



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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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

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

20th/21st June, 2026

Our Presider today is: Fr Anton Aseervathampillai

Words from the desk of our PP...

Revised Mass Times

I have written a letter to accompany our New Mass times: please take a copy if you wish from the table in the Gathering Space. For ease of access, here are the new Mass times for weekends and for weekdays. Please come and see me or members of your Parish Council if you need help adjusting to the new Mass times.

Weekend Masses: Starting 4/5th July

St Gregory the Great:	St Clement of Rome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday evening 6:30 pm • Sunday morning 10:30 am • Sunday evening 5:00 pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday evening 5:00 pm • Sunday morning 9:00 am (with the Italian Mass at 11.00 am)
St Kevin's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday evening 5:30 pm • Sunday morning 9:15 am 	

Saturday evening Masses remain but times change at St Clement's / St Gregory's. 9:00 am Mass at St Gregory's ceases

Weekday Masses: Starting 7th of July

The Weekday Mass schedule has proven unsustainable. The new schedule will be as follows.

Monday	No Masses	Thursday	9:15 am St Kevin
Tuesday	9:15 am St Clement of Rome (Italian) 9:15 am St Kevin	Friday	9:00 am St Gregory the Great Includes Mass for Grades 3-6
Wednesday	9:15 am St Clement of Rome Includes School Class Masses 6:30 pm St Gregory the Great (for those who work)	Saturday	No morning Mass
		Solemnities and other special feasts during the week will be scheduled as needed.	

New Mass Times

While there is no direct effect on Mass times for St Kevin's, please keep St Clement's and St Gregory's people in your prayers as they adjust to the changes.

God bless, Fr Charles

Day of Solemnity...



On **Wednesday 24th June**, we celebrate the **Nativity of St John the Baptist**.

Masses will be celebrated at:

St Gregory The Great Church Doncaster at 9.00am

St Clement of Rome Church Bulleen at 9.15am

St Kevin's Church at 7.00pm.

All welcome.

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, Julie-Anne Oldfield, Dylan, Shane, Lyn Murphy, Rose Marie Cameron, Peter Zeantti, Tony Whelan, Charles, Joan & Don Tynan, Lorraine Gibson, Flavia Gazzi, Orlando Frigo, Novella Pereira and Georgette Taouk.

Anniversaries:

Frank Dunn, Brian O'Connell, Mary Borg, Bruce Robertson, Peter O'Donoghue, Marco Raiola, Agazio (Gus) Morello, Lorna Balnaves, Jean White and John Booth.

Recently Deceased:

Rex Cambrey

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week: Holy Spirit, guide us as we change some Mass times, help us to settle into new times for gathering to worship and pray and be nourished by Jesus Christ.



Feast Days this week:...

22nd June

Sts John Fisher and Thomas More

Remembered for their wide learning, for their devotion to the Church and for their uncompromising integrity and courage.

24th June St John the Baptist

This feast celebrates the holy birth of the greatest of all the prophets, the one who leapt for joy in his mother's womb, who prepared the way for Christ, announced his presence and baptised him the Jordan River.

LITURGY ROSTER

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 20th/21st June 2026

1st Read: Jeremiah 20: 10-13 2nd Read: Romans 5: 12-15 Gos: John 10: 26-33

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Ana Saro	Kathy Pearce	Lynne O'Brien Maryanne McNamara
9.15am	Carmel Purdey	Bernard Butler	Adrian Teo Frances Bettiol Mary Waddick

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 27/28th June 2026

1st Read: 2 Kings 4: 8-11, 14-16 2nd Read: Romans 6: 3-4, 8-11 Gos: Matthew: 10: 37-42

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Bredenia Raquel		Lawrence Ceconello Anne Magire
9.15am	Vianney Shiel	Frances Johnson	Penny Teo Tony Robinson Lyn Robinson

St Kevin's Christian Meditation, each Wednesday 9:30am

ONLINE via Zoom.

Open to all parishioners including members of the wider community.

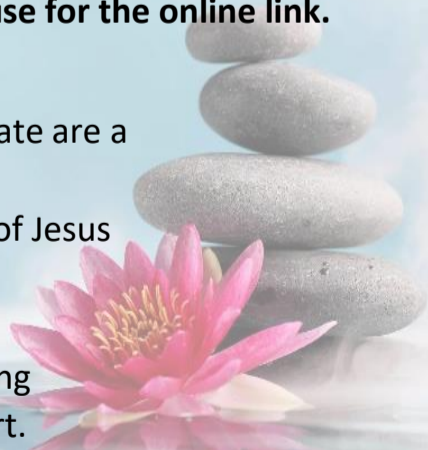
Why not try it? Contact the Parish House for the online link.

All welcome

Christians who meet together to meditate are a group aware of its power:

a power that arises from the presence of Jesus in their midst.

They meet to deepen their silent awareness of Christ's presence becoming a community of one mind and one heart.



On Sunday, 21st June, we are holding a

COMMUNITY MARKET DAY

All are invited to attend after the Sunday morning Mass. Please stay for a while, have a browse and enjoy finding a bargain for the many various items.

All the money raised will go towards our Craft Group Ladies for more wool, so they can continue to make warm items to support our Community Cupboard.

The **Come Away Day program** is a long - time retreat and reflection ministry at Holy Cross. The next **Come Away Day** for 2026 will be held at Holy Cross on **WEDNESDAY JUNE 24th**. The theme of the day is **'Called to embrace the Mystery of the Heart'**.

As we celebrate the winter month of June, the traditional month of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, we reflect on how we may deepen our understanding and experience of the Mystery of Divine Love today. We have an opportunity to rest, reflect and focus on the deeper meaning and call of our heartfelt yearnings in our own life journey and how we respond.

The day's program provides opportunities for prayer, silent reflection and group interaction in the beautiful grounds and facilities of Holy Cross. All are welcome. Just come as you are. **BYO lunch. Registration is from 9.30am.** The program concludes with a celebration of the Eucharist with a departure time of around **3pm**. The suggested cost is \$30.00 or a donation according to your means.

Registration is helpful for planning purposes. For any further details contact Sr Brigid cp on bridget.m64@gmail.com. Please put this Date in your Diary and consider inviting a friend along to share the Come Away Day experience this year. Everyone is welcome.



BOOKISH MORNING TEA

Our next Bookish Morning Tea is scheduled for Thursday 2nd July. 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!



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/unity

This week, you are invited to partner with Catholic Mission and the Church in Malawi as we support families rebuilding after devastating floods and help children access education close to home.

Through projects like St Peter's Nyamikuta Primary School, the Church is creating a place where children can learn, be nourished, and grow with dignity, regardless of their background or beliefs.

As we celebrate 100 years of World Mission Day, we are reminded by Pope Leo XIV that we are 'One in Christ, United in Mission'.

Join with us in celebration and action by supporting this work with a compassionate gift. Use the provided appeal envelope, scan the QR code, or visit catholicmission.org.au/unity to make a difference today.



Faith leaders call upon the Victorian Government to fix conversion therapy laws

Victoria's faith leaders have called on the Victorian Government to fix Victoria's conversion therapy laws rather than expand them. In a submission to a Victorian Government review being undertaken by the Victorian Law Reform Commission, faith leaders affirmed their opposition to harmful practices of coercion while reiterating their concerns that the *Change or Suppression (Conversion) Practices Prohibition Act 2021* 'extends far beyond addressing these harmful practices'.

The leaders quoted from a multifaith letter written at the time of the Bill's introduction, which shared concerns that the Bill (now Act) 'criminalises conversation between children and parents, interferes with sound professional advice, and silences ministers of religion from providing personal attention for individuals freely seeking pastoral care for complex personal situations. It includes ill-conceived concepts of faith and conversation, vague definitions, and scientifically and medically flawed approaches. It places arbitrary limitations on parents, families and people of faith ... the Bill appears to target people of faith in an unprecedented way, puts limits on ordinary conversations in families, and legislates for what prayer is legal and what prayer is not.'

The faith leaders told the review that the Act's 'broad overreach, ambiguity and ill-defined concepts of faith had caused confusion in the community' in the five years since the laws were passed.

'The net effect has been a reluctance among religious leaders, parents and other care givers to engage in this area,' the faith leaders said. As a result, 'individuals who are in need of care may miss out on valuable support from those closest to them, at a time when they are especially vulnerable.'



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Weekend of 4/5th July 2026

On the first Sunday of July each year, the Catholic Church in Australia honours and celebrates the rich cultural heritage and spirituality of our First Nations peoples, and the contributions they make to the life of the Church. The theme for this year's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday is 'Walking together in Christ: 40 years on!'

Please mark the date in your diaries and come along to celebrate these wonderful and meaningful Masses prepared by our hard-working Liturgy Team.



Mass for Marriage Anniversaries

Sunday 12 July 2026, 11am, St Patrick's Cathedral

Married couples and their families are cordially invited to join us as we celebrate the gift of marriage and family. Couples who register and are celebrating the following anniversaries—5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 or 40 years and above—will receive a commemorative certificate.

Couples must register by Tuesday 7 July.



A Listening Church is a Credible Church

In a world where many feel ignored or dismissed, a Church that listens becomes a sign of hope. Synodality teaches us that listening can heal wounds and rebuild trust.

For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School

Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, in your steadfast love,
answer me.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Compassionate Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.

There was a No. 1 pop song in 1971 called Joy to the World which began with the line: Jeremiah was a bullfrog! This reading captures both these aspects. It begins with Jeremiah's anguished lament at the ridicule and persecution he is suffering. But then it changes into his powerful testimony of trust in God, ending in joy with the acclamations: *Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord.*

There is a clear distinction between the two parts. The first part is emotional; it has Jeremiah quoting the words of others. The second part is mostly positive – Jeremiah is conscious that God is at his side, and he states that he is committed to his God-given cause. However, there are some ominous overtones as he looks forward to God's vengeance, bringing about failure and disgrace to his opponents. The idea of God punishing the wicked is common in the Old Testament (this is justice) but it does not sit well with our understanding of a God of compassion and mercy.

Second Reading

Romans 5:12-15

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.

Sin, death, law, grace. Theologians have been probing these questions for centuries! Helpfully for us, Paul takes the law out of the equation. His link between sin and human mortality comes from the Book of Genesis: *you are dust and unto dust you shall return* (Gen 3:19).

Christ is sometimes called 'the second Adam' – the relationship is one of contrast. Adam's disobedience brought sin and death into the world; Christ takes human frailty upon himself and, by obedience to God's will, conquers death and reconciles humanity with God. God's powerful gift of grace (seen in the resurrection of Christ) brings us the forgiveness of sin and the promise of eternal life.

The rupture brought by Adam is healed by Christ.

Taken from 'Break Open the Word'

Social Justice Action St Kevin's Parish, Templestowe

Refugee week - for those anxiously hoping for a future, for those supporting them, and those against

Last Monday, Carmel Purdey and I were privileged as Parish SJA representatives to meet and speak over lunch with a number of (Sri Lankan) refugees supported by Catholic Care at Dandenong HQ (Fr. Charles is a Board Member). Apart from joyfully celebrating the 40th Anniversary of Refugee Week (more than a million permanent humanitarian visas have been issued by Australia since World War II), it was a powerful opportunity as part of this year's theme "A Million Stories" to hear first hand accounts of Refugees lengthy and stressful ordeals, amidst unimaginable hardships and challenges, seeking recognition over up to 10-13 years, with no certainty. They had all been cared for in many ways over that period by Catholic Care who outlined the comprehensive process, in turn supported by donors including the Government, our Parish and others, for which there was much gratitude. The Sri Lankans we met proudly and appreciatively spoke in the English learned from Catholic Care, and humbly told poignant and often harrowing stories of lengthy journeys, families left behind, all requiring enormous resilience.

As Meg Schwartz comments ("Refugee Week should be more than celebration", Pearls & Irritations, 16 June 2026) "Refugee Week should invite us to ask not only how refugees have contributed to Australia, but how Australia might continue to contribute to a world in which fewer people are forced to flee and more people are able to live in safety and dignity", and, "Refugee Week is important because it reminds us that people seeking safety aren't statistics. They're students, children, journalists, teachers, parents, neighbours and friends. But it shouldn't be the only time we think about people seeking safety, it should be a catalyst – a reminder to continue the work of welcome, advocacy and solidarity throughout the year." - **John Costa SJA**

**Safeguarding is
everyone's responsibility.**