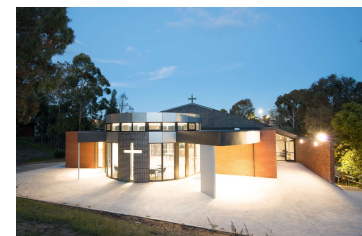




St Kevin's Catholic Parish

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

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

Sixth Sunday of Easter



24/25th May, 2025

Our Presider today is: Fr Isaac Zaki

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2025

Bridging Now to *Next*

27 MAY - 3 JUNE

#NRW2025 | RECONCILIATION.ORG.AU



The National Reconciliation Week (NRW) 2025 theme, Bridging Now to Next, reflects the ongoing connection between past, present and future.

Bridging Now to Next urges us to look ahead and continue the push forward as past lessons guide us.

At a time when Australia faces uncertainty in its reconciliation journey, this theme calls on all Australians to step forward together.

National Reconciliation Week

Next weekend we will be celebrating National Reconciliation Week (NRW) in our liturgy at St Kevin's.

Why do we celebrate NRW?

It's not because at this time each year the AFL celebrates the Indigenous Round! No!

Pope John Paul, on his visit to Australia, pointed out that we can never be the church in Australia that Jesus wants us to be until we joyfully receive the rich heritage that Aboriginal people of this country offer to us.

The Australian Plenary Council emphasised the need for recognition of indigenous spirituality and cultural heritage and encouraged the use of Aboriginal symbols and prayers in our liturgy.

On two particular occasions during the year, we especially recognise, affirm and celebrate the rich contribution of Aboriginal spirituality to our own:

1. National Reconciliation Week (NRW) (May 27 – June 3)
2. Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sunday (July 6)

We incorporate Aboriginal symbols, prayers, blessings, and appropriate songs on these occasions.

Why do we use the Message Stick and the Coolamon?

The Message Stick: A Message Stick is a means of communication in Aboriginal Culture. The message was inscribed on the stick and "passed on" so that everyone could receive the same message. The message that accompanies the message sticks in catholic communities, is one of "love, hope, forgiveness and peace." (Aunty Betty Pike) This why it accompanies the Gospel – to remind us that this message needs to be handed on.

The Coolamon: The Coolamon is a strong symbol of life for Australian Aboriginal people. It is a receptacle for carrying life giving food, water and cradling and rocking small babies. It is a life-giving symbol.

And, by the way, you could check out the "*Painted Country*" – a new major exhibition featuring the work of five First Nations artists – now open at the Manningham Art Gallery in Doncaster. The exhibition has been timed to coincide with National Reconciliation Week.



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 |
| 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, Michelle, Melissa Wirata, Michael Angelo Yambao, Rosanna Campagna, Gabriella Cunico, Alexandra Bateman, Alan Benn, Federico Aspromonte, Peter Ryan, Rosemarie Cameron, Eugenia Pozzebon, Dr Noel Smyth, Aileen Kent, Ruth Shiel, Fr Frank Maloney, Rachel Hally, Vin Natoli and Bob Ulehla.

Anniversaries:

John Julian Hunter, Anne Strickland, Rosa Giannini, Val Byrne, John Norman, Geraldine Dalla Riva, Maureen Whyte, Vince Materazzo, Salvatore Lo Monaco and Peter Joseph Niero.

Recently Deceased:

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week: Giving thanks for the grace given to us to live our lives full of the Joy of Easter, amidst all the difficulties and successes of our days.



Feast Days this week:...

26th May St Philip Neri
An outstanding proponent of Church reform after the Council of Trent. Worked among the young and the poor in Rome and founded the Congregation of the Oratory. Remembered as a spiritual director, for his pastoral initiatives and for his humour, simplicity and charity.

31st May The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
This feast celebrates the Virgin Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth, as told in the Gospel of Luke, and her example of faith in God's word and sensitivity to the Spirit. It was introduced into the Franciscan calendar by St Bonaventure in the thirteenth century and was extended to the entire Latin Church to heal divisions in the Western Church of the time.

