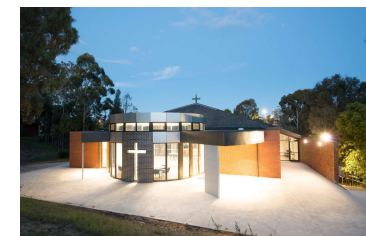




St Kevin's Catholic Parish

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

Palm Sunday

12/13th April, 2025

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves

Words From the Desk of our PP...

Holy Week:

This year, it feels as though I am approaching 'holey' week – there is so much I haven't managed to get done yet.

But the Holy Spirit is at work!!!

School holidays have started so I have several hours extra in my days allowing me to prepare homilies and think through our beautiful ceremonies, seeking inspiration amidst the re-telling / re-living of these last days of Jesus' life as a human (and also God) among humans.

Various members of the liturgy group and the staff and volunteers at each parish I shepherd have been marvellous helping to draw everything together around me.

I am prompted to mention this 'process' in light of someone on the radio who said 'the bible is just a set of stories collected by men (and he meant men).' He seemed not to be able to see beyond the directly experiential world. It struck me that if I took that attitude then vast amounts of what I know at the core of who I am would become ... pure self-delusion.

Yet, when I look at my life – there is that deeper view, the deeper river of God's place and plan and action in my life through Father and Son and Holy Spirit.

As we enter into this journey of Holy Week – let us be alert to God's work with us in myriad beautiful ways. I hope you are all able to attend for Palm/Passion Sunday; for the Last Supper/Washing of Feet; for the Stations of the Cross and the Solemn Celebration of the Passion and for the Easter Vigil or Easter Sunday Mass. It is a difficult but rewarding journey that asks us to be trusting and to enter deeply into God's love and the consequences of God's never-ending work with us to lead us into his embrace.

Structural Engineer / Draughtsperson:

We are in need of some structural design and some drawings to be able to proceed with the planning for a Columbarium (resting place for cremated remains).

Do you know someone, or are you someone, who might be able to assist with this need? If so, please contact David Hii in the parish office.

The works are straightforward but we need to have them well done and need some drawings for council for a planning permit application.

God bless, Fr Charles



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE 2025

12th/13th April: Palm Sunday – Masses as per usual

17th April: Holy Thursday – Mass at 7.30pm

18th April: Good Friday – Stations of the Cross @ 10.00am – St Gregory the Great
– Passion of our Lord @ 3.00pm – St Gregory the Great and St Kevin's

19th April: Easter Vigil Masses @ 6.30pm – St Gregory the Great 8.30pm – St Kevin's

20th April: Easter Sunday Masses @ 8.30 and 10.00am



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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	Masses
Tuesday	8.15am	Adoration
	9.15am	No Mass Today
	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:

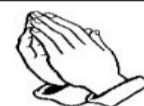
Elysia Pozzebon, Wang Wei Qiao, Nady Botrous, Michelle, Melissa Wirata, Michael Angelo Yambao, Rosanna Campagna, Gabriella Cunico, Alexandra Bateman, Alan Benn, Federico Aspromonte, Peter Ryan, Anton Urbas, Rosemarie Cameron, Eugenia Pozzebon, Luisa Yambao, Dr Noel Smyth, Aileen Kent, Ruth Shiel, Fr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

Anniversaries:

Kathleen Veronica McNamara and Mardi Doyle

Recently Deceased:

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for Palm / Passion Sunday: For Bishops Peter, Thin, Tony, Martin and Rene: that they will be filled to overflowing with the Holy Spirit as they seek to lead us in faith.



Feast Days this week:...

18th April Good Friday

Today is the day of the Crucifixion. The Church is in mourning, for it is the anniversary of the death of Christ. But this is not a funeral service. The powerful note of hope sounds through it all – hope in the Resurrection and in eternal life won through the cross of Christ. He died that we might live.

19th April Easter Vigil

In accord with ancient tradition, this night is one of vigil for the Lord. It begins with a brief service of light and ends with the whole Church being called to the table which the Lord prepared for his people through his death and resurrection.

LITURGY ROSTER

Palm Sunday – 12/13th April 2025

1st Read: Acts 10: 34, 37-43 2nd 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

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.

You have been contacted with your allotted task. Thank you once again.



PROJECT COMPASSION

As Project Compassion 2025 draws to a close for another year, we want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous support throughout this Lenten Season. But the work isn't done yet. There is still time to donate! Together, we can Unite Against Poverty and help Transform lives this Lent. es and build brighter, more hopeful futures for these communities.

