



ST KEVIN'S TEMPLESTOWE

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St Kevin's PPC Meeting

6th November 2025

Minutes

The meeting opened at 2.30pm.

Present: Fr Charles, Fr Anton, Gabee Leone, Adrian Teo, Carmel Shiel, David Hii, John Costa, Pauline Erickson.

Apologies: Peter Sheehan, Ana Saro, Claudia Raiola.

John Costa presented the opening prayer in the form of a reflection, taken from Pope Leo's address to the Jesuits on the frontiers and challenges of our Church today.

Matters arising from previous minutes.

John spoke briefly about planting the seed by way of a short video to the congregation re the forum planned for next year on ways of St Kevin's moving forward re synodality and other matters. Charles suggested that St Greg's also be involved.

John also suggested the idea of mentioning at the men's group gathering, the subject of ongoing maintenance jobs at St Kevin's. It could be a way of getting a group together to tackle recurring maintenance.

Reports

- 1) Fr Charles: Fr Charles reported on the very successful safeguarding audit at St Greg's, first Eucharist for 13 children at St Kevin's, Alpha plans for 2026 and the idea of Connect groups for Dec and Jan. Fr Charles has reached out to the parish on this topic through the newsletter.

Outreach. Fr Charles has more options for providing for people who come in need together with an annual collection, allowing the parish to respond to specific needs as they arise.

Reports on November Memorial Mass, Rosary on line, RCIA progress, ACYF successful fundraising and a visit from Lucy from Nungalinga Theological College for Aboriginal people.

Sanctuary redesign moving ahead with final details happening in the coming weeks.

St Charles Borromeo site. The wind up with MACS is happening and the hand back to the Parish has begun. Negotiations will be welcomed from all interested parties. Council is reminded that there will be ongoing costs involved in maintaining the property.

Fr Charles explained in greater detail, the Andrew Ministries, focusing on the growth of faith in our youth. A pilot at St Greg's looks promising. He also put forward the idea of a "Faith Formation" for 2026, focusing on the basics of our faith and where we are today.

- 2) Fr Anton: Fr Anton is continuing with his parish work in nursing homes and also with his involvement in the Tamil community.
- 3) Pastoral Worker: Ana Saro. Ana is currently on leave but forwarded her report beforehand. Youth Group and playgroup both going well. Nursing home visits continuing with some changes. Ana reported on recent First Communion, her Outreach work, safeguarding, Baptisms and the St Vinnies team of 5. She mentioned the upcoming International morning tea on 23rd November.
- 4) School Principal: Gabee Leone. Gabee reported on the recent visit from a Dept of Education rep, supporting teachers in delivering the Respectful Relationships program to schools. She also reported on the information evening for new Prep families for 2026 and also the Yrs 3 to 6 Lead to Sustain program. On 21st November, there will be a fundraising "Colour Run Event" using the My Cause platform.
- 5) Finance: David Hii. David reported on further interest in the Columbarium project. Taking that interest into account, PPC voted to go ahead and obtain the Council permit.
The parish has engaged a new volunteer accountant, Dominique Leung, to take over the responsibilities of Peter Norman as from January 2026.
- 6) Social Justice: John Costa. John reported on St Kevin's/St Greg's collaboration on ad-hoc finance need approaches and possible mutually agreed joint collections. His report also mentioned his ongoing SJA visiting activity. St Kevin's draft 2026 2nd collection schedule will be completed in Nov/Dec. Review of SJA website in 2026 for better communication and interest.
- 7) Chair: Pauline Erickson. The Formation session for lectors and commentators, held on 4th October was very informative and successful.
- 8) Next Meeting 4th December at 2.30pm.

Meeting closed at 4.05pm.



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PPC Agenda 6th November 2025

- 1) Opening Prayer
- 2) Apologies
- 3) Matters arising from the minutes of October meeting
- 4) Parish updates
 - a) Fr Charles
 - b) Fr Anton
 - c) Pastoral worker – Ana Saro (apology)
 - d) School Principal - Gabee Leone
 - e) Finance – David Hii
 - f) Social Justice – John Costa
 - g) Chair -Pauline Erickson
- 5) Other matters for discussion
- 6) Next PPC

PPC Parish Priest Report - St Kevin's

What's been happening ... lots ...