LITURGY ROSTER

Sixth Sunday of Easter – 24/25th May 2025

1st Read: Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29 2nd Read: Apoc 21: 10-14, 22-23 Gos: John 14: 23-29

| Time | Commentator | Lector | Special Ministers |
|---------|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5.30pm | Margaret Turner | Kathy Pearce | Maryanne McNamara Anne Maguire |
| 8.30am | Miriam Ayoub | | Penny Teo Pat Rowland |
| 10.00am | Jessica Bartholomeusz | Liz O'Connell | Raffaella Dinelli Tony Whelan |

The Ascension of the Lord – 31st May/1st June 2025

1st Read: Acts 1: 1-11 2nd Read: Hebrews 9: 24-28; 10: 19-23 Gos: John 24: 46-53

| Time | Commentator | Lector | Special Ministers |
|---------|------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| 5.30pm | Christine Marini | Rachel Marini | Lawrence Cecconello Lynne O'Brien |
| 8.30am | Julie O'Donnell | Pamela Rivera | Liz Polidano Mary Waddick |
| 10.00am | Shashi Jayakody | Bernard Butler | Raffaella Dinelli Carmel Purdey |

On Tuesday, 3rd June we celebrate
St Kevin's Feast Day

Saint Kevin of Glendalough (c. 498 – June 3, 618)
was an Irish saint and the founder of the monastery at Glendalough in County Wicklow, Ireland. He is known for his hermit lifestyle, miraculous deeds, and his role as one of the patron saints of Dublin. His life is deeply intertwined with the natural beauty of the Wicklow Mountains, and he is celebrated for his spiritual contributions and monastic foundations. His feast day is observed on June 3.

A special commemorative Mass will be celebrated on this day at 9.15am together with the schoolchildren. All are welcome to attend.



WINTER COAT DRIVE

May 20 – June 30

We are collecting warm clean coats, jackets and wool blankets (not quilts) for refugees, asylum seekers and other vulnerable people

DROP OFF:

St Kevins Church or Parish House 26-44 Herlihys Rd, Templestowe Lower

St Gregory the Great Church, 71 Williamsons Rd, Doncaster

Queries: Carmel Purdey carmelpurdey@gmail.com





Alpha Celebration Dinner Come and See Night

Wednesday, 4 June
6.30 pm - 8.00 pm
St Kevin's Church, Templestowe
Dinner Provided

Join us for a celebration of Alpha with fun, food and conversation.
Open to all our Alpha participants and to anyone interested in Alpha

Thank you to those of you who have already confirmed your attendance to the Parish Office. Another way of responding is via the sign-up sheets on the table in the Gathering Space.



Our next **Parish Bookish Morning Tea** will be held on **Thursday, 5th June** at 10.00am and continues every fortnight.



Renting of Town House in Lower Plenty

Close to shops and public transport.
Not suitable for families.



A very modest rent would be asked on the condition that the owner could stay with the renter for a few days on the odd occasion that he comes over from Adelaide to visit family or for business.
Contact Michael Lynch 0409 933064.

Mass for marriage anniversaries

Sunday 1 June 2025 - 11.00am–12.00pm

Couples and their families are invited to join us as we celebrate the gift of marriage and family, coinciding with the Jubilee of Families. Couples who register and are celebrating the following anniversaries—5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 or 40 years and above—will receive a commemorative certificate. Please register for your spot by Wednesday 28 May.

For any queries, please contact the Proclaim team on 9926 5761 or at proclaim@cam.org.au.

Our hard-working Craft Group Ladies have created beautifully handmade, bespoke beanies which are for sale.

The parish of St Kevin's is very proud indeed of our Craft Group Ladies who work fervently throughout the year to provide warm blankets and beanies to the following organisations: * Missionaries of Charity Fitzroy and Timor
* St Kilda Mums * Exodus Community * Sacred Heart Missions St Kilda * Parish Nursing Homes
* Sick Parishioners



Beanies are currently for sale @ \$5 each. Proceeds go towards purchasing more wool for this hard-working group to continue their good works.

Come Away Day

The next **Come Away Day** for 2025 will be held at Holy Cross, 207 Serpells Road, Templestowe, on **Wednesday 28th MAY**. The theme of the day is: **'WAITING IN HOPE'**. This is an opportunity to focus on the deeper meaning of our faith journey as we move through seasons of change in our church and all around us. The day's program provides opportunities for prayer, silent reflection and group interaction in the beautiful grounds and facilities of Holy Cross. All are welcome. Just come as you are. BYO lunch. **Registration is from 9.30am**. The program concludes with a celebration of the Eucharist with a departure time of around **2.30-3pm**. The suggested cost is \$30.00 or a donation according to your means. Registration is helpful for planning purposes. For any further details contact Sr Brigid cp on bridget.m64@gmail.com



