



# 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](mailto:templestowe@cam.org.au)

Website: [stkevinsparish.org.au](http://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 A

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

17/18<sup>th</sup> January, 2026

Baptism and Baptism Presentation Weekend

**Our Presider today is:** Fr Charles Balnaves

## Words from the desk of our PP...



## Beauty in Unexpected Places: Hazard? The Beauty of God?

In a world where we need to remain alert for danger, my instant thought when I saw all the dead bark was “fire hazard.” Then I looked again and saw: beauty – the colours of the bark with such subtle variations; the ‘almost patterns’ that please the eye like the shapes in a cloud; new growth that is happening around it at the same time as the bark dies; the near infinite variety of shapes of the bark with no two pieces the same yet it is all knowable as ‘bark.’ And what about the beauty of the setting of the sun refracted through a glass of wine – the rich subtlety and variation of the colours. I am sure you stop and see God’s hand at work around you, but this past week provided some lovely reminder: God lifts the heart, enlivens the spirit within. Praise the Lord!

Receiving Communion: In order to ensure respectful receiving of Holy Communion with minimal chances of mistakes (e.g.: fumbling/dropping the Host, your tongue putting saliva on the minister’s fingers, tripping up others) let me clarify the actions we make during communion:

- The gesture of respect as you approach Holy Communion is recommended to be made as the person ahead of you is receiving communion. The means you are not bowing as the minister distributes Christ to you.
- When receiving on the hand: please make sure you come close enough that the minister can easily place the host on your hands; come to a complete stop and hold your hands still; cross your hands clearly so the minister knows where to place the host to ensure it isn’t dropped. Don’t bow as the host is placed on your hand as that means your hands move and the host can be dropped.
- When receiving on the tongue: walk up, stop, put your tongue out enough (about 1-2cm) to receive the host: remain still, allow the minister to place the host on your tongue – don’t move your head/mouth to try to take the host yourself: allow the minister to place the host – allow the minister to take their hand away, then move and take the host into your mouth and consume it.
- When kneeling and receiving on the tongue: make it clear you are going to kneel by taking a large step forward to be clear of those behind, kneel, receive communion as above, and stand without stepping to the rear. One option is to come to Communion last or near last so that there is plenty of space around you.
- Always consume Communion immediately, don’t walk off, stop a moment in silence after receiving and consume – then walk to your place.

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Baptism Mass
Sunday	9.15am	Baptism Presentation Mass
Tuesday	8.15am	Adoration
	9.15am	Mass
	1.00pm	Needlecraft Group
Thursday	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:

Alan Benn, Federico Aspromonte, Peter Ryan, Eugenia Pozzebon, Aileen Kent, Ruth Shiel, Rachel Hally, Vin Natoli, Bob Ulehla, Dot Sharkey, Shirley Loo, Lianny Susanto, Jewly Wylie, Peter Ryan, Julie-Anne Oldfield, Dylan, Shane, Lyn Murphy, RoseMarie Cameron, Peter Zeantti and Tony Whelan.

Anniversaries:

Sarah Keenan (6th Anniversary of death), Shao Jioa Chen , Giovanni Pemmissi

Recently Deceased: Br Doug Walsh, David Cullen, Richard Keenan (died 9/1/26), Norma, Leona (who were residents at Newmans)

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week: For those who live with chronic and acute illness and disability: that amidst their they can find Jesus' presence and the guidance of the Holy Spirit and that people around them will support them generously.



Feast Days this week:...

21<sup>st</sup> January St Agnes  
One of the most widely venerated of the Roman martyrs. According to early accounts, she gave her life to preserve her virginity consecrated to Christ. Remembered in Eucharist Prayer I.

24<sup>th</sup> January  
St Francis De Sales  
Founded the Visitation order with Saint Jane Frances de Chantal. His writings promoted a spirituality for laypeople. Remembered as a most influential preacher, writer and spiritual director, who combined firmness with patience and gentleness.

