



ST KEVIN'S TEMPLESTOWE

ABN: 48 230 838 560

26- 44 Herlihy's Road,
Lower Templestowe, 3107
Office phone: 03) 9850 5983
All Correspondence to:
PO Box 985, Templestowe 3106
templestowe@cam.org.au

St Kevin's Parish Council Meeting 3rd April 2025

Minutes.

Meeting opened at 2.30pm.

Present: Fr Charles, Fr Anton, Pauline Erickson, John Costa, Adrian Teo, David Hii, Carmel Shiel, Gabee Leone, Ana Saro, Margaret Turner, Peter Sheehan, Claudia Raiola.

Apologies: Michelle Verna.

Meeting began with an opening reflection led by Pauline Erickson.

Discussion arising from previous minutes. Nil

Discussion arising from current reports.

- a) Fr Charles. Fr Charles reported on the Octet successful evening, Fr Anton's duties etc and his settlement into our parish life, progression of Alpha. There was some discussion on the future use of St Charles school. Peter Sheehan suggested that legal advice should be sought in order to clarify our situation and opinion on "school" meaning. Waiting on further advice and direction from MACS. Introduction of the Arch Diocese Assembly. Suggestion of a small action group.
- b) School Principal's report. Some growth, current enrolment, 126 students. Marketing in place at kindergarten meetings.
- c) Pastoral worker. Ana reported on the current safeguarding situation. All Parish Council members must attend a training session and obtain a Police check. Each member needs to liaise with Ana to arrange. Youth group, going well, play group, pushing forward with problems. Tiziana's farewell Mass on 13/4 at 10am.
- d) PPC Chair. No report
- e) SIA John Costa advises future consultation with Ana re involvement of youth group in SIA activity.

Other matters.

Margaret Turner suggested use of spare Parish house rooms for those in need. Discussion followed on the legal implications and problems that could arise. The idea is good but very problematic.

David Hii. David gave an update on the progress of the Columbaria and the modifications to the altar. Waiting on further advice on both.

Merging of Sunday Masses. Ana to organize a survey to be circulated after Easter to parishioners of both Masses in order to gauge reaction to the idea. Pauline to make a written submission to Fr Charles on pros and cons of the suggestion.

Next meeting 1st May 2025 Meeting closed at 4.15pm



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Parish Council agenda – 3rd April, 2025.

1. Opening Prayer
2. Apologies
3. Matters arising from last meeting's minutes – 6th March, 2025
4. Parish updates – Questions on circulated reports
 - a. Fr Charles.
 - b. Schools Principals' update.
 - c. Pastoral Worker: Ana Saro.
 - d. PPC Acting chair.
 - e. SJA – John Costa
7. Appointment of new Chairperson: Fr Charles.
8. Proposal: The potential use of Presbytery's bedrooms – Margaret Turner.
9. SJA proposal: An initiative to promote all parish ministries.
10. Proposal: Columbaria and modifications to the altar – David - update
11. Evangelisation: Bringing Community Together. For discussion: "Would merging the two Sunday morning Masses foster a stronger sense of community?" - Fr Charles
- 12 Next meeting – Thursday – 1st May, 2025, 2.30 pm.



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BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT – APRIL, 2025

Columbarium (Wall Niche)

I had a meeting with Planning Officers Daniel Yu and Tammy Tam at the Manningham City Council on 19th March 2025.

Daniel indicated that he will inform me within two weeks from the meeting date whether a planning permit will be required for the construction of the columbarium at our parish. Regardless, we will need a building permit. We are currently awaiting their feedback.

Modifications to the Altar

Father Charles and I met with Sandy Law and Martina Tempestini from Law Architects on 18th March 2025 to discuss the best course of action for the alterations to the sanctuary. We are currently awaiting their sketch/drawing.


Defibrillator (AED) and First Aid/CPR Training

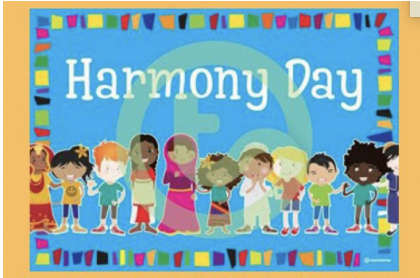
We are in the process of purchasing a defibrillator (AED) from St John Ambulance. In addition, we are organising a First Aid/CPR training session, which will include instruction on the use of the defibrillator (AED). The proposed date for the training is Friday, 1st May 2025, at 7pm, to be held at St Kevin's Gathering Space, pending confirmation from St John Ambulance.



