



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

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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

Sixth Sunday of Easter

9/10th May, 2026

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves

Mother's Day Weekend

Words from the desk of our PP...

Mother's Day

I have 'screen-shot' memories of my mother checking on me as I lay under the netting getting some sun in London – making sure the soot from the air was not falling on me, and of her keeping me quiet for three or six months while I recovered from meningitis, and of her delight at meeting my first son and talking to me across the kitchen table as I tussled with learning to be a dad, and encouraging me to follow my career rather than worrying about her as she went through cancer.

Mothers of all varieties and backgrounds do extraordinary things for us, their children. Not just the gestation and caring as babies but all through our lives bringing the same care that Our Lady brought to Jesus.

Thank you. I give you God's blessing. A blessing that calls on the Holy Spirit to enliven your hearts with thanks and gratitude and fortitude and care and most of all love – the love that God has for us.

Parish Assembly – deferral

Last week Peter Sheehan and I spoke across the parishes about an Assembly for our three parishes: it is being deferred until October or thereabouts. On Thursday I came to realise the implications of getting settled after my appointment to St Clement's as Parish Priest, and the number of other things that are planned in the week we had tentatively scheduled the Assembly. The planning team agreed we need to defer and have tentatively chosen 'October' – six months away to give time for the initial work across three parishes to settle a little.

Partnering Parishes Planning

St Clement's, St Kevin's, St Gregory's: three parishes called to move into the future together. I have formed a small group to help me navigate how we move forwards together. Maria Papalia and another to be finalised from St Clement's; Carmel Purdey and Ashwin D'Costa from St Kevin's; Margaret O'Donnell and Alfred Ablaza from St Greg's' with Suzette Diaz and Nicole Vine from the archdiocese (they have experience in parish partnering).

This group is about helping me think about issues across the parishes and will meet approximately fortnightly. I am also meeting with the Parish Pastoral Councils for each parish and then will meet with all three Parish Pastoral Councils and Parish Finance Groups to come up with some thoughts about immediate steps I can then canvass with you, the broader population of the parishes. It appears to me that we need some basic directions by no later than early-June.

The members of the small group are more than willing to listen to anything you have to say about your dreams for the future as three partnered parishes. We have already been doing a lot together as two parishes (Safeguarding, Vinnies, Alpha, RCIA, some social events, joint meetings) so we have something of a base from which to start including St Clement's with St Gregory's and St Kevin's.

I will seek to keep you informed as we progress.

Sanctuary Extension / Carpet

We have been seeking a carpet to blend reasonably with the existing carpet so that we can finalise the sanctuary extension and remove the trip hazards. It took some time but samples arrived on Tuesday and discussions can now happen. It seems silly but the carpet we want is no longer available and getting a match is ... difficult – but not impossible.

We've also been seeking to put in a handrail by the lectern and that should be underway soon too.

I know the current situation is wonderful but imperfect with trip hazards due to unevenness of the carpet/step. Please bear with us and be doubly careful as you negotiate the sanctuary.

God bless, Fr Charles

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	Mass
Sunday	9.15am	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, Novella Pereira, Pam Cohen and Georgette Taouk.

Anniversaries:

Graham Lewis Morrison, Ron Polidano, Michael Williamson, Savina Baruta, Brendan Edwards, Enzo Pieropan, Russell Healy, Annesley Noble and Peter Maher.

Recently Deceased:

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week: In thanks for the great graces given our parishes over the decades since their establishment: that we will continue to open our hearts to receive the graces of the future.



Feast Days this week:...

14th May St Matthias

A companion of Jesus and a witness to the resurrection. Chosen by lot to take the place of Judas and so to share the apostolic ministry of the twelve.

Happy Mother's Day



LITURGY ROSTER

Sixth Sunday of Easter – 9/10th May 2026

1st Read: Acts 8: 5-9, 14-17 2nd Read: 1 Peter 3: 15-18 Gos: John 14: 15-21

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Janet Parsons	Kathy Pearce	Lynne O'Brien Anne Maguire
9.15am	Carmel Purdey	Bernard Butler	Lyn Murphy Tony Robinson Lyn Robinson

The Ascension of the Lord – 16/17th May 2026

1st Read: Acts 1: 1-11 2nd Read: Ephesians 1: 17-23 Gos: Matthew 28: 16-20

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Margaret Turner	Tasha Vercauteran	Lawrence Ceconello Anne Magire
9.15am	Paul Polidano	Frances Johnson	Liz Polidano Raffaella Dinelli Mary Waddick

ALPHA CELEBRATION DINNER COME & SEE NIGHT

WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY
6.30-8.30PM
AT ST KEVIN'S CHURCH, TEMPLESTOWE
IN THE GATHERING SPACE
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: 13th May

templestowe@cam.org.au; 03 9850 5983

doncaster@cam.org.au; 03 9412 8425



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

THERE'S A
SEAT FOR
EVERYONE



Social Justice Action

St Kevin's Parish, Templestowe

St Kevin's Social Justice Action Group in conjunction with CatholicCare Victoria will conduct a WINTER COAT DRIVE during the month of May.

We are collecting warm, clean coats, jackets, beanies and wool blankets (not quilts) for refugees, asylum seekers and other vulnerable people.

There is a collection basket in the Gathering Space during May.

Any queries to Carmel Purdey: carmelpurdey@gmail.com

We thank you in anticipation of your support.



CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal

This weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal (previously held during the month of August).

CatholicCare Victoria is the Church's mission in action - empowering children and young people, strengthening families and individuals, providing safe housing and homelessness assistance, and supporting refugees and asylum seekers.

Your kindness and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community.

Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal.

You can donate using the appeal envelope available in our parish, donate online at www.catholiccarevic.org.au, call (03) 9967 2515 or scan the QR Code below.



All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible.

"For I was a stranger and you welcomed me." (Matthew 25:35)



BOOKISH MORNING TEA

Our next Bookish Morning Tea is scheduled for Thursday 14th May. 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!

We're counting on you:

As we enter the month of May it is time for our Annual Mass Count.

Please consider assisting with counting the number of Mass attendees.

Counters are requested to count the number of folk who are at Mass. Counting sheets are provided on the bench in the sacristy near the money bags.



Day of Solemnity

On Monday, 25th May, we celebrate the **Feast Day of Our Lady, Help of Christians Patron of Australia**

Special Masses will be celebrated on this day at St Gregory the Great Church at 9.00am and 6.30pm.

All welcome.

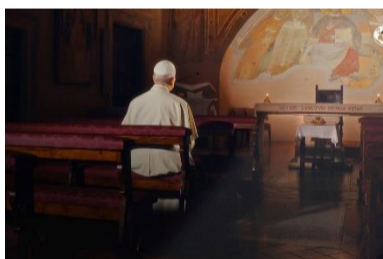


Today, we celebrate the heart of our home, the woman whose love has shaped our lives in ways words can barely capture.

Today and every day, we thank you—not just for what you do, but for who you are: a mother in every beautiful, powerful sense of the word.

Happy Mother's Day—with all the love your heart has inspired.

Pope Leo XIV has dedicated his prayer intention for the month of May to one of humanity's most persistent challenges: hunger.



The Pope has called on Catholics worldwide to confront the problem of food insecurity with both prayer and concrete action.

'Today we recognise with sorrow that millions of brothers and sisters continue to suffer from hunger, while so many goods are wasted at our tables,' he said.

At least 318 million people are expected to face food crisis conditions or worse this year, according to the World Food Program's 2026 Global Outlook. The ongoing war in the Middle East could push an additional 45 million people into severe hunger before mid-year. In 2025, two famines were recorded in parts of Gaza and Sudan.

At the same time, the UN Environment Program reports that more than 1 billion tons of food are wasted globally every year, a contrast the Pope addressed directly in his message.

Pope Leo called for a shift away from what he describes as 'the logic of selfish consumption' and towards 'a culture of solidarity', urging Catholic communities to take up practical measures including food banks, awareness campaigns and simpler, more responsible lifestyles.

'May our communities promote concrete gestures,' he said, adding that believers should approach every meal with gratitude, consume simply and 'share with joy' in the knowledge that the fruits of the earth are 'destined for all, not just a few'.



Synodality and the laity

Synodality affirms that the Holy Spirit is at work in the lives of all the baptised. Lay people are not simply helpers of clergy: they are active disciples called to witness to Christ in families, workplaces and society. A synodal Church takes this vocation seriously.

For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

Make a joyful noise to God,
all the earth!

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, graciously hear us.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8. 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Stephen has been stoned to death and a great persecution of Christians began in Jerusalem. The Christian leaders scatter to continue their ministry elsewhere. Philip, one of the seven appointed with Stephen, went to Samaria and was warmly welcomed. He was soon followed by Peter and John. The locals rejoice when they witness the healing power of the gospel. Many are baptised and, through the laying-on of hands, receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Ironically, persecution and violence have not had the effect of repressing the mission but of helping it spread. This is good news that can be gladly and confidently proclaimed. Note that it would be anachronistic to interpret this passage as though it described the Catholic sacraments of baptism and confirmation (their development took centuries). The relationship between water baptism, the laying-on of hands, and the gift of the Holy Spirit is complex in the Acts of the Apostles.

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Peter's sound and solid advice is just as relevant for Christians now as it ever was. Today, whether face to face or on social media, believers and their Christian values are often rejected. Recognise that Christ is with you, says Peter; be ready to give an account of your faith and hope. But defend your positions with courtesy and respect. Let your wholesome way of life prove you right, even if it should bring you suffering. If this is the case, Peter points out, you will be united with Christ! Today, it still sounds fresh. It is a message of peace in what is often an angry space. Listeners should hear the wisdom and reasonableness of Peter's advice.

Taken from 'Break Open the Word'

We support



Families & Individuals

We assist families to navigate relational challenges, parent well, increase their emotional intelligence, and find healthy ways to deal with conflict.



Young people

We support young people, including teenagers and children to improve their mental health and wellbeing, develop their education, and work towards a brighter future.



People at risk of or experiencing homelessness

We support people of all ages and backgrounds, to find and maintain long-term, safe and affordable accommodation.



Refugees & Asylum Seekers

We help refugees and asylum seekers to navigate their new environment by offering support with education, employment, English language, mental health, and housing.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

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



CatholicCare
VICTORIA