



St Kevin's Catholic Parish

26-44 Herlihys Road, Templestowe Lower

Weekend Mass times: 5.30pm Saturdays, 9.15am Sundays



Other Weekend Mass Times

St Clement of Rome: 5.00pm Saturdays

9.00am and 11.00am(-in Italian) Sundays

Reconciliation Saturday evenings 4.30-4.50pm

St Gregory the Great: 6.30pm Saturdays

10.30am and 5.00pm Sundays

Reconciliation Saturday mornings 9.30-11.30am

Parish Priest: Fr Charles Balnaves

Assistant Priest: Fr Anton Aseervathampillai

Business Manager: Mr David Hii

Pastoral Worker: Mrs Ana Saro

Postal Address:

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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

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

11/12th July, 2026

Baptism Presentation Weekend

National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Sunday

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves

Words from the desk of our PP...

Please Welcome New People: Say hello 😊

I know people have changed Masses and changed the Church in which they attend Mass. This change is still new. Please – be doubly aware of the people around you – welcome those who are new to you. If you are new in one of our congregations, please, introduce yourself.

Home Visits:

If you or a relative are unable to get around much, mostly at home, unable to attend Mass, in an Aged Care home: let us know. We can organise someone to come and visit regularly.

Fr Anton or I are available to provide the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and/or Reconciliation (Confession) if you wish – as well as bringing Holy Communion.

Please let us know. Call or email the parish office (any of our three partnered parishes – see your bulletin for phone / email addresses).

World Youth Day 2027 – Seoul – South Korea – August 3-8, 2027

If you are interested in going, or know someone interested in going, to World Youth Day as a pilgrim or as a leader: please let us know soon. You don't have to know for sure – but we need to begin getting ready with numbers, fund raising needs, forming groups ...

Email the office and let us know numbers, contact details so we can begin coordinating.

Society of Saint Pius X: Sadness

You may have heard that, with great sadness, Pope Leo has formally promulgated that anyone officially and intentionally a part of the Society of St Pius X (SSPX) is now in schism from the Catholic Church, and formal members may be in a state of excommunication.

This is a great sadness to me, and, I imagine, to all of us. That there should be such great division without room for reconciliation grieves me deeply. Please hold everyone involved in your prayers: calling on the Holy Spirit to guide everyone towards a return to unity.

PS: This is not about going to a legitimately approved Old Rite (Tridentine) Mass – that is still allowed when approved by Archbishop Peter. This is about acting deliberately and consciously against teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, and especially Vatican II.

We pray. We pray.

Archdiocesan Synod 2027

I just received a pile of papers about parish and regional consultations in preparation for the Archdiocesan Synod. Please keep a look out for more information about this important moment in taking a synodal path, journeying together, towards the Church we are inspired to be today. Three themes: Formation and Participation; Missionary Leadership; Youth Discipleship. We will need a gathering to reflect on these themes so we can provide input to the synod itself that happens later in the year. Stay tuned!!

God bless, Fr Charles

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

Saturday	5.30pm Mass
Sunday	9.15am Baptism Presentation Mass
Monday	9.00am 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. A Private Baptism at 12.00pm
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, Georgette Taouk, Fay Byrne and Faye Harvey.

Anniversaries:

Carmel Scaffidi, Livio Dinelli, Joe Norman (8), Remo Moscardini (8), John Turner (4), Pietro Di Rosa, Spiro Portelli, Winifred Eileen Harrison (2), Chloris Oates and Roger Pantano (1).

Recently Deceased:

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week: For the broad population of Bulleen, Doncaster and Templestowe: that everyone will come to know Jesus' healing and loving touch.



Feast Days this week:...

15th July St Bonaventure
Born at Bagnoregio (Italy) 1218.
Died at Lyons (France) on this day in 1274.
He joined the Franciscans when studying in Paris and eventually became minister general of the order.
Later appointed cardinal-bishop of Albano and died assisting Pope Gregory X during the Council of Lyons.
Known as the "Seraphic Doctor".
Remembered as a teacher, for his extensive biblical and mystical writings, and for his holiness, gentleness and compassion.

LITURGY ROSTER

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 11/12th July 2026

1st Read: Isaiah 55: 10-11 2nd Read: Romans 8: 18-23 Gos: Matthew: 13: 1-23

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Pauline Erickson	Kathy Pearce	Lawrence Cecconello Anne Maguire
9.15am	Paul Polidano	Phil Brooks	Frances Bettiol Liz Polidano Raffaella Dinelli

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 18/19th July 2026

1st Read: Wisdom 12: 13, 16-19 2nd Read: Romans 8: 26-27 Gos: Matthew 13: 24-43

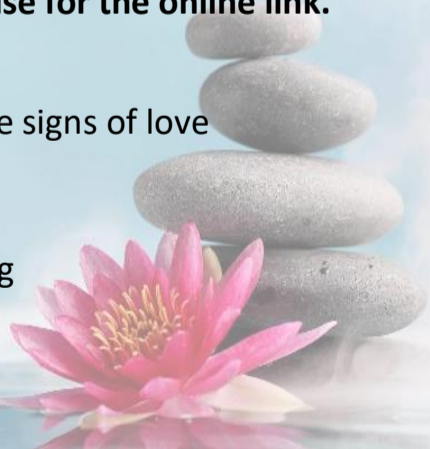
Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Ana Saro	Tasha Vercauteran	Lynne O'Brien Maryanne McNamara
9.15am	Frances Johnson	Maree McTaggart	Lyn Murphy Lyn Robinson Tony Robinson

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

Through meditation we begin to see the signs of love growing silently in our heart.
The more love grows in our heart, the more meaning there is in everything in our lives.



BOOKISH MORNING TEA

Our next Bookish Morning Tea is scheduled for Thursday 23rd 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!



Catholics encouraged to identify themselves in the Census

Australia's next national Census will be held on 11 August 2026, with Catholics encouraged to identify their religious affiliation to ensure accurate representation. The Australian Catholic Bishops Council says Census data informs government and Church planning, helping parishes, schools and Catholic services understand community needs and allocate resources effectively.

'The Census marks an important occasion in our national life and ensures we can effectively respond to the needs of our growing population in all its diversity,' Archbishop of Melbourne Peter A Comensoli said. 'In a time when some would seek to diminish the importance of faith, it is important for the Catholic community to stand up and be counted.'

'I encourage all Catholics to mark the "Catholic" box and ensure that the needs of our community can continue to be met and supported.'



World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2026

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly was instituted by Pope Francis in 2021. It is celebrated close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. It is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate and give thanks for our grandparents and all the Elderly that we come across.

The celebration of this day provides an opportunity for the Church, at all levels, to draw close to the Elderly; to celebrate their unique communities; and to reach out to those who may feel lonely or forgotten. The theme that Pope Leo has chosen for the 2026 World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is:

"I will never forget you."

A Mass will be celebrated here at St Kevin's on Friday, 24th July at 12.00pm together with the schoolchildren. All are welcome.



Feeling Cold? Winter frost getting you down?

St Kevin's Parish is having a winters warmers brunch to help warm you up! Come for a bowl of hot soup, crusty bread and great conversation.

When: Sunday 16th August 12-2pm.

Where: The gathering space.

There will be coffee and cake for dessert (of course!)

Please RSVP to the Parish Office or Ana- for Catering purposes!



SEAFARERS SUNDAY



Seafarers Sunday is an important opportunity to remember and pray for the seafarers whose tireless work in very challenging conditions benefits us all.

On the weekend of 18/19th July we shall celebrate Sea Sunday, when we pray for all those who live and work at sea.

There will be an Appeal for Stella Maris, Apostleship of the Sea, the maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church.

Funds collected will be used to provide practical and spiritual support to seafarers visiting our ports. As it is dependent on voluntary donations, please give generously.

Baptism Welcome

Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

This weekend we welcome:

Joshua and Cassandra

who will be introducing

Francesca Rosa Napoli

to