PPC Meeting 3

03/04/25

Easter Reenactment	The students and staff are preparing for the Easter Reenactment. This will take place on Thursday 3rd of April at 9:30am.
Coins for Caritas	The students and staff collected all their loose change and on Tuesday 11th March placed their donated coins onto a giant outline of the word "Caritas". Our school community raised an incredible \$310.25 for Caritas Australia!
New Staff	Welcome to Jola (Learning Support Officer), Leah (Learning Support Officer) and Katie (Admin. Assistant) from St Charles
Resources	Thank you to Michelle Verna and Michelle Cameron for their generosity supplying St Kevin's with desks, chairs and learning resources.
Student Captains and Vice Captains	The Year 5 & 6 Student Leaders represented St Kevin's at the Annual Catholic Education Week St. Patrick's Day Mass. Our four School Captains Keizen and Arianna along with our Deputy Captains Mya and Jonathan joined many other Primary and Secondary students from all around the Archdiocese of Melbourne to celebrate Mass with Archbishop Peter Comensoli. We have much to be proud of being a small yet important part of the Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS).
FIRE Carriers 	<p>On Wednesday 5th March, we held our 2025 FIRE Carrier Commissioning Ceremony. FIRE stands for Friends Igniting Reconciliation through Education. The FIRE Carrier program promotes reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Victorian Schools. We are pleased to announce that our 2025 Year Five FIRE Carriers are: John-Paul, Lacey, Kate and Mackenzie.</p> <p>We congratulate these children and look forward to them sharing their passion for learning about Aboriginal culture and history with the St Kevin's community. A special mention to all of our Year Five FIRE Carrier applicants, who wrote informative applications.</p>

<p>Saturday OPEN DAY</p>	<p>A huge thank you to Eva and Con for your support during Open Day on Saturday — we welcomed eight families through the school! The past few weeks have been incredibly busy with many tours, and it's been wonderful to see such a positive response to our great school.</p>
<p>Harmony Day</p>	<p>On Friday 21st of March, we celebrated Harmony Day. The theme for this year is 'Everyone Belongs!' It was a day to recognise and celebrate Australia's cultural diversity with respect and inclusiveness. With families at St Kevin's coming from over 22 different backgrounds, we invited all students to dress in orange or any traditional cultural attire to show pride in their heritage and support for our diverse school community.</p> 
<p>Senior Manager at MACS</p>	<p>Welcome to Brian Grace from MACS. He is my Senior Manager and visits at least once a month. He will be working with our Leadership team at meetings once a term.</p>
<p>Canberra Camp</p>	<p>The Year 5 and 6 students accompanied by teachers and leaders will be visiting Canberra from 22rd of April till 24th of April. We are looking forward to this learning experience!</p>

Report to Parish Pastoral Council Meeting St Kevin's Parish Social Justice Action, 3 April 2025

1. Single Item Report

This single item report is in two parts. *The first* summarises the SJA Committee Meeting at the Parish Office immediately following the PPC meeting that same afternoon on March 6 .

My initial outline of the preceding PPC discussion on the SJA proposal and its associated principles was listened to in stunned silence. It was considered by all that our carefully considered and developed proposal and underlying principles had been effectively rejected. That cast an unmistakable dark shadow over the remainder of that meeting, particularly as PPC discussion on the proposal had already been deferred over two prior PPC meetings due to full Agendas, over which time the proposal has been further marginally refined in response to anticipated concern with initially associated suggested Mass arrangements.

It could also not have been a worse meeting for the first attendance of a prospective new SJA Committee member who came that day especially to explore joining the SJA group, particularly to assist with increased workload that might result from acceptance of our proposal. Whilst not directly commenting on what I had reported it was clear in various ways that he was most unimpressed with perceived inability of the SJA group to gain acceptance for the very proposal which had prompted his recruitment. As someone with a marketing background he then spoke to us at length about how proper marketing needs be conducted.

In that same uncomfortable atmosphere we then very briefly considered our intention to progress our accepted invitation to speak at St Kevin's by the Exec. Director Catholic Social Services Vic, but deferred further arrangement at this particular time, not now wanting to risk an embarrassingly small Parish audience. Despite our experience and practice of extensive good advertising, our efforts have prompted relatively little real interest in Social Justice issues (apart from a small handful of people) from most of our elderly parishioners, apart from their generous donations to the good causes we promote, in cash and collectables. We similarly deferred discussion on the planned Refugee Asylum Seeker presentation, and other initiatives.

While highly impressed with the wonderful work of our Pastoral worker Ana I was also somewhat surprised at the last PPC Meeting to learn that our previously outlined proposal to create (in a particular format) a set of pages attractively describing all Parish Ministries had already since been produced in the Parish for prospective new parishioners, and its text on SJA produced without SJA involvement. At the same time and in more typical positive spirit Ana has invited SJA to discuss with her (and the LEL at the time) some form of Social Justice activities for the senior Youth Group, although our previously planned meeting on this some time back was then necessarily deferred.

In contrast, the following *2nd part* of this report expresses appreciation for the very helpful clarifying letter subsequently sent by Fr. Charles to PPC and SJA members shortly after the previous PPC meeting. The subsequent Notes of the last PPC Meeting are also appreciated. Accordingly we look forward to further discussion on what the PPC considers.

Other planned SJA activities remain in train, though for now at least delayed as we re-assess things, including need to review the (now) relatively large size of our SJA Committee.