a primary school student from Samoa faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her primary school now has a 10,000 L water tank. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education.



Please donate today. You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion **Or by calling:** 1800 024 413

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	Masses
Monday	8.30am	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	
Thursday	8.15am	Adoration
	9.15am	Mass
	9.45am	Lenten Program
Friday	9.30am	Adoration at St Gregory the Great Church
Saturday	5.30pm	Mass



We pray for Better Health:


Georgette Ayoub, Elysia Pozzebon, Shiela O'Donoghue, Wang Wei Qiao, Nady Botrous, Michelle, Melissa Wirata, Michael Angelo Yambao, Rosanna Campagna, Gabriella Cunico, Alexandra Bateman, Federico Aspromonte, Peter Ryan, Anton Urbas, Rosemarie Cameron, Eugenia Pozzebon, Luisa Yambao, Dr Noel Smyth, Aileen Kent, Ruth Shiel and Fr Frank Maloney.

Anniversaries:

Augusta Gianninni, Eileen Lescai, Lindsey Hulm, Betty McClusky, Margaret Lee, Jean Lawrey-York, Peter William Hughes, James Gregory, Margaret Mangan and Tony Fitzsimons

Recently Deceased:

Dennis Berdekovic

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for the Second Sunday of Lent: That the children receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the coming week will truly know the loving mercy and forgiveness and warm hugs of God's forgiveness. 

Feast Days this week:

17th March St Patrick
Specially honoured in Australia because the many Irish people who came to settle here brought with them the faith and zeal of St Patrick.

19th March St Joseph
A carpenter, though born of the royal house of David, 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

Second Sunday of Lent – 15/16th March 2025

1st Read: Genesis 15: 5-12, 17-18 27: 4-7 2nd Read: Philippians 3: 17-4: 1 Gos: Luke 9: 28-36

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Janet Parsons	Tasha Vercauteren	Anne Maguire Lynne O'Brien
8.30am	Frank Ozzimo	Pauline Erickson	Frances Bettiol Penny Teo
10.00am	Vianney Shiel	Miriam Ayoub	Raffaella Dinelli Tony Whelan

Third Sunday of Lent – 22nd/23rd March 2025

1st Read: Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15 2nd Read: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-6, 10-12 Gos: Luke 13: 1-9

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Rachel Marini	Christine Marini	Lawrence Ceconello Bredenia Raquel
8.30am	Erika Castro	Pamela Rivera	Mary Waddick Pat Rowland
10.00am	Frances Johnson	Carmel Shiel	Lyn Murphy Raffaella Dinelli



Children's Reconciliation

Our following parish children will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation this week:

Hayley Rochester-Jones	Olivia Fusco	Luka Nardelli	Azalia Scutella	Sena Cannon
Nicholas Kral	Matthew Crimi	Rian Molloy	Orlando De Angelis	Valentino Del Monaco
Charlotte Mens	Oliver Mens	Sebastian Gavan	Chloe Montuoro	Antony Alescio

Let us maintain our prayers for them as they continue to travel along the path of their faith journey.

Calling all volunteers for Holy Week

If you are a Mass volunteer, you would have received an email about your availability for the Holy Week services. Please complete the form via the provided link as soon as possible to enable our Liturgy team to prepare for the services. Thank you!

World Day of Prayer

Dear Parishioners, the World Day of Prayer Committee and myself would sincerely like to thank all who came to pray together with our Manningham neighbours and Cook Island visitors. Also, a special thanks to those who helped to provide such a delicious supper and to present it so well and to those who collected the offering of \$872.10 to support the Cook Island community. Carmel.

Feast Days and Days of Solemnity

On **Monday, 17th March**, we celebrate the **Feast Day of St Patrick.**

Masses will be celebrated on this day at St Kevin's at 9.15am and at St Gregory the Great Church at 7.30pm.

On **Wednesday, 19th March**, we celebrate the **Feast Day of St Joseph.**

Mass will be celebrated on this day at St Gregory the Great Church at 9.00am.

On **Tuesday, 25th March**, we celebrate the **Feast of the Annunciation.**

Masses will be celebrated on this day at St Kevin's at 9.15am and at St Gregory the Great Church at 7.30pm.



