



St Kevin's Catholic Parish

26-44 Herlihys Road, Templestowe Lower



Mass Times

St Kevin's: 5.30pm Saturdays

9.15am 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

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

13/14th September, 2025

Safeguarding Sunday

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves



From the desk of the PP...

St Kevin's Sunday Mass Time Change: As of this Sunday 14th September, St Kevin's will have ONE morning Mass starting at 9:15am.

Columbarium: We are considering constructing a space for interment of cremated ashes of parishioners/relatives who die. What are your thoughts? Would you make use of such a facility?

There is a survey available in the Gathering Space seeking your ideas and level of interest. For it to be worth the investment we need to have a fair idea that there are people interested in making use of the facility.

Parish Accountant: The parish accountant for St Kevin's has decided to step aside from his role at the end of the year. SO!! We need a replacement. Do you know someone who might help? If so please call or email Fr Charles (Mob: 0417 319 556 or Charles.Balnaves@cam.org.au).

Australian Catholic Youth Festival. 30th Nov – 2nd Dec. acyf.org.au – Our numbers are growing slowly: another three young people have indicated wanting to attend: that makes 12 across our parishes. KEEP INVITING 😊 !!!

Safeguarding Audit: Up to date? I hope so! 90% of volunteers are – YIPPEE!! Which means some still need to finalise some part of Working with Children Check, Police Check, Code of Conduct, role description. Call the office if you are uncertain.

Things we do: Continuing my thoughts on what we do during Mass. Arising from the Liturgy Workshop that we had a week ago with Fr Frank O'Loughlin: Bread and Wine.

Bread! Why bread? Because in Jesus' day bread was a staple food – an essential part of staying alive, something consumed all the time. Bread (or some equivalent like Rice in Asia) is essential for survival. To consume bread is to acknowledge that at a radical, basic level we are not in control, we need something to keep us alive. In the Eucharist we remember the Bread of the Passover/Exodus; the Bread from God, the Manna in the desert; the bread of freedom when the people entered the promised land. And now, in the Eucharist Jesus takes the bread and it becomes the bread of eternal life.

Wine! Wine is different from bread: it is not a staple but to celebration. Wine cheers the human heart; changes us, loosens us, raises our spirit. Wine was drunk three times during the Passover meal for the Israelites: Jesus added a fourth cup. The cup of wine we consume in the Eucharist a cup that changes us from beings bounded by earthly things into beings who are opened out to the fullness of God's Spirit through his Son.

The depth and breadth of the symbolism in the bread and wine is amazing! We plan to bring some workshops over the coming year that will help all of us understand the depth and breadth of the Eucharist a little more.

God bless, Fr Charles

Safeguarding Sunday

Today we are gathered on Safeguarding Sunday, a day when we pause to focus on our responsibility to protect and care for those who are vulnerable. In the Bible, we find a clear and strong message about justice, compassion and speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves. We are called to be a safe, welcoming and hope-filled Church.

In our everyday lives, let's be mindful of those around us who are vulnerable or marginalised. Who are the "silent" ones in our society, the ones without a voice? Today, God may be calling you to stand up for them. Whether it's through prayer, support or direct action, we are invited to participate in God's work of justice.

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	9.15am	Mass
Monday	8.30am	St 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	9.15am	Mass with Baptism Presentation



We pray for Better Health:

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, Bob Ulehla, Dot Sharkey, Shirley Loo, Lianny Susanto, Therese Tankey, Jewly Wylie, David Cullen, Peter Ryan, Tony Robinson and Julie-Anne Oldfield.

Anniversaries:

Jasmine Milanes, Ann Tipton, Nathan Jones, Margaret Cunningham, Danny Frawley, Antonio Ziino, Rosemary Mercieca, Donald Mullin and Liberato Crescia.

Recently Deceased:

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week:

For our Alpha participants as they undertook their weekend retreat: that they were in their own way filled with the Holy Spirit.



Feast Days this week:...

15th September

Our Lady of Sorrows

This feast celebrates Mary, first disciple and first to share in the pain and triumph of the cross.

16th September

Ss Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian
Remembered as compassionate pastors who developed the Church's teaching and practice of reconciliation.

20th September

Ss Andrew Kim Tai Gùn, Paul Chùng Ha-Sang and Companions
Remembered for their fearless witness in the face of torture and death.

