



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

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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 A

Third Sunday of Easter

18/19th April, 2026

Our Presider today is: Fr Anton Aseervathampillai

Words from the desk of our PP...

Parishes Assembly:

Calendar Date: Please put May 21st, 6 pm – 9 pm (with dinner) in your diaries.

This gathering of the people of St Gregory the Great and St Kevin's Parishes is intended to provide some time to begin to learn about "being synodal" the new emphasis on how we, the Church, must be working and at the same time to spend some time pondering aspects of the future of our parishes. More detail will come soon.

Easter and Armed Conflicts:

On a day-to-day basis, we tend to hear only about the latest conflict (Iran, supplanted Lebanon, supplanted Gaza, supplanted Ukraine ...) and we almost never hear about the 50 or so armed conflicts around the world, many of which go back decades for their origins (the Kurdish Nationalist conflicts stretch back continuously to 1918).

And ... without equating family violence with 'armed conflict' I am struck that alongside the armed conflicts, close to home, in 2024/2025 there were over 480,000 family violence incidents reported to our justice system in Victoria and even closer to home about 1000 incidents were reported in the Manningham Local Government Area. We humans at a broad level seem to have a propensity for seeking to resolve differences through violence.

The Resurrection and this wonderful Easter Season reminds us strongly that Jesus Christ calls us to find peaceful resolution of all differences: to be seeking to resolve all matters with a view of the world that is grounded in God's way of loving by caring for others. I know it is difficult. Perhaps, hopefully, anger that might lead to some form of violent response is rare in our personal lives.

What Jesus calls us to do is to speak out or act with hope whenever we encounter violence – in our own lives and the lives of those around us.

You and I can't directly change what happens in Iran or Sudan or Myanmar or Ecuador or Haiti or Balochistan.

As we seek to live the Easter message, we can influence what happens around us by being the presence of Christ to the best of our ability and being willing to take a risk and propose peaceful (agape/loving) resolution of difficulties.

God Bless, Fr Charles

Permanent Diaconate Information Session 2 May 2026

The annual May information session has been scheduled. The Permanent Diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and the 50s, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. It is an ordained ministry of service. The information session is open to **everyone interested in learning more about the permanent diaconate**. If you have attended any previous sessions, you are also welcome to attend this session. It is an opportunity to further discern your vocation. Wives most welcome.

The session will be on Saturday morning, 2nd May and will be in person. If you are interested email Deacon Kevin Pattison

Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au with full name and parish, but **if you forget, then just turn up** on Saturday morning. All are welcome.

Event Date: Saturday 2 May 2026, 10.00am–11.30am

Venue: Catholic Theological College, 278 Victoria Pde, East Melbourne

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

Saturday 5.30pm Mass
 Sunday 9.15am Mass
 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 8.30am Adoration
 9.15am Mass
 Friday 9.30am Adoration at St Gregory the Great Church
 Saturday 5.30pm Anzac Day Mass
 Sunday 9.15am Baptism Mass



We pray for Better Health:

Vin Natoli, Bob Ulehla, Dot Sharkey, Shirley Loo, Lianny Susanto, Jewly Wylie, Julie-Anne Oldfield, Dylan, Shane, Lyn Murphy, Rose Marie Cameron, Peter Zeantti, Tony Whelan, Charles, Joan & Don Tynan, Lorraine Gibson, Peter Ryan, Flavia Gazzi, Orlando Frigo and Thorold Merrett.

Anniversaries:

Kathleen Veronica McNamara, Mardi Doyle, Anne Materazzo, Pirrie Shiel and James Jackson

Recently Deceased:

Anne Fusca

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week: For the children in St Greg's and St Kevin's schools as they return to school: that they will be energised by the grace of Easter and their holidays.



Feast Days this week:...

25th April Anzac Day

This day marks the landing of Australian and New Zealand soldiers at Gallipoli during the Great War of 1914-1918.