BOOKISH MORNING TEA

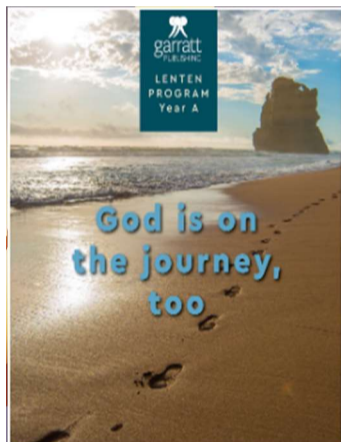
Our next Bookish Morning Tea is scheduled for Thursday 20th March. All are welcome to come to the Parish House on this morning at 10.30am for a chat, browse through the book swap library and a delicious morning tea! Hope to see you there!!!



**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.



Our weekly Lenten Program in St Kevin's Chapel continues every Thursday morning directly after the 9.15am Mass. This program is guided by our Lay Ecclesial Leader, Tiziana D'Costa, who uses the Lenten Program booklet written by Fr Christopher Monaghan, a Passionist Priest. 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.

Stations of the Cross are conducted every Friday evening during Lent at 7.00pm at St Gregory the Great Church, 71 Williamsons Road, Doncaster.



BE UPLIFTED IN YOUR LENTEN JOURNEY
BY THE BEAUTIFUL VOICES OF THE
MELBOURNE OCTET

A MEDITATION ON THE CROSS
THE WAY INTO HOPE

FRIDAY, 21 MARCH • 7-8PM
ST GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC CHURCH
71 WILLIAMSONS RD. DONCASTER
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OR CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE 9412 8425 | DONCASTER@CAM.ORG.AU
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE OCTET, VISIT WWW.MELBOURNEOCTET.COM

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.

Thank you.

Jubilee Year: "Hope does not disappoint"

– Being Pilgrims of Hope:

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

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

[Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18](#)

A reading from the book of Genesis

God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

A covenant is a solemn agreement, a mutual pact. The covenant of the old law was: I will be your God and you will be my people. God looks after us and we live by God's law. In Christ, a new relationship with God is established for the human race by Jesus' death and resurrection.

In this strange and mysterious story, Abraham offers in sacrifice a heifer, a goat and a ram with a couple of birds. God receives the offering after sunset with smoke and fire, and Abraham 'knows' in a fearsome dream that a covenant has been established. The new covenant established by Christ is not sealed with the blood of animals but by the blood of the cross. *This is my body which will be given up for you... This is the chalice of my blood, the blood of the new and eternal covenant which will be poured out for you...*

The glory of the resurrection is our promised land, our destiny and destination, if we are one with Christ.

Second Reading

[Philippians 3:17 - 4:1](#)

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians
Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.*

The shorter version of this reading is known by many as a funeral reading. Our homeland, our destiny, is heaven where we will be transfigured to share in the glory of the risen Christ. This section relates directly to the story of the Transfiguration which follows in the gospel. Paul makes it clear that this is something we are all meant to share by the gracious power of Christ the saviour.

The first section of the reading which makes up the longer version is helpful in presenting the contrast - some think earthly things are the most important whereas, for us, our homeland is in heaven. However, the section is quite difficult to understand and may prove a distraction from the simpler and more direct presentation of our transformation in Christ.

Taken from "Break Open the Word"

A Lenten thought - so little can mean so much

(Edited extracts from CathNews, 12 March 2025) *"Caritas Australia's Project Compassion campaign this weekend highlights the significance that simple access to clean water has. Toefuata'iga is 13 years old and lives in Samoa, where access to clean water is a daily struggle. Despite Samoa being surrounded by water, her school experienced water shortages that threatened both the health and education of its students. Water shortages meant teachers have to leave the school to fetch water from nearby homes, or end classes early as children have no water to drink and no way to wash their hands. Many students also miss periods of schooling as they would repeatedly contract waterborne diseases. These shortages were due to a vulnerable pipeline system frequently shut down due to natural disasters and disrepair, leaving many communities relying on rainwater capture. Dry periods and unpredictable weather caused by climate change meant that Toefuata'iga's community, and her education, had reached a crisis point. Through the support of Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters, Caritas Australia was able to partner with Caritas Samoa to support Toefuata'iga's school. A 10,000-litre water tank installed at the school stores enough clean water for the school's 300-plus students and teachers. This ensures the school can remain open, with students staying hydrated and well. "When we opened our water tank, the parents were really happy, they were over the moon. Now they don't need to send the children home early, and can keep up with our lessons. "It's made such a difference," the school's principal, Ada, said. Access to water is more than just a convenience, it enables education, which is key to breaking the cycle of poverty." Our Parish and School previously funded a Water Tank for Loyo - a sister Elementary School in the Philippines. - 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.