



# 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

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Website: [stkevinsparish.org.au](http://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 of Lent

22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2025

**Our Presider today is:** Fr Anton Aseervathampillai

### Words From the Desk of our PP...

**St Charles Borromeo School:** The last children finished at St Charles Borromeo School this past Friday and nearly all the staff have new roles. Many of the students and some of the staff have moved to St Kevin's school: we welcome them warmly into their new community and ask the Holy Spirit to fill their hearts with hope.

A week ago, I had a meeting with the school principal and senior managers from Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools. They confirmed the timing for closure and that the site will be well protected with frequent patrols. We also discussed the future of the premises. It was confirmed that there is no sensible way to seek to reopen the school just as it has been (obvious I think, but worth stating). What also became evident is that there is real investigation being done around possibilities for the future of the site as a different sort of school. It will take time to properly develop options, but I am cautiously optimistic about the future.

**Reconciliation:** Congratulations! All of our grade three children who wish to do so have received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time during this past week. And we now pray for them as they prepare for receiving Holy Communion for the first time in a few months.

One of the elements of what happens as we celebrate the sacrament, is that the parent (or parents) will introduce the child and tell me some beautiful things about their child. I ask for one thing that is good, but parents can never stop there – they see so much good in their child and are bursting with joy and pride for their child and want to share all that they see so usually I hear about six or seven things and have to call a halt. It is a beautiful moment, as is the Sacrament itself.

And it strikes me that this parental pride and joy is how God is only more so. We turn to Jesus recognising and weighed down with our sinfulness, whatever it is that we have done, and Jesus almost speaks over us to say "I love you and can see all the wonderfulness that is created in you." We are asked by God to seek to grow the good.

As we journey through Lent, I encourage you to grow the Good come and participate in this wonderful Sacrament, individually or via the Reconciliation Service on April 10th at 7:30 pm at St Gregory the Great.

God bless, Fr Charles.



Third Sunday of Lent  
22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of March 2025

**Lam** is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Through the I-SHINE program Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income.



**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](http://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:

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, Peter Ryan, Anton Urbas, Rosemarie Cameron, Eugenia Pozzebon, Luisa Yambao, Dr Noel Smyth, Aileen Kent, Ruth Shiel and Fr Frank Maloney.

## Anniversaries:

Maria De Luca, Ralph De Souza, Joe Malone, Rita Skubal, Nancy & Joseph Amalfi, Victor Liew, Tanya Balnaves, Julie Batanta and Dorothy De Goldi.

Recently Deceased: Sandra Izard, Joseph Teo.

## **Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for the Third Sunday of Lent:**

For our Alpha participants as they approach their retreat day on 29th March.



## **Feast Days this week:...**

### **25<sup>th</sup> March**

The Annunciation of the Lord

*This feast originated in the East during the sixth century and gained universal observance in the West during the eighth century. It is a feast of the Lord, commemorating the announcement to the Virgin Mary of the Word made flesh, Mary's acceptance of God's will and the conception of Christ nine months before Christmas. Its occurrence close to Easter links the incarnation with the whole mystery of human redemption in Christ.*

## LITURGY ROSTER

### Third Sunday of Lent – 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

**1<sup>st</sup> Read: Exodus 3: 1-8, 13-15 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

### Fourth Sunday of Lent – 29/30<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**1<sup>st</sup> Read: Joshua 5: 9-12 2<sup>nd</sup> Read: 2 Corinthians 5: 17-21 Gos: Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32**

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Fiona Watson	Kathy Pearce	Maryanne McNamara Margaret Turner
8.30am	Jessica Bartholomeusz		Adrian Teo Pat Rowland
10.00am	Vianney Shiel	Pauline Erickson	Tony Robinson Lyn Robinson

## EASTER TIMETABLE 2024

10 <sup>th</sup> April:	Communal Penance Service at 7.30pm – St Gregory the Great, Doncaster	
12 <sup>th</sup> /13 <sup>th</sup> April:	Palm Sunday – Masses as per usual	
17 <sup>th</sup> April:	Holy Thursday – Mass at 7.30pm	
18 <sup>th</sup> April:	Good Friday – Stations of the Cross @ at 10.00am – St Gregory the Great – Passion of our Lord @ 3.00pm – St Gregory the Great and St Kevin's	
19 <sup>th</sup> April:	Easter Vigil	Masses @ 6.30pm – St Gregory the Great      8.30pm – St Kevin's
20 <sup>th</sup> April:	Easter Sunday Masses @ 8.30 and 10.00am	



## World Day of Prayer

We received a letter recently from Mary Whincup, convenor for World Day of Prayer in our area. She says: Thank you!! Thank you to St Kevin's as a parish, to Carmel Shiel as the organiser, to the ladies who helped with food, collection, to me, and so much more. And I also say thank you to everyone including all who came along, well over 100 people. The Holy Spirit was present as we learned a little more about the Cook Islands and their challenges of with domestic abuse.

## SAVE THE DATE: Morning Tea on Sunday, 13 April

Join us for morning tea after 10 am mass on Sunday, 13 April to thank and farewell our lay ecclesial leader, Tiziana D'Costa.