Palm Sunday
12th and 13th 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 **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!



Little Kev's Playgroup



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 (Holy 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.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

As both Fr Charles and Fr Anton will be attending the annual Mass of the Oils at St Patrick's Cathedral next Tuesday morning, there will **not** be a morning Mass at St Kevin's nor at St Gregory the Great on that day.



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!!!



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, 13th 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, 19th April directly after the Vigil Mass at 8.30pm.



All are invited and welcome to attend.

Permanent Diaconate Information Session 3 May 2025

Following the success of the permanent diaconate information sessions in 2024, we will be holding another session for those interested.

The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service. The information session is open to **everyone interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate**. If you have attended any previous session, you are also welcome to attend this session. Wives most welcome.

The session will be on Saturday morning, 3rd May and will be in person. If you are interested email Deacon Kevin Pattison

Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with full name and parish, but if you forget, then just turn up on Saturday morning. All are welcome.

Event Date: Saturday 3 May 2025, 10.00am–11.30am

Venue: Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Pde, E Melbourne



A Prayer for Holy Week

Holy God,
lover of our souls,
we come before you as people created by and for love:
Gather us in this time to hear again your word of love,
to renew our trust in its breadth and depth.
In the sacrifice of your love for us,
may we find renewal and be your love in the world.
Amen.

The Annual Melbourne Passion Play

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.

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

For more information, contact the Manager, Gino Gammaldi, on 0422 662 451 or visit www.melbournepassionplay.com.au

Venue for the play this year will take place at:

Catholic Regional College, 380 Sydenham Road, Sydenham



HOLY LAND COMMISSARIAT

HOLY LAND COLLECTION - GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 18th 2025

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, April 18th. 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. Parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. 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

My God, my God,
why have you forsaken me?

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord have mercy.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF PALM SUNDAY

First Reading

Isaiah 50: 4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

I did not cover my face against insult and I know I will not be ashamed.

The book of the prophet Isaiah contains four oracles known collectively as the Servant Songs. They are addressed to the exiles in Babylon. The servant is a mysterious figure – perhaps an individual or maybe the people of God collectively – who is called to a mission which provokes hostility and causes suffering but which ultimately advances the cause of salvation.

Jesus advocated a leadership of service and came to see his own messianic role in terms of the suffering servant. The gospels use the songs to speak of Christ. The fourth and most powerful of the Servant Songs will be read on Good Friday. Today and each day this week, part of one of these songs is read.

In this passage from the third song, the disciple speaks God's word and makes no resistance when he is tormented on account of it. He knows that God comes to his help.

Second Reading

Philippians 2: 6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

He humbled himself to become like us and God raised him on high.

Kenosis is a Greek word meaning 'emptying'. It is one way of understanding the mystery of the incarnation. It is not about ruling with power, but rather an emptying in self-giving love and service of the world. It is beautifully expressed in this hymn which Paul quotes for the Philippians. The Son of God became a servant, took on human flesh; and was humbler yet, accepting even death on a cross as he obediently followed the will of God.

The central 'hinge' affirmation is that after his abasement, God raised him on high. This is the centre point of the proclamation. It is followed by acclamations of homage and worship at Christ's exaltation.

This finely-crafted hymn expresses beautifully the whole of the Paschal Mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection.

Taken from "Break Open the Word"

Lenten Reflection - triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, and National Palm Sunday Walks & Rallies for justice and dignity towards refugees

(some of the following content as edited is extracted from Inter-religious 'Religions for Peace, Australia')

Palm Sunday marks the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, and the celebration of God's kingdom drawing near – a kingdom in which those who are poor, persecuted, and mourning find hope. In harmony with Palm Sunday around Australia next Sunday 13th April, religious and non-religious groups alike will walk and rally together. On this day we are invited to join in calling together for a just future for refugees and people seeking asylum.

In 2024, the global displacement crisis reached unprecedented levels, with over 120 million people forcibly displaced by war, violence, and persecution – the highest number in history. New and ongoing conflicts, including those in Gaza, Syria, Haiti, Myanmar, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ukraine and Sudan, have driven forced displacement across the globe. The global number of refugees has tripled in the last decade to nearly 44 million; that is nearly 44 million people fleeing for their lives – risking everything – in search of safety. All in St Kevin's/Sr Gregs are again invited this Palm Sunday to join others, believers and non-believers alike around Australia, standing together to support justice and dignity for refugees and asylum seekers in Australia. As we live through the biggest global displacement crisis in history, and conflict continues to ravage countries around the world, we are asked the question 'What would it look like for Australia to respond in love and compassion?' - **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.