



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

Postal Address:

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

Easter Sunday

19/20th April, 2025

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves (Easter Vigil & Easter Morning 8.30am) and Fr Anton (10.00am)



Words From the Desk of our PP...

Easter:



Alleluia, Alleluia, HE IS RISEN!!! Thank you for your presence, your faith, your following of Christ through Lent and through Holy Week: through Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection. Thank you to everyone who helped with preparing for Lent and Holy Week – there are dozens and dozens of people who contribute in some way: thank you all.

Our lives utterly depend on this miracle of redemption and the opening of the path of salvation in Christ Jesus. Because of Easter Baptism is more than a sign it is a true change of who we are: we become part of the Body of Christ. Let us enter joyfully into the fifty days of the Easter Season. Let us journey from Resurrection to Ascension and Pentecost with hearts filled with Hope!

Let us make this journey seeking once again to grow in how we live out the three faces of the Mission that Jesus entrusts to us: the mission to more and more joyfully and deeply worship God as Father Son and Holy Spirit; the mission to go and help the poor, sick, imprisoned, etc; and the mission to go and make disciples.

As we celebrate the glory of the Resurrection, let us open our hearts to grow in faith, hope and charity and open our minds to finding or continuing ways to spread the Good News.

Mass Offerings:

Isn't it nice to find oneself following what is sensible and is also 'the rules.' Clearly in some parts of the world priests are trying to mis-use the practice of offering Mass for deceased family members. One of the departments of the Roman Curia has just issued a document emphasising the guidelines around Mass offerings, and we comply as a matter of course.

Basically: recommended offering for a Mass is up to \$25 but you can make whatever offering you wish. Three things follow from that offering: First the name of the deceased will be included with a specific Mass and mentioned during the Eucharistic Prayer (not during Last Supper, Easter Vigil or Christmas Eve). Second, if you give more than \$25 I shall arrange for additional Masses to be said (one for every \$25 or part thereof). Third, if you request, the person will be included in the names for recent deaths or anniversaries of death.

For the additional Masses they accumulate faster than Fr Anton and I can offer Masses so I will arrange for the additional Masses to be said by Aid to the Church in Need in which case your offering goes to a worthy charitable cause.

As a side matter, I offer the Masses in the order the requests are received so sometimes the exact date of an anniversary is not available so I allocate the next nearest date – we do not offer Mass for two separate requests at the same time. occasionally there can be a bit of a mix up for which I apologise.

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



Ana Saro, Frances Johnson, Nadia Bolzonello, David Hii, Fr Charles Balnaves and Fr Anton Aseervathampillai wish you peace, joy and good health. May Easter 2025 overflow with hope and wonder for each one of us.

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 |
| 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, 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, Dr Noel Smyth, Aileen Kent, Ruth Shiel, Fr Frank Maloney and Rachel Hally.

Anniversaries:

Kathleen Veronica McNamara and Mardi Doyle

Recently Deceased:

Anne Materazzo, Pirrie Shiel and James Jackson

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for Easter Week:

For the love of God through the Resurrection to enter more deeply into everything we do.



Feast Days this week:...

The Octave of Easter

Is an eight-day period that begins on **Easter Sunday** and concludes with the **Second Sunday of Easter**. During this time, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. These days serve as a time to reflect on and experience the profound mysteries celebrated during Easter, such as the empty tomb and the victory over death. Let us bask in the glow of the Resurrection, rejoicing in the new light that shines after the darkness of Christ's crucifixion. Each day is a reminder of the hope and joy brought forth by His triumph over sin and death.

LITURGY ROSTER

Easter Sunday – 12/13th April 2025

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

Thank you to our wonderful and talented team of Volunteers who selflessly give of their time to organise and prepare our Easter Ceremonies., so that all may participate and be moved. Thank you once again.

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 |



Happy Easter from all of us here at Caritas Australia!

Easter Sunday
20th of April 2025

As we celebrate this season of hope and renewal, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion this Lent.

As we reflect on the Easter message of love, compassion, and new beginnings, we are reminded of the incredible impact your contributions make. Together, we are building a world where no one is left behind.

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



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!



Wishing everyone a restful and happy Easter break.

Looking forward to welcoming everyone back in Term 2 on Monday mornings (please note change of day).



Our weekly Meditation Session is taking a break next week and will resume in two weeks' time on Wednesday, 30th April @ 9.30am on Zoom.

All are welcome to join in. Simply contact Izabella or the parish office for the link.



BOOKISH MORNING TEA

Our next Bookish Morning Tea is scheduled for Thursday 24th 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!!!

A farewell message from Tiziana

Dear St Kevin's Parish,

Thank you so much for your kind farewell and thoughtful gifts. I am touched by your love and support although not surprised because this is what St Kevin's parish is all about: we care, we pull together and we support one another. At St Kevin's we walk together and listen to one another in synodality.