*Thank you!*

## Feast Days and Days of Solemnity

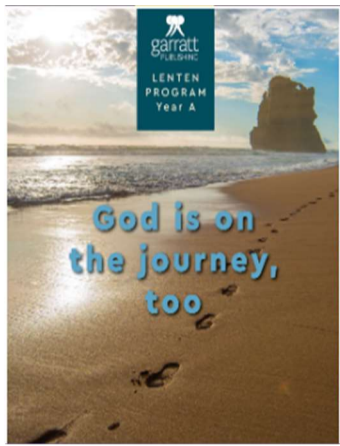
On **Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March**, we celebrate the  
**Feast of the Annunciation.**

Masses will be celebrated on this day at St Kevin's at 9.15am  
and at St Gregory the Great Church at 7.00pm.



### BOOKISH MORNING TEA

Our next Bookish Morning Tea is scheduled for  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. 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!!!



**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.



### Thanksgiving Envelopes

Thanksgiving envelopes are now available for collection in the gathering space.

In addition, for credit card and debit givers there is also a donation record for the period from 1 September 2024 to 28 February 2025. Please collect this record, if it applies to you. The records are in a box next to the thanksgiving envelopes.

The Parish saves on postage costs when the envelopes and donations records are collected from the gathering space.

Our sincere thanks for your continued support of our thanksgiving program.

### Parish Lenten Communal Penance Service

Will be held on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> April at  
7.30pm at St Gregory the Great Church,  
71 Williamsons Road, Doncaster.



### St Patrick's Day Mass

We got into the spirit of St Patrick's Day Mass on Monday 17 March. In the photo, here is Fr Anton donning a leprechaun mask!

### Jubilee Year: "Hope does not disappoint"

#### – Being Pilgrims of Hope:

With the Parish Pastoral Council and Liturgy Group, we share 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 merciful and gracious.

### Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord hear our prayer.

**REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF  
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**

**First Reading**

**Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15**

A reading from the book of Exodus

*This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.*

Moses was born under an oppressive regime in Egypt. Hidden in a basket in the reeds by a river, he was found and given protection by the Pharaoh's daughter. As an adult, he was caught up in the persecution and he fled across the border to the north-east. He ends up as a shepherd and it is here that he has an extraordinary experience of the sacred.

He encounters God in the mysterious burning bush. He takes off his shoes and covers his face. The God who is revealed to him is, as the psalm will say, 'compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy'. God has seen the sufferings of the chosen people and wants to deliver them from oppression and slavery.

Then comes the crunch for Moses. God is sending him back to Egypt to liberate the people and to bring them to the proverbial 'land of milk and honey'. (We will hear the story of how Moses leads them across the Red Sea at the Easter Vigil.)

The final paragraph will convey both Moses' determination and his nervousness in responding to God's commission.

**Second Reading**

**1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

*All this that happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.*

Following on from the story of Moses in the first reading, this text from Paul again makes use of the figure of Moses, but this time taking the period after the Exodus when the people spend forty years in the desert.

Paul reminds the Church at Corinth of God's gifts to their ancestors: they were led through the Red Sea, guided by a cloud, fed with manna and provided with water from the rock. He links these with baptism, Eucharist and Christ.

Paul wants to combat their competitiveness and their pride in their gifts by encouraging thankfulness to God. He refers to the destructive errors and complaints of the people of the exodus and uses it as a warning. We need to trust in God and rely on God's mercy.

There are some strong negative words in this text (corpses littering the desert, wicked lusts for forbidden things, killed by the Destroyer). However, the aim of the reading is positive to trust in God, to repent and to show gratitude.

*Taken from "Break Open the Word"*

**A Lenten Reflection - Revisiting and Progressing Beyond the Past?**

One of the curious and paradoxical things about life is that the more we learn the more we discover there is to learn. Partly that's because the volume of recorded history and other data, complete with variations and discrepancies, is increasing dramatically, and also subject to potential new inaccuracies, distortions or even mis-truths. There are also new developments, faster growing populations, and greater need to share resources and minimise inequalities. As complexity grows, humans compete more, and behaviour evolves accordingly. Partly it's also because of what we continually learn, including from science (e.g the earth is not flat), space, psychology, and human behaviour in a more connected world. That's not a situation for despair, but rather an opportunity and need to collectively discern, based on new understandings, openness to change, together with faith and traditional values (which for some are the same). Australia recently suffered an unsuccessful and painful constitutional campaign for "The Voice", attempting to narrow the gap between first nations people and wider Australian society. **More** recent government data sadly highlights an *increasing gap* for key social-equality measures such as health, incarceration and education. In one small way at least, our Parish can be encouraged that our recent 2nd Collection campaign for Opening The Door Foundation has contributed towards "giving Koori kids an education of their Choice", by raising \$1,266.30 this year. In a small though real way, Parish 2nd Collections progressively contribute to a wide range of significant social needs. For this third weekend of Lent the 2nd Collection for Caritas Australia shares a very uplifting story of LAM, whose many struggles extend far beyond the physical disability he was born with and impressively overcame. Contributing money as a Parish is just one possible response to our faith mission to "do unto others as we would have them do unto us". We invite you to suggest other non-financial ways our Parish might help improve equality and justice. What do you think? - **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.