It has become a National Day of Remembrance in which we honour the courage and self-sacrifice of those who have served in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

The liturgy recognises the sacrifice of the fallen, commends them to eternal life, and prays that the justice and peace which they sought to defend may dwell in our lands.

Third Sunday of Easter – 18/19th April 2026

1st Read: Acts 2: 14, 22-23 2nd Read: 1 Peter 1: 17-21 Gos: Luke 23: 13-35

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Pauline Erickson	Margaret Turner	Lawrence Ceconello Maryanne McNamara
9.15am	Paul Polidano	Tony Magnanini	Kaye Byrne Lyn Murphy Adrian Teo

Fourth Sunday of Easter – 11/12th April 2026

1st Read: Acts 2: 14, 36-41 2nd Read: 1 Peter 1: 2: 20-25 Gos: John 10: 1-10

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Margaret Turner	Kathy Pearce	Lynne O'Brien Anne Maguire
9.15am	Jessica Bartholomeusz	Miriam Ayoub	Lyn Robinson Liz Polidano Carmel Purdey



**ANZAC
Catholic Church
Commemoration service**



**Sunday 19th April 2026 @ 9.15am
at St Kevin's Templestowe**

All welcome to this special Mass service.

Followed by morning tea. Lest We Forget!

ANZAC Day 2026

A special ANZAC Day Mass will be celebrated on ANZAC Day, 25th April at 5.30pm.

All are welcome to come and remember the sacrifices our services men and women made so that we can live peacefully in one of the best countries in the world.

Lest We Forget.



STOP FIXING, START LISTENING!

Grab a cuppa after Mass on **Sunday 26th April**, and meet us in the Chapel where we will be holding a **discussion group** for some tips on the art of **active listening without judgement**.

It will be conducted by our **Mental Health First Aiders**—Ana and Charlotte.

All welcome.

No charge.





BOOKISH MORNING TEA

Our next Bookish Morning Tea is scheduled for Thursday 23rd April. All are welcome to come to the Church Gathering Space on this morning at 10.00am for a chat, browse through the book swap library and a delicious morning tea!

Good Shepherd Sunday 2026



Next Sunday we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday – the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. During this coming week, perhaps you may like to make a prayer each day for more vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Perhaps there is a young person you may know to pray for by name this week.

Little Kev's Playgroup



will recommence on Monday, 20th April.

Little Kev's Playgroup operates every Monday morning in our Gathering Space.

Doors open from 8.30am.

For ages 0-5 years Registration required \$5.00 entry

Connect with other parents and bring your little one for nursery rhymes, sensory play, books and more!

Contact Ana in the parish office for more information



*Remember
Rejoice
Renew*



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC PARISH HEIDELBERG

INVITE YOU TO

CELEBRATE OUR 175TH ANNIVERSARY AS PARISH

at

175TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER

FRIDAY 29TH MAY 2026 7PM—10.30PM

THE CENTRE IVANHOE IN THE GREAT HALL

275 Upper Heidelberg Rd Ivanhoe

DRESS - GALA DINNER WORTHY

Tickets \$150 per person (three course meal & drinks)



Bookings—Try Bookings QR code

or ring Parish House Tues—Fri 9.30-2.30

Any queries ring Michelle 0499891101 or

Wendy 0423153310 (school parent)

(time to remember, chat with old and new friends,

time to dance, bid for auction items

celebrate and rejoice as parish family together)

(TABLES OF 8 OR 10, COME ALONG WITH YOUR FRIENDS)

BE PART OF OUR PARISHES LIVING HISTORY

AND THIS WONDERFUL CELEBRATION

ALL FUNDS RAISED GO TOWARDS CHURCH RENOVATIONS

We're counting on you:

National Count of Attendance turns 25

The Catholic Church in Australia is gearing up for a nationwide measure of Mass attendance as the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference's National Centre for Pastoral Research prepares to conduct the sixth National Count of Attendance in May. This year's count marks 25 years of collecting valuable insights into long-term trends within the Catholic Church.