It's been a privilege to be your lay ecclesial leader. Over the last three years we have rebuilt the parish from the covid years and made it more vibrant by reviving old ministries (such as youth group and social justice) and by introducing new ones (such as the men's group, Alpha, the Lenten and Advent prayer groups). We have established a caring and collaborative relationship with our lovely neighbours at St Gregory by sharing resources and learning from each other. We have strengthened our relationship with the school community. We have a strong Parish Council with a new charter setting out an explicitly strategic role. We have prioritized communication and transparency through the newsletter and the website. We have nurtured and stayed true to our wonderful tradition of lay led, spirit filled liturgies - for which we are known far and wide. All this always with an eye to ensure our parish remains financially sustainable now and in the future.

This can only be done as a team effort: I sincerely thank Fr Charles for his trust in me and for his support. Literally nothing would get done without my amazing dream team in the parish office: Ana, Frances, David and Nadia. You are the best: I'm going to miss you so much! Sincere thanks to our wonderfully talented youth leader, Charlotte, and musician, Emma.

I remain in awe of our wonderful volunteers who give so much of themselves by leading, running and supporting our ministries. Thank you for being instruments of God's peace and love in our parish and beyond.

My personal belief is that we are all small pieces of God's puzzle- each with a role to play and gifts to share. I have had the amazing opportunity to share my God given gifts to build on our strengths and ensure that our parish continues to be a caring, welcoming and spirit filled community of faith in these times.

I step down now and return to the fold, my heart filled with gratitude to God and to you all for this wonderful experience.

Blessings, Tiziana

Easter Celebrations!

(after the Vigil Mass at 8.30pm, 19th April)

All are invited to join with your fellow parishioners in the Gathering Space in a fitting celebration for Christ's Resurrection at Easter and the Baptisms at the Easter Vigil. Supper will be provided in the Gathering Space.

Happy Easter!



ANZAC

**Catholic Church
Commemoration service**



Sunday 27th April 2025 @ 10.00am

**At – St Kevins. 26-44 Herlihys Road.
Templestowe.**



2024 St Kevins Photos inserted

All welcome to this special Mass service.

Followed by morning tea. Lest We Forget!



HOLY LAND COMMISSARIAT

HOLY LAND COLLECTION - GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 18th 2025

This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing. Due to the ongoing war, the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world. In 2024 Australian Catholics were once again extremely generous and we were able to send to the Holy Land nearly \$1.5 million (\$1.4 million [2023], \$1.4 million [2022] and \$1,126,098 [2021]). The reality for the Holy Land mission is that they will continue to face challenges, financial and spiritual, and so we again ask Catholics around the world again to be as generous as possible, with their financial support as well as the spiritual support. Please remember the Christians of the Holy Land on Good Friday.

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

This is the day the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord have mercy.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF EASTER SUNDAY

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 10:34. 37-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

The Acts of the Apostles is a continuation of the Gospel of Luke. It tells the story of the early Church where we see a wonderful widening of the circle: the message of Christ is meant for all nations. Luke's gospel ends with a final instruction from the risen Lord: In the name of the risen Lord, repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be preached to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this... (Lk 24:47-48). How this comes to pass is the subject matter of the Acts of the Apostles.

So here in this text, we see Peter preaching the resurrection not to the Jewish community but to the household of Cornelius, a pagan Roman centurion. Peter's proclamation stands in stark contrast to the account of the resurrection that we will hear in the gospel. Here we have a direct, excited and forthright eye-witness account of Jesus' ministry, death and resurrection. All are called to believe in Jesus and have their sins forgiven.

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-4

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Today's second reading contrasts heaven and earth. The previous chapter has referred to our baptism as a dying and rising with Christ. That is the context for understanding this passage. In our baptism we have come to new life with Christ as part of God's family. The reading ends with the promise of glory with the risen Christ and tries to evoke the radiance of the resurrection which all the baptised are called to share.

Taken from "Break Open the Word"



Easter Reflection - Triumph of life over death

(The following extracts are from Easter Triumph of life over Death, Paul Collins, John Menadue.com, 16 April 2025)

".....how do we make sense of Easter? For believers, Easter is about the death and resurrection of Christ. Of the two, death is the easier to grasp. It's fundamental to life and, as we get older, we're increasingly conscious of its proximity. And, in a world where so many people are deliberately or casually killed in Gaza, Myanmar, Ukraine, DR Congo and elsewhere, we are constantly reminded of the fragility of life. Resurrection is much harder to comprehend. For me, it is summed up in a simple phrase from the requiem mass: "Lord, for your faithful people life is changed, not ended." However, it's easy to assert the continuity of life, but what is the nature of that change?"....."In the 2015 encyclical letter *Laudato si'*, Pope Francis says, "Nature cannot be regarded as something separate from ourselves, or as a mere setting in which we live. We are part of nature." Francis radically re-situates and re-roots us in the natural material world. He is particularly critical of the loss of biodiversity: "Because of us, thousands of species will no longer give glory to God by their very existence, nor convey their message to us. We have no such right. Fundamentally, Easter is about the triumph of material life over death and disintegration. Teilhard de Chardin speaks of "the spiritual power of matter" and it is in, and through, our material existence in nature that we most truly experience God." -

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.