1. Safeguarding Audit at St Greg's: A very successful audit indeed. Well done all who contributed – from St Kevin's as well as St Greg's.
2. First Eucharist: An excellent two Masses – 13 children safely on the road to lifelong Eucharistic Celebration.
3. Alpha: plans beginning for 2026 – with the Come and See evening on 26th November.
4. Connect Groups: I am thinking to have a pilot of Connect during the December January period – a start of this important next element of growing into the future.
5. Columbarium: David will speak but we have had four more expressions of interest.
6. Outreach: Fr Charles' need for help with people in need: two meetings about the need for extra ways to help those in need mean:
 - a. I have more extensive options for providing for people who come in need without having to feel the need to provide cash assistance.
 - b. The parish will have an annual collection that can allow the parish to respond to specific, well vetted needs as they arise.
7. November Memorial Mass: planning has started – Lyn Robinson will take over this year from Lyn Murphy.
8. ACYF: results of Bake Sale excellent with total fundraising of over \$3500, thank you to all. And we have 23 people going pilgrims and leaders plus a myself. Planning is underway for how to manage the group. A detailed risk management plan is being developed.
9. Rosary on line: went well – 20-25 attendees each week with a total of about 40 people over the four weeks.
10. RCIA progress and Regional Gathering: the Archdiocese organised a regional gathering at St Kevin's in October – an opportunity for a wide range of parishes to exchange their ways of doing things.
11. Redesign of the Sanctuary: You have seen the drawings – what extra comments do you have? I would like to think this is what we can move ahead with – with details like carpet and edging being decided over coming weeks. We don't need permission from the archdiocese as the cost should be vastly below \$100,000 but I have sent our plans to the Vicar General and our Easter Region Bishop for their information and comment.
12. Nungalinga: Lucy, from this amazing theological college for Aboriginal people, visited giving a nice insight into its value. Great thanks for the parish's contribution to assist them. We are the only Catholic parish in Victoria who provides direct assistance.
13. St Charles Borromeo: the wind up of the RULBA (right to use) agreement and hand back to the parish has begun. We don't have a time-line yet on what comes next.
 - a. MACS are putting in effort to keep the space safe and whole.
14. Evangelisation Leader: I have received four applications for the role and am now, more slowly than I hoped, evaluating the applications and will seek to form an interview team and hold interviews.
15. Andrew Ministries: this is a 'discipleship' model of accompanying young people (12-18 yo) on their journey of faith. It works in small groups (two adults, five children) and seeks to journey with the children at their level and situation of faith – helping them to understand faith in their lives from their perspective. It comes out of the USA but seems useable here. A group of people at St Greg's has been participating in a pilot and we are impressed. This approach, in the USA, has marked a dramatic shift in how many of the young people in a parish stay active with and in their faith as they move into later high school and out into the wide world. As result of the pilot become available we will need to make a decision about whether to pursue this different approach to youth ministry. It doesn't eliminate at "Youth Group" but rather supplements it with an intentional effort to shepherd young people in their faith.

I think that's about it.

Thank you all for your efforts to help lead this amazing parish.

PPC Pastoral Worker Report

I will be an apology for the meeting next week as I will be on Annual Leave.
Here is my Pastoral Report.

Youth Group - averaging approx 18 students every month. Charlotte is now running the evening but I am support for the preparation leading up to the night. Seems to be working well!

Play Group - is now at capacity with 10 families - really joyous but noisy fun had in the Gathering Space every Monday Morning.

Nursing Homes- There has been a bit of a shake up in the volunteers attending Nursing Homes. Pat is now taking over Mercy and I am taking over Willowbrae. Templestowe Manor and Mercy continue to come to the church once a month for either a prayer service or mass plus Morning tea. A lot of work but very rewarding to see the smiles on the faces of the residents.

First Eucharist Sacrament Masses - 13 children received their first Holy communion on the weekend of the 25/26th October. I was very proud of the manner in which the candidates and their families conducted themselves.

Outreach - a number of parishioners in hospital or unwell at this time. I am endeavouring to ensure that I keep in contact and visit at least once.

Safeguarding - The audit is completed and we seemed to do very well - will wait and see what the report suggests. Still a few people that I am following up for checks but this is an ongoing issue.

Baptisms- Another 2 booked in and a few more enquiries.

Vinnies- There are now a team of 5 St Kevin's parishioners that have joined the St Greg's Conference- Adrian, Jenni, Marie, Lolita and myself-very rewarding.

I am very happy that Nadia is back after 4 weeks off - the Bulletin is now back in safe hands!!

Upcoming - I will be organising 'An International Morning Tea' for Sunday 23rd November. Will be liaising with Nadia to advertisedetails to follow!!

Many Thanks!



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BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT – NOVEMBER, 2025

Columbarium (Wall Niche)

We have received 9 expressions of interest for the wall niche from our survey so far.

Out of the 9 expressions of interest, 6 specifically indicated that they are interested in purchasing 2 niches each. The intended selling price per niche is approximately \$3,500, which is about 80% of the cost at Templestowe Cemetery, our nearest cemetery.

A rough estimate from a few months ago indicated that the total construction cost would be around \$20,000, and we have already spent approximately \$2,000 on architectural fees. Our proposal is to build 44 wall niches for our columbarium.

Based on the current survey results and assuming the interested parties are committed to purchasing at the stated price of \$3,500 per niche, the total proceeds from the sale of 15 wall niches would be approximately \$52,500.

As a guide, St Gregory spent approximately \$2,500 on the cost of applying for a planning permit from the council. Once the council permit is approved or obtained, we have a two-year window to decide whether to proceed with the construction.

Your thoughts on the results so far?