Vinnies

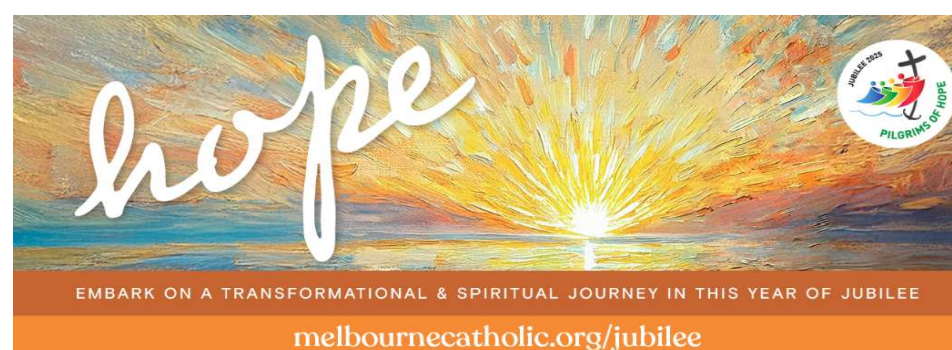
good works

We are excited and pleased to announce that we now have our own St Vincent De Paul Team here at St Kevin's Parish! We are only a small group at the moment so we are looking for volunteers to join us to help support the most vulnerable. If interested please contact Ana Saro via email on Ana.Saro@cam.org.au or call her directly on 7064 3948.

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 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.



Parish Mass Count

As we are currently in the merry month of May it is time for our Annual Mass Count. Please consider assisting with counting the number of Mass attendees.

Counters are requested to count the number of folk who are at Mass. Counting sheets are provided on the bench in the sacristy near the money bags.

This information is then forwarded to the Melbourne Archdiocese. It is a process in which we are able to maintain an up-to-date picture of Mass attendance in the Archdiocese, both in our parishes and migrant community centres.

For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful
Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF
THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

| First Reading | Second Reading |
|--|---|
| <p>Acts of the Apostles 15:1-2. 22-29</p> <p>A reading from the Acts of the Apostles</p> <p><i>It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and ourselves not to burden you beyond what is essential.</i></p> <p>One of the greatest challenges for the early Church was to refocus its mission from Jewish communities to the broader Gentile communities in the Roman empire. The most pressing issue for them to resolve was the extent to which those who became followers of Christ needed to follow the provisions of the Jewish law, circumcision being the most emblematic.</p> <p>From today's reading, it appears to have been resolved very easily. But this was not the case – as the omitted verses (15:3-21) demonstrate. However the decision is clear. Beyond a few basics, Gentile Christians do not have to follow the details of the Jewish law. We have already seen this unfolding in practice as the Gentile mission expanded.</p> <p>The most amazing expression in the letter announcing the decision is this: <i>It has been decided by the Holy Spirit and by ourselves...</i> It is a collaborative process! It has been a process of discernment which is not just parliamentary debate, but rather a respectful listening to one another and, by silence and prayer, to God. In today's Church, we are exploring what this means under the banner of 'synodality'. The way the early Church came to a decision is a helpful model of how we ought to proceed.</p> | <p>Revelation 21:10-14, 22-23</p> <p>A reading from the book of the Apocalypse</p> <p><i>He showed me the holy city coming down out of heaven.</i></p> <p>The phrase <i>the radiant glory of God</i> occurs twice in this reading. The reading describes the kingdom of heaven where Christ, the Lamb of God, is enthroned, and where one day we hope to join the risen Christ. God and the Lamb fill the place with bright light, making the sun or moon unnecessary. At the Easter Vigil by the paschal candle, the risen Christ was acclaimed as the light of the world.</p> <p>The key symbol of the kingdom of heaven – also encountered in last week's Apocalypse reading – is the 'New Jerusalem'. This time it is presented as a jewel. The references to the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve apostles present the new Jerusalem as the destiny of all God's people, both of the old and new covenants. All are exposed to the full and direct presence of God.</p> <p><i>Taken from 'Break Open the Word'</i></p> |

Catholic Social Justice highlighted following the death of Pope Francis (Part 4)

Further to this SJA series on Pope Francis' legacy of Catholic Social Justice action, which Pope Leo has already emphasised he is continuing, the following is extracted from "Open to everyone and attentive to the signs of the Times", Vatican News, Lisa Zengarini - Cardinal Re at Requiem Mass. 26 April 2025:

Part 4. "....."He was a Pope among the people", with an open heart towards everyone, especially the marginalised, the least among us, but "also a Pope attentive to the signs of the times and what the Holy Spirit was awakening in the Church". With his characteristic vocabulary and language, he always sought to shed light on the problems of our difficult times with the wisdom of the Gospel, encouraging Christians to live out their faith amid these challenges and contradictions, which he liked to describe as an "epochal Change". "

On a related topic, prompted and fortified by the ongoing wonderful, woollen items lovingly created by our Parish knitting Group, Social Justice Action is embarking on another winter collection appeal in collaboration with Catholic Care, for Coats, Blankets and Jackets, so do watch out for further details - **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.