LITURGY ROSTER

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross – 13/14th September 2025

1st Read: Numbers 21: 4-9 2nd Read: Philippians 2: 6-11 Gos: John 3: 13-17

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Christine Marini	Rachel Marini	Anne Maguire Lynne O'Brien
9.15am	Tony Byrne	Jessica Bartholomeusz	Kaye Byrne Frances Bettiol Penny Teo

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 20/21st September 2025


1st Read: Amos 8: 4-7 2nd Read: Timothy 2: 1-8 Gos: Luke 16: 1-13

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Margaret Turner	Tasha Vercauteren	Bredenia Raquel Anne Maguire
9.15am	Carmel Purdey	Carmel Shiel	Lyn Robinson Tony Robinson Liz Polidano




St Kevin's Christian Meditation,
each Wednesday 9:30am ONLINE via Zoom.
Open to all parishioners including members of the wider community.
Why not try it?
Contact the Parish House for the online link.
All welcome

We may be interested in what prayer and meditation can teach us about ourselves.
It is a journey into the mystery of God's immeasurable love.



Our next Parish Bookish Morning Tea
will be held on **Thursday,**
25th September at 10.00am and continues every fortnight.

All are welcome to join in the fun!
Looking forward to seeing you all then!!





Attention: Commentators and Lectors
Save the date: Saturday 4th October at 11am in St Kevin's Gathering Space.

With our new Mass start time and with some new recruits joining our team, it seems the right time to run a refresher training session on proclaiming the Word. It is beneficial to all to be reminded of the importance of the job and how to do it the best way we can. You are encouraged to attend and spend an hour of your time, perhaps picking up some hints along the way. Anyone who is interested in joining our team is also very welcome to join us.
Further reminders will be emailed in later this month.
Please save the date in your diaries today.

Pauline Erickson

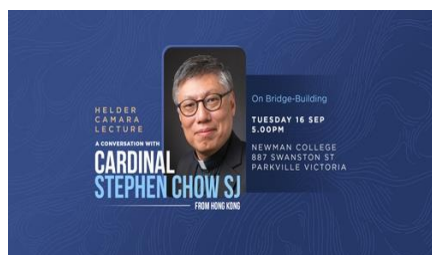
ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

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. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate, including the spouses of any inquirers. If you attended any previous session, you are also welcome to join the September gathering.

Online Diaconate information meeting
Tuesday, 23rd September 19:00 – 20:00 ie, 7.00 - 8.00pm
Even if you can only attend for part of the session, please 'ZOOM' in whenever you can.

Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison - Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au

HELDER CAMARA LECTURE SERIES ANNOUNCE AN INSPIRING GUEST SPEAKER COMING TO MELBOURNE



Cardinal Chow SJ, Bishop of Hong Kong, one of the most senior Catholic Church leaders in Asia on “Bridge-Building”. After being ordained a priest he spent 12 years undertaking postgraduate study, culminating in a doctorate of education in human development and psychology from Harvard University in 2006.

When and where: Tuesday, 16th September, 5.00pm at Newman College Parkville

For booking info: <https://events.humanitix.com/melbourne-helder-camara-lecture-cardinal-chow-sj-on-bridge-building>

Cardinal Chow is a leading figure in the contemporary Church, and is said to be an excellent speaker. It should be of great interest.

A PARISH COLUMBARIUM

Our parish is exploring the possibility of building a columbarium - a sacred place on church grounds for the respectful and reverent interment of cremated remains.

To help us assess interest and plan accordingly, we kindly ask you to participate in a brief survey. Your input is valuable and will help guide our decisions moving forward.

Survey forms are available in the Gathering Space. After completing the form, please deposit it in the designated box provided.

The survey will be open for two weeks, beginning the weekend of September 13th –14th, 2025.

Thank you for your thoughtful participation and continued support of our parish.

We recently received the following letter of thanks from CatholicCare:



Dear Fr Charles and St Kevin's Parish community,

RE: Thank you for supporting CatholicCare Victoria

On behalf of everyone we support in our communities, I sincerely thank the Parish Social Justice Team and the St Kevin's Parish community for supporting CatholicCare Victoria.

We are very grateful for the recent donation of \$430.68 from your parish through the collections organised by your Social Justice Team.

The kind and generous support from the St Kevin's Parish community helps those who are most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our communities.

