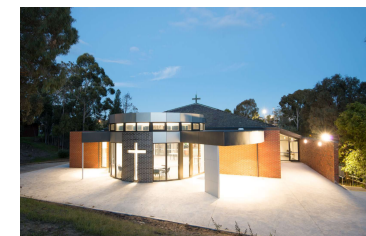




# St Kevin's Catholic Parish

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](mailto:templestowe@cam.org.au)

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent

5/6<sup>th</sup> April, 2025

Baptism Presentation Weekend

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



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

**Mass of Holy Oils / Chrism Mass:** Each year the oils used in the sacraments of anointing, baptism, confirmation and ordination are blessed or consecrated at a Mass concelebrated by most of the priests of the archdiocese, including me, who reaffirm their priestly promises. You are invited to come along and join this beautiful moment.

The Mass will be held at 10 am on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April at St Patrick's Cathedral.

### Australian Bishops: Election statement

The bishops of Australia have issued a brief statement giving guidance around the forthcoming election. It isn't a pitch for a party but a guide for forming our decisions, based in essential Gospel values. You can find the document at

<https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Election-Statement-2025>

Or, there are some printed copies available.

### Pilgrims of Hope:

As a part of the current Jubilee Year, many weekends have been assigned a Jubilee for particular areas (eg: April 25-27 is the Jubilee of Teenagers).

You can see the list of Jubilees at <https://pilgrimsofhope.catholic.org.au/category/resources/>

If there is a weekend / a focus of Jubilee that is particularly important to you, let me know and we can look ahead and seek to give special focus beyond the mention we have been making in the Prayer of the Faithful each week.

### Corpus Christi Jubilee Procession – Save The Date

Our seminary invites parishes, communities, and all the faithful to join the annual Corpus Christi Procession as we journey through the streets of inner-city Melbourne, bearing hopeful witness to our Lord on Sunday 22 June 2025. In this Year of Jubilee, we extend an invitation to all parishes and communities to gather a representative group to take part.

Perhaps put aside the date -there will be details of timing for this event as it approaches.

### Religious Education in our Schools

A Reference Group was set up some months ago to oversee development of a new Religious Education curriculum for our schools, a curriculum that engages both the head and the heart of our children in our Catholic Schools (and beyond). Please keep this group in your prayers as they seek to improve the effectiveness of how we teach and witness to our faith in Christ Jesus our Lord.

*God bless, Fr Charles*



**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**

The life-changing work of Caritas Australia is only made possible by the unwavering generosity of our supporters and the dedication of our local partners on the ground. Our partners are the true heroes, working tirelessly on the frontlines every day to transform lives and build brighter, more hopeful futures for these communities.

**Fifth Sunday of Lent**  
5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of April 2025

**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
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 Reflection
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, 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, Fr Frank Maloney, Anne Materazzo and Pirrie Shiel.

## Anniversaries:

Esther Ronay, Paolo Mazzetti, Patricia Mary Tan, Pauline Maloney, Ennio Andrea Raiola, Franco Paolucci and John Driver.

## Recently Deceased:

**Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for the Fifth Sunday of Lent:** For our parish as we journey towards Holy Week and our celebration of the Resurrection.



## LITURGY ROSTER

### Fifth Sunday of Lent – 5/6<sup>th</sup> April 2025

1<sup>st</sup> Read: Isaiah 43: 16-21 2<sup>nd</sup> Read: Philippians 3: 8-14 Gos: John 8: 1-11

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Daniel Marini	Rachel Marini	Anne Maguire Lynne O'Brien
8.30am	Paul Polidano		Mary Waddick Pat Rowland
10.00am	Tony Byrne	Bernard Butler	Kaye Byrne Geraldine Williams

### Palm Sunday – 12/13<sup>th</sup> April 2025

1<sup>st</sup> Read: Acts 10: 34, 37-43 2<sup>nd</sup> Read: Colossians 3: 1-4 Gos: John 20: 1-9

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Margaret Turner	Tasha Vercauteren	Lawrence Ceconello Anne Maguire
8.30am	Paul Polidano	Erika Castro	Adrian Teo Penny Teo
10.00am	Frances Johnson	Shashi	Lyn Murphy Tony Whelan Carmel Shiel

## Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism



## Baptism Welcome

This weekend we welcome:

### Summer

who will be introducing

### Aston Christian James Jessup

to our Parish Community in preparation for his Baptism in a few weeks' time.

## 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



## April Youth Group is cancelled.

In consideration of the long weekend and the Easter school holidays, our next Youth Group session scheduled for Saturday 26 April is cancelled.

We look forward to seeing everyone at our next Youth Group on Saturday 17 May!

## Little Kev's Playgroup



Wishing everyone a restful and happy Easter break.

Looking forward to welcoming everyone back in Term 2 on Wednesday mornings.

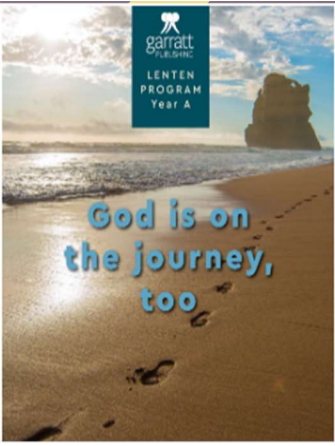
## Parish Lenten Communal Penance Service

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



## BOOKISH MORNING TEA

Our next Bookish Morning Tea is scheduled for Thursday 10<sup>th</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!!!



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

Our last **Lenten Reflection** will be held in St Kevin's Chapel this 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.



## MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP



ST KEVIN'S PARISH, TEMPLESTOWE

The next **St Kevin's Men's Social Group** takes place on **Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> April @ 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 ring the parish office on 9850 5983, or email at [Templestowe@cam.org.au](mailto:Templestowe@cam.org.au)



Our beautiful **Lay Ecclesial Leader, Mrs Tiziana D'Costa**, is leaving her employ at St Kevin's Parish to pursue her career in education.

A **Farewell Morning Tea** will be celebrated for her on Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> April directly after the 10.00am Sunday morning Palm Sunday Mass.

All are welcome and invited to join in to thank Tiziana for all her hard work and dedication she has expressed towards our parish and to wish her well for her future.

An Easter Vigil celebration supper will take place on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> April directly after the Vigil Mass at 8.30pm.

All are invited and welcome to attend.

More details to follow soon.

Easter Vigil



## 'The Melbourne Passion Play' Cast and Crew Recruitment

Each year, for the past 24 years, the passion of Jesus Christ has been enacted in Melbourne by a group of volunteers. This is a scene-by-scene representation of the ministry of Jesus by people in real, open-air surroundings.

The Melbourne Passion Play is currently recruiting cast and crew required to take part in the 26th annual play that will be performed during the 2025 Easter season.

Rehearsals take place each Sunday leading up to Easter. These start with a light lunch at 12 noon. There will also be an afternoon tea break.

Only 4 rehearsals remaining.

Performance dates are: Palm Sunday, 13 April, at 1.30pm and Good Friday, 18 April, at 10am.

No acting experience is necessary. Not all roles have speaking parts. Character roles include:

- **Townspeople**—playing small individual roles and collectively appearing in the crowd scenes
- **Apostles, temple officials, guards**
- **Roman soldiers**—can be played by both men and women)
- **Backstage personnel**—crew to assist with wardrobe, props, makeup and sound equipment.

For more information and to register your interest, contact the Manager, Gino Gammaldi, on 0422 662 451 or visit [www.melbournepassionplay.com.au](http://www.melbournepassionplay.com.au)

**Venue for both rehearsals and the actual play this year will take place at:**

Catholic Regional College, 380 Sydenham Road, Sydenham

## 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 table in 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

The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.

## Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Merciful Lord, hear us.

### REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

#### First Reading

##### [Isaiah 43:16-21](#)

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

*I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people.*

Memory and hope are constantly interwoven in the scriptures and in the liturgy. This poetic reading is about new beginnings, in the past and still to come. Isaiah's prophetic words of hope are delivered to the exiles languishing in Babylon.

First is an invitation to remember the new beginning of the Exodus – crossing the Red Sea marks the end of oppression and a new future in a new land.

Then comes the climax of the poem, the central declaration: *See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it?*

In the second half of the reading, there is the promise of new beginnings to come – *paths in the wilds, wild beasts tamed, water in the wilderness*. And the people of God will sing praise!

It calls forth in the assembly a sentiment of wonder at the greatness of God's 'new deed', forever taking place in our midst.

#### Second Reading

##### [Philippians 3:8-14](#)

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians  
*Because of Christ I look upon everything else as useless in order to gain him.*

Before starting to prepare this text, recall the story of Paul's conversion. He was zealously persecuting Christians when, in a blinding light, he encounters Christ. Here in this text he is talking about what meeting and getting to know Christ has meant for him. He invites his hearers also to an encounter with Christ.

Paul realises that it is not what he can do that matters, only what Christ can do in and through him. He has been captured by Christ. He strives with the determination of an athlete to take and use the gift he has been given. It means making the pattern of Jesus' death and resurrection operative in his own life, so that he will be given a place in the glory of the resurrection.

Paul is manifestly passionate about his encounter with Christ in order to communicate to the assembly the power which lies in our own encounter with Christ.

*Taken from "Break Open the Word"*

**Lenten Reflection - Behind the scenes of CDF and Catholic Social Services is a call to action** (the following includes brief extracts from *Catholic Social Services Victoria's 2025 Mission Inspired Leadership Programme* and the ACBC Social Justice Statement 2024-2025).

The CDF Speaker at our Parish Masses last weekend wasn't exaggerating when explaining that the successful investment funds managed by the Catholic Development Fund support very many more Catholic Services ("Catholic Social Care Ecosystem") than he quickly mentioned. These are based on principles fundamental to our faith, **that are actually our values in action**, also including training. It's noteworthy that the Catholic Church is the largest non-government provider of social and education services in Australia. Prompted by values and advocacy from Catholic Social Services Victoria, Australian Bishops, and our own observations, selected Parishes, including St Kevin's currently limited participation, endeavour to engage in or support selected social community initiatives, advocacy *and actions*. This is the "*bringing God to people*" part of our faith. Our Parish Website Social Justice Action page illustrates this, and links to resources including the Australian Catholic Bishop's Conference (ACBC) Social Justice Statement. Their 2024-2025 Social Justice Statements Summary includes the description "Truth and Peace: A Gospel Word in a Violent World - a call to action for Catholics and all people of goodwill to engage in peacebuilding through truth-telling, dialogue, and practical initiatives. It frames peace as a realistic and attainable goal, grounded in the teachings of the Gospel and example of Christ. By addressing *both global and local conflicts*, the statement encourages collective effort towards a peaceful world, rooted in the values espoused by our faith. These are designed to be universal, applied by people of various faiths or none. Are we interested in considering manageable action?"

When people of our Parish donate or contribute directly they don't seek thanks. However it's important to let them know how their contributions have helped, and to warmly say "thank you". This weekend towards the end of Project Compassion a short 'thank you' video is to be shown to all - **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.