Parish Accountant

The Parish has engaged a new volunteer to take on the responsibilities of Peter Norman, who will be retiring in February 2026.

The new volunteer is Dominique Leung, a Chartered Accountant with extensive experience in auditing. She will commence her voluntary role as Parish Accountant in January 2026. Dominique is also a former student of St Kevin's Primary School.

Peter Norman has kindly indicated that he will continue assisting with money counting for our parish, as this function is separate from that of the Accountant.



For PPC Meeting

06/11/25

**Respectful
Relationship
Evening**



Last week we had a representative from the Department of Education, Aimy Skym. She is part of a team who work to support teachers and schools in delivering the Respectful Relationships program to schools. Aimy presented units 7 and 8 to our staff.

Topic 1: Emotional literacy

Topic 2: Personal and cultural strengths

Topic 3: Positive coping

Topic 4: Problem-solving

Topic 5: Stress management

Topic 6: Help-seeking

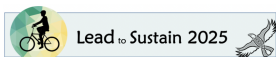
Topic 7: Gender norms and stereotypes

Topic 8: Positive gender relationships

On Thursday Evening Fiona George and I represented this program to parents. The evening was well attended and feedback was very positive.

**Prep 2026
School
Readiness**

On Wednesday evening, the school leadership team presented information to new Prep families about the Prep curriculum and school readiness. Parents also heard from community leaders, including Fr Charles, the SAC Chair, and the PFA President. We look forward to welcoming our new

	students for their first transition day on Thursday, 6 November.
Year 3-6 Lead to Sustainability 	The Lead to Sustain 2025 is an event to celebrate all the environmental work that has been done at our school and to meet the environmental leaders from other schools. Students will go to Currawong Bush Park on Friday, 31st October, for an amazing, fun-filled day where students will learn a lot about the environment and sustainability!
Colour Run	The PFA are very excited to be organising a <u>Colour Run Event</u> for the students on <u>Friday November 21</u>. This will be a sponsorship style event (using the My Cause fundraising platform). The fundraising will remain open until 11.30pm on Saturday November 20. There will be a prize awarded to the class that raises the largest average amount per student, a prize for the student with the highest total sponsorship and a small prize for the student in each class with the highest sponsorship. The event will start at 2pm and all students will be participating. The event will take place on the school oval, involving various stations such as bubbles/foam etc. & games! At the conclusion of the colour run (from 3.30-4.30pm), the PFA will be selling sausages in bread, drinks etc. that can be purchased on the day. We will also be holding a raffle. Tickets will be available to purchase online in advance (up until the night before the event). We will share details in School and Parish

	newsletters. We have some amazing prizes such as coffee vouchers, dinner and pasta vouchers, entertainment vouchers and family fun activities like bowling and skating. As all parents/guardians/parishioners may not be at the event at the time of the raffle, we will draw the raffle in order of the prize list (ie. winners will not be picking their prize). This is much fairer for those that are unable to be present at the time of the draw.
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Social Justice Action

St Kevin's Parish Templestowe

Report to Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, 6 November 2025

1. St Kevin's / St Greg's collaboration on ad-hoc special financial need approaches

As agreed at previous PPC Meetings SJA (Carmel Purdey organising) has now arranged two meetings (overall) with St Greg's Gerald O'Donnell, Fr Charles, Ana Saro and John Costa, resulting in a clearer and simpler process for more appropriately addressing ad-hoc special needs financial assistance for parishioners or (more often) others from the local community seeking special-need financial support. The process comprises a more fully assessed approach, supported by a joint Special Purpose fund for the purpose & annual Collection.

2. Possible occasional joint 2nd Collections at St Kevins & St Greg's Parishes

As also briefly discussed at recent PPC Meetings we have done this on an ad hoc basis in the past but are now exploring the possibility of a small number of joint mutually agreed-in-advance shared 2nd Collections for mutually supported particular causes.

3. Nungalinga Visit to our Parish

On 23 Oct. pm we were visited by Lucy Vallentine of Nungalinga College to further update us on their impressive work in providing training for 1st Nations Christian ministers and community helpers, and in gratitude for our associated 2nd Collection. We also usefully discussed connections between 1st Nations and Catholic spirituality, and explored potential ways beyond just words for effective spiritual communication, visually and musically.

4. Ongoing Routine SJA visit activity

While numbers vary from time to time and with some other SJA members on an ad hoc basis I regularly visit/support four special-need person each week and one other periodically. The former includes one receiving home-care rather than full time care by his own firm choice while having a serious health condition, and another elderly disabled, separated, person in care, but at this stage of life with highly problematic drug-addicted son.

5. 2nd Collections

During November/December we expect to complete the draft 2026 2nd Collection Schedule with draft input from the Archdiocese.

6. Communication

SJA work importantly depends on effective 'communication', by brief Newsletter articles, videos, forums, and providing details of 2nd Collections and their outcomes. Having found relatively little response to SJA Website items we plan to review our website use in 2026.