Your faithful support helps CatholicCare Victoria continue our work to empower individuals and families, build resilience, and support people to reach their full potential and live life to the full. Thank you!

If you would like further information about our services or impact, please don't hesitate to contact our Philanthropy, Marketing and Communications team on (03) 9967 2515.

Thank you once again to the **St Kevin's Templestowe parish community** for your continued support and generosity. We are proud to have you as part of the CatholicCare Victoria family. Together we can strengthen individuals, families and communities - and help everyone live life to the full.

Blessings and peace,

Agnes Sheehan
Chief Executive Officer

Well done to all parishioners and friends of St Kevin's Parish!

🙏 Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for September

For Our Relationship with All of Creation

"Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect."

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.



Eucharistic Adoration & Healing Service



Come and join us for
Eucharistic Adoration with
intention of healing and
healing prayer ministry

**SUNDAY, 28 SEPT 2025
5.45-7.00 PM**

(after 5PM Sunday Mass)

St Gregory the Great Church
71 Williamsons Rd,
Doncaster VIC

Service will be led by Priest and Sisters
of the CSE and Daughters of Carmel
Congregation from Indonesia



Fr Joseph
Kristostomus, CSE



Sr M Petra,
PKarm



Sr Theofilia,
PKarm

Info: Vera
doncaster@cam.org.au

For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin’s Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

God of all creation,
hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	
First Reading	Second Reading
<p>Numbers 21:4-9</p> <p>A reading from the book of Numbers</p> <p><i>When those that were afflicted looked upon it, they were healed.</i></p> <p>The Exodus from slavery in Egypt is the defining event in the Old Testament. But after crossing the Red Sea, the people wandered in the desert for forty years. They complained frequently to Moses.</p> <p>The people, and God it seems, lost patience with one another. But when they were struck down by fiery serpents, they went to Moses to express their sorrow. Moses interceded on their behalf. He made a bronze serpent and lifted it up, so that anyone who looked upon it was saved from death by snake bite.</p> <p>This event is quoted in today’s gospel. As for Israelites who looked upon the bronze serpent, so too, all who look upon Christ lifted up on the cross will be saved and receive eternal life.</p>	<p>Philippians 2:6-11</p> <p>A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians</p> <p><i>He humbled himself, therefore God had exalted him.</i></p> <p>We last heard this reading on Palm Sunday. It is likely an early Christian hymn which expresses the whole of the Paschal Mystery of Jesus’ death and resurrection. It summarises beautifully and concisely the meaning of today’s feast.</p> <p>Prominent here is the ‘lifting up’ which we see in the other readings and which is actually embedded in the name of the feast itself. Note that this is God’s work: God raised him on high to receive the adoration of ‘every creature under heaven’.</p> <p>Hearing these words should bring the assembly to worship.</p> <p><i>Taken from ‘Break Open the Word’</i></p>

2nd Collections

Parish and Archdiocese Collections are necessary for the existence and operation of our Church and its many works. '2nd Collections' are more discretionary, and help us focus on those around us with urgent needs where we can help. Our parishioners are warmly acknowledged in writing by recipient organisations for 2nd Collection generosity. More recently this includes \$363.90 for Nungalinga college, a combined Churches Training College to Equip Indigenous women and men for leadership roles in Churches and Communities. Their representatives will be visiting our Parish in mid October to thank and update us on recent activities, and any parishioner interested in directly hearing about their work is welcome to join this daytime gathering by letting SJA or the Parish office know. Other recent collections include \$430.68 for Catholic Care, \$430.68 for Stella Maris (providing chaplaincy to seafarers). A further donation of \$361.85 assisted Opening The Doors Foundation (providing Koori kids with an education of their choice). Earlier this year our Project Compassion appeal for Caritas Australia raised \$4,061. We also earlier collected \$1,097.50 for Vinnies.

Further afield we contributed \$567.25 to the Pope's annual 'Peter's Pence' global appeal, collaborating with local Catholic Missions supporting initiatives in Zambia. This appeal is dramatically helping families facing heartbreaking choices of either feeding their children or selling crops to survive. It importantly helps also with education, upgrading medical equipment to ensure women and newborns receive the care and dignity they deserve, and supports evangelisation. This *global* collection in 2024 raised 54.3 million Euros (~AUD \$96.8 million). SJA will shortly start collaboratively planning our Parish 2026 2nd Collection schedule - **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.