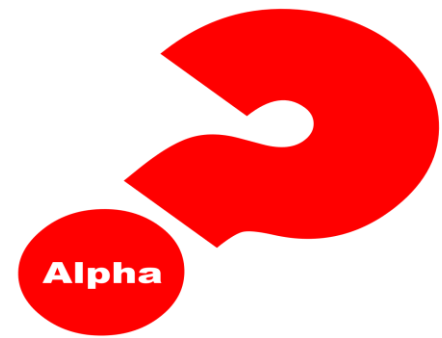
LITURGY ROSTER

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 17/18<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
1<sup>st</sup> Read: Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6 2<sup>nd</sup> Read: 1 Corinthians 1: 1-3 Gos: John 1: 29-34

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Tasha Vercauteran	Margaret Turner	Maryanne McNamara Lynne O'Brien
9.15am	Julie O'Donnell	Maree McTaggart	Raffaela Dinelli Liz Polidano Mary Waddick

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 24/25<sup>th</sup> January 2026  
1<sup>st</sup> Read: Isaiah 8: 23-9: 3 2<sup>nd</sup> Read: 1 Corinthians 1: 10-13, 17 Gos: Matthew 4: 12-23

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Bredenia Raquel	Pauline Erickson	Lawrence Cecconello Anne Maguire
9.15am	Carmel Purdey	Paul Polidano	Frances Bettiol Penny Teo Pat Rowland



Our Alpha program is returning this month!

Are you or anyone you know searching for life's big questions? Do you wonder: is there more to life than this? Why am I here? Who is Jesus? If you have questions about life, faith and meaning, join our Alpha program this month. There's a seat for you at the table. Alpha is friendly, fun and relaxed. We ran the program last year. It was great, so we are running it again this year. If you would like to find out more, please grab one of the leaflets with the details near the entrance or contact the parish office.

Are you interested in becoming a permanent diaconate?

If you are considering a vocation to the permanent diaconate, it is essential to understand the commitment and preparation required. The process involves a period of discernment, formal formation, and ongoing development as a deacon. Here are some key points to consider:

- Discernment:** Reflect on your desire to serve the Church and your readiness for the commitment required.
- Formation:** Participate in a structured program that includes theological study, liturgical practice, and pastoral development.
- Age and Marriage:** Be aware of the age restrictions and the requirement for a stable marriage or celibacy.
- Support:** Ensure you have the full support of your spouse and family, as well as the guidance of your parish priest.
- Commitment:** Understand that becoming a permanent deacon involves lifelong commitment to the diaconate.

For more information on the process and requirements, please refer to the poster on the noticeboard in the Gathering Space.

Are you interested in becoming a  
**Permanent Deacon?**

WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE LORD

*'The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve.'*  
MT 20:28, MK 10:45, JN 13:1-17

The permanent diaconate is a God-given calling to ordained ministry, open to married and single men, in the service of the Liturgy, the Word and Charity.  
Applicants should be between 30-55 years of age.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
Catholic Vocations Archdiocese of Melbourne website:  
[melbournecatholic.org/permanentdiaconate](http://melbournecatholic.org/permanentdiaconate)  
Australian Catholic Deacons' website:  
[www.ausdeacons.asn.au](http://www.ausdeacons.asn.au)

Speak with your parish priest or contact the Office of the Permanent Diaconate:  
Phone: 03 9412 3357  
Email: [diaconate@cam.org.au](mailto:diaconate@cam.org.au)





Congratulations to our Parish Secretary Nadia Bolzonello  
The safe arrival of granddaughter number 4 – Miss Chloe.  
Blessings to the entire family.

A Lubitz piano is available and seeking a new home.  
If you are interested or would like



like more details, please contact Mary Stocco 0412742657.

**FOOTSTEPS OF ST PAUL (5th - 20th May 2026)**

Fr. Sebastian A.M invites you to a journey in the footsteps of St. Paul, reliving the Acts of the Apostles and exploring the letters of the New Testament. Explore Greece and Turkey with a 3-night Greek Islands cruise in this 14-day pilgrimage for an all-inclusive price of \$9790+ tips (25+ pilgrims). The early bird price expires on January 30th.

**SAINTS OF ITALY (8th - 21st June 2026)**

Fr. Franco Filippetto invites you to a 14-day journey to Italy, visiting Milan, Padua, Siena, Assisi, Rotondo, Sorrento, and Rome, with an all-inclusive price of \$ 9,290 + tips (for 30+ pilgrims). The early bird price expires on January 30th.

The fare includes Return Economy Airfares + Local Transfers in Deluxe coaches + Stay in 4-star Premium Hotels, Meals + English speaking professional guides + Entrances as per itinerary and more. For inquiries & bookings call 03 8839 6615 or email us [pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au](mailto:pilgrimage@magiholidays.com.au)

**Meditation Sessions** will recommence for 2026 online via zoom on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February @ 9.30am. Why not try it? Contact the Parish House for the online link. This invitation is also extended to all members of the wider parish community. All are welcome. Thank you all for joining each week throughout last year. We look forward to seeing you all again in a few weeks' time.



*For information on our Parish School please contact:*

**St Kevin's Primary School**  
**Phone: 9273 9999**

**Philippines School Collection**  
**Loyo Elementary School**



We are working to improve the lives of children and families in the Philippines through our Friendship School program.

The community of Loyo Elementary is grateful for our donations. If you would like to make a difference you have the option to use this QR code to make a donation.

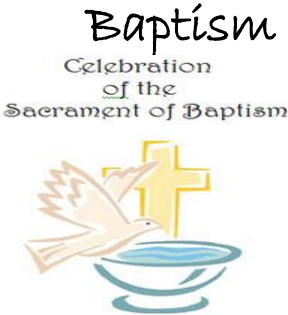


**Responsorial Psalm**

Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.

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

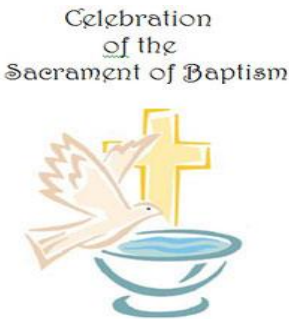
St Kevin's Parish warmly welcomes  
through the Sacrament of Baptism  
Eva Sepulveda  
Daughter of Victor & Melissa



**Baptism Welcome**

*This weekend we welcome:*

**Nikesh and Madeleine**  
who will be introducing Noah Henry Nanoo  
to our Parish Community  
in preparation to receive the Sacrament of  
Baptism on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February.



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
First Reading	Second Reading
<p><a href="#">Isaiah 49:3. 5-6</a></p> <p>A reading from the prophet Isaiah</p> <p><i>I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.</i></p> <p>Isaiah offers messages of hope to a people who are oppressed and living in exile.</p> <p>Here he speaks of a ‘servant’ of God who draws strength from the Lord, one who was formed by God in the womb to restore the fortunes of the nation. Isaiah’s vision sees the servant going beyond mere restoration to become the ‘light of the nations’, one who will bring God’s salvation to the ends of the earth. Hearing these words, Christian people will recognise Jesus the Christ. He is the light of the world, the one who, when he is lifted up on the cross, will draw all people to himself (see Jn 8:12 and 12:32).</p> <p>The text is up-beat and hopeful and conveys a warmly optimistic spirit. The last two lines form a strong climax to the proclamation.</p>	<p><a href="#">1 Corinthians 1:1-3</a></p> <p>A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians</p> <p><i>The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.</i></p> <p>From now until the beginning of Lent, our second reading is taken from the first section of Paul’s letter to the Church at Corinth. These opening chapters of the letter address factions in their local Church and urges a unity centred on Christ.</p> <p>This is the formal opening of the letter which establishes Paul’s role as apostle and offers a blessing of grace and peace. It is a pity the reading does not continue with the rest of the introduction which thanks God for the manifold gifts bestowed upon the Corinthians – their divisions betray these gifts of God’s grace which they have received.</p> <p>One may imagine that Paul is standing beside them, bringing greetings to the liturgical assembly of today. <i>Taken from ‘Break Open the Word’</i></p>

*RIP David Cullen*

*Thank you from the family of David Cullen (Trish Wilson’s nephew) who died last week. David, aged 54, was on our prayer list in the Newsletter for the past several months. Your faithful prayers have provided comfort and unity to Dennis, Maureen, Mark, Leanne and their families.*

*Thank you Lord God, for the blessings in David’s life.*



**23rd Annual Celebration of the Feast of the Miraculous Infant Jesus of Prague**  
**Sunday 18 January 2025,**  
**1.40pm–5.00pm**

Join the **Good Shepherd Parish Novena Group** and the **Disciples of the Infant Jesus of Prague** as they host their 23rd annual celebration of the **feast of the Holy Infant Jesus of Prague**. Details:

- 1.40pm—Rosary, novena prayers and chaplet
- 2.40pm—Holy Mass, followed by a procession, and exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Bishop Martin Ashe will be the principal celebrant, assisted by Fr Samuel Pearson and Deacon Pou'kesi Vaka'uta.

Light refreshments will be available after the service.

For any enquiries, please contact Gary and Darlene on 9335 4742 or 0404009326.

All are welcome!

***Venue: Good Shepherd Church, 88 South Circular Road, Gladstone Park***

# Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults.