Centre director Dr Trudy Dantis urges all parishes and dioceses to take part in the count, to be conducted over the first four consecutive Sundays (and Saturday evenings) in May.

Mass attendance is perhaps the most basic measure of religious practice,' Dr Dantis says.

'Most dioceses conduct counts of attenders, but not every diocese does it with the same frequency, in the same way or at the same time.

'The National Count is conducted in the same year as the Australian Census (to be held on 11 August) so that the information collected can most effectively be used in association with results from the other project.'

As occurred at the previous count in 2021, parishes will be asked to provide estimates of the age and sex of attendees and to report the number of online 'views' for streamed Masses or other Sunday assemblies.

According to the 2021 National Count, about 8.2 per cent of Australia's Catholic population, or 417,300 people, attended Mass on a typical weekend in May.

Most of those attended Mass in a parish, but the figure also included people attending Mass in non-parish centres, such as migrant centres, hospitals, jails and boarding schools, and some who attended an assembly in the absence of a priest.

Counting over four Sundays ensures that fortnightly and monthly Masses are not overlooked. This is particularly important for many country towns and migrant communities.



Who Participates in a Synod?

A Synod involves the whole People of God: bishops, priests, deacons, religious and lay faithful. Each has a distinct role, but all share responsibility for the Church's mission. Synodality does not blur roles – it helps each vocation flourish in service of the Gospel.

For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, you will show me the path of life.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

Peter's enthusiastic speech on Pentecost Day is a testimony to the risen Lord. It falls into three parts.

Part one tells how God worked through Jesus in his ministry. He was taken and crucified, but God raised him to life.

Part two quotes Psalm 15 which is today's Responsorial Psalm. It is a different translation, but you can identify the phrases. God brings life and joy.

Part three explains that this psalm refers to Christ. Christ fulfils the prophetic words of David, and the Holy Spirit given him is poured out on us all.

Next week in the first reading, we will hear how this proclamation of Peter led the people to conversion and faith.

It is hoped that the hearers today will respond with renewed faith. The assembly will hear the threefold structure of the reading.

Second Reading

1 Peter 1:17-21

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

The reading begins without context making the first part difficult to understand. The phrase immediately before verse 17 is 'Be holy, for I am holy'. This is why we must be careful: because our holiness (in Christ) dislocates us from the world in which we live.

The second half is more familiar. We are saved (ransomed) by the blood of the Lamb of God, Christ who is now revealed as the risen Lord. Coming to faith is also our hope that we will be glorified with Christ.

Taken from 'Break Open the Word'



Craft Stall: Our friends, the nuns from St Elisabeth Convent, are once again holding a Craft Stall in our Gathering Space after Mass on Tuesday, 28th April.

Come along and see for yourself the beautiful and bespoke arts and crafts handmade by the locals in Belarus.

Be prepared to indulge yourself or friends/family with some unique gifts, and marvel at the skills and talents of people in different parts of our world.



Pope Leo XIV called on every parish and Church group or association to become part of a 'revolution' of care and gratitude by regularly visiting older people.

'Christian hope always urges us to be more daring, to think big, to be dissatisfied with things the way they are,' the Pope wrote in his message for World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, a Church celebration that will take place in July.

'In this case, it urges us to work for a change that can restore the esteem and affection to which the elderly are entitled,' he has written.

The Pope's message expanded on the theme chosen for last year's world day, which was taken from the Book of Sirach: 'Blessed are those who have not lost hope.'

The 2026 celebration marks the Sixth edition of World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Pope Francis instituted the world day in 2021; it is observed each year on the fourth Sunday of July, close to the liturgical memorial of Ss Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.

In his message, Pope Leo said it is a time of liberation from injustice and inequality, which is also an appropriate time for all the faithful to help older people 'experience liberation, especially from loneliness and abandonment'.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

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