



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

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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 Christ the King

22nd/23rd November, 2025

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves



From the desk of the PP...

ACYF!!! Australian Catholic Youth Festival: 6000 pilgrims plus organisers: please keep them all in your prayers. Our preparations are nearly complete.

Thanksgiving: The United States of America celebrates Thanksgiving on Thursday of this coming week. I have a friend who lives in Louisiana. We were chatting last Monday, and the subject of Thanksgiving came up: she wanted to know if we celebrate that day. I had to say 'no.' At least not in the same sense that they do. Thanksgiving remembers that moment when the pilgrims had survived their first year in a new country and could harvest the food of their growing after living through a winter.

We don't have any equivalent founding story in Australia, though an AI comment caught my eye when I checked the date: Thanksgiving is celebrated in Norfolk Island – interesting, presumably growing out of their roots of settlement.

As my friend and I chatted I got to thinking. Certainly, we don't have a holiday that is remotely similar unless it is Christmas because that tends to be when families make a special effort to gather, and for those who follow the Lunar Calendar, the Lunar New Year is a time of special family gathering. Neither has the same overtones as the USA celebration but the family gathering is 'similar'.

Then it struck me that as Catholics, as followers of Jesus Christ, this weekend with the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe is something like an equivalent of Thanksgiving.

The whole of Salvation history culminates in this moment: after Adam and Eve and the Fall, God started a whole process: the revelation that we see in the Old Testament; the coming of Jesus Christ with his passion, death and resurrection, ascension and coming of the Holy Spirit: this all culminates in Jesus as Lord, and the truth of what Jesus says to the thief on the cross "I promise you", he replied, "today you will be with me in paradise."

I won't be going much for the USA Thanksgiving, it is not my Holy Day. But every day I am giving thanks again and again and again, that Jesus is Christ, King of the Universe, king in my life.

God bless, Fr Charles

ACYF Launch and Reception of the WYD Cross and Icon and Pilgrimage Walk – Sunday 30 November

All are invited to St Patrick's Cathedral on Sunday 30 November as we welcome more than 6,000 young pilgrims from across Australia for the Australian Catholic Youth Festival.

Let us gather together as the local Church in Melbourne to share in their joy and offer a truly warm Melbourne welcome.

Cathedral Program:

- 1.30pm – Melbourne Catholic Festa: A joyful celebration of the diversity and beauty of our faith communities, gathering on the Cathedral forecourt.
- 2.30pm – Reception of the WYD Cross and Icon: Join us as we welcome these powerful symbols of faith which have travelled the world inspiring young Catholics.
- 3.00pm – Pilgrimage Walk: A pilgrimage of hope, led by the WYD Cross and Icon, journeying 5km from the Cathedral to MCEC (note: only ticketed pilgrims can enter MCEC). A shorter 3km Cathedral – Birrarung Marr – Return route is also available.



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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	9.15am	Mass with Baptism Presentation
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	9.15am	Mass



We pray for Better Health:

Alexandra Bateman, Alan Benn, Federico Aspromonte, Peter Ryan, Eugenia Pozzebon, Dr Noel Smyth, Louis Amalfi, Aileen Kent, Ruth Shiel, Fr Frank Maloney, Rachel Hally, Vin Natoli, Bob Ulehla, Dot Sharkey, Shirley Loo, Lianny Susanto, Jewly Wylie, David Cullen, Peter Ryan, Tony Robinson, Julie-Anne Oldfield, Dylan, Shane, Lyn Murphy, Marie Cameron and Peter Zeantti.

Anniversaries:

Benita Mabo, Matthew Wilkins and Augusta Menis

Recently Deceased:

John Fitzgerald

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week: For all those who have died and gone before us: that they have been open to God's loving embrace and have been accepted to share in eternal life.



Feast Days this week:...

24th November

Ss Andrew Dũng-Lac & Companions
Andrew (1795-1839), baptised at the age of 15, worked first as a lay missionary and then as a diocesan presbyter before being beheaded at Hanoi (Vietnam).

Listed among 117 canonised martyrs who died in Vietnam between 1820 and 1862: 96 Vietnamese, 11 Spanish Dominicans and 10 presbyters from the Paris Foreign Mission Society.

Remembered as representatives of the thousands of Christians tortured and martyred in Vietnam between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries: bishops, presbyters, religious and lay people, both children and adults.

LITURGY ROSTER

Feast of Christ the King – 22nd/23rd November 2025

1st Read: Samuel 5: 1-3 2nd Read: Colossians 1: 12-20 Gos: Luke 23: 35-43

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Pauline Erickson	Christine Marini	Maryanne McNamara Lynne O'Brien
9.15am	Frances Johnson	Carmel Shiel	Liz Polidano Carmel Purdey Adrian Teo

First Sunday of Advent – 29/30th November 2025

1st Read: Isaiah 2: 1-5 2nd Read: 1 Romans 13: 11-14 Gos: Matthew 24: 37-44

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Tasha Vercauteran	Margaret Turner	Anne Maguire Lawrence Cecconello
9.15am	Marie Arbogast	Jessica Bartholomeusz	Lyn Robinson Mary Waddick Pat Rowland

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

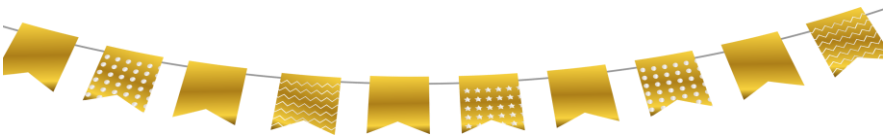
Talking about meditation is not as useful
as trying it.
In meditation we enter into harmony
with all creation.
We pause from thinking about the past or the future.
We learn to be still and appreciate the precious present moment.
Be still and know that I am God (Ps 46: 10)

November is traditionally the month when we remember our deceased loved ones. If you would like Father to include them in our prayers, please complete the appropriate envelopes which are on the table in the Gathering Space and hand them directly to him.



Our next Parish Bookish Morning Tea
will be held on Thursday, 4th December
at 10.00am and continues every fortnight.

All are welcome to join in the fun!



Alpha Celebration Dinner
Come and See Night

Wednesday, 26 November

6.30 pm - 8.30 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

RSVP: templestowe@cam.org.au; 9850 5983



Alpha is a series of group
conversations that freely explore
the basics of the Christian faith in
an open, friendly environment.



Find out more at
alpha.org.au



Thursday, 27th November @ 7.30pm

For further information, please contact Lyn Robinson via email: lynrob73@outlook.com or mobile: 0438 078 067.

If you wish to have a relative or friend inscribed in this precious book, please fill out a form from the table in the Gathering Space and hand it into the parish office.
Thank you.



Parents and carers are requested to please supervise your children at all times.

For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

First Reading	Second Reading
<p>2 Samuel 5:1-3</p> <p>A reading from the second book of Samuel</p> <p><i>They anointed David king of Israel.</i></p> <p>About a thousand years before Christ, David was anointed king. In this reading, the people of the northern tribes seek him out to be their king also. Notwithstanding some notorious failures, he was a good ruler and well-loved. So much so that, when calamity overtook the people, the prophets continued to speak of deliverance through the House of David.</p> <p>It was to be a Son of David who would come as the Messiah, the Christ (these titles mean 'the anointed one') to restore and rule over the nation. Jesus, the Christ, the Son of David, comes as a descendent of the shepherd-king to become the good shepherd who leads people to the kingdom of God.</p>	<p>Colossians 1:12-20</p> <p>A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians</p> <p><i>He has taken us into the kingdom of his beloved Son.</i></p> <p>I am the Light of the World, says Jesus (Jn 8:12). The preamble to this reading thanks God for bringing us out of darkness and into Christ's kingdom of light where we will find freedom and forgiveness.</p> <p>Then Colossians quotes an early liturgical hymn about Christ that is cosmic in scope. It falls into two parts. The first extols Christ as the image of God and the head of the whole of creation; the second part acclaims Christ as the redeemer in whom all things are reconciled.</p> <p>At the hinge of the two parts is the beautiful image of the Church as the Body of Christ with Christ as the head. This draws all the baptised into the unity of creation and the reconciling, peace-making work of the cross.</p> <p>This poetic text evokes contemplation of the sacred work of Christ.</p> <p><i>Taken from 'Break Open the Word'</i></p>



Mixed approaches to Youth Crime; Under 16s Social Media Ban - Will it work? 2nd Collection Feedback

Perhaps with Elections somewhat in mind there has at least been greater local focus recently on youth, and youth crime. SJA reported in our 25/26 April Parish Newsletter on a successful large scale Scottish program where offending and at-risk youth were diverted into a successful special active-program other than detention. On Wednesday the Victorian Government announced a new but far narrower program employing focused Social Workers in selected schools to specialise in such issues, and elsewhere divert particular offenders into limited programs along Scottish lines. In contrast the choice has also been made to treat worst youth offenders in adult terms. At the same time a limited 'Social Media Ban' for under 16s, contested by global providers, is to be introduced, with its success to be monitored. But as for some other bans, can this ban work effectively? Meanwhile a new mental health study reported in The Age (19/11/2025) reaffirms that teenage boys and young men are lacking positive male role models, but that new programs are also on the horizon.

Our Parish has continued to receive appreciative letters. The Brigidine Asylum seekers welcomed our second collection of \$703.15. Their latest Newsletter provides a moving personal snapshot of individuals they continue to support in rebuilding lives. Brother Harry Prout of the Heidelberg West Exodus Community expressed gratitude for our \$931.80 saying "we would like to put the money towards a Fund we have created to assist two Palestinian families we are supporting - for one year now - with utility bills. These two families - mothers and sisters - have work rights now but are still attending language classes to help them secure employment." - **John Costa, Chairperson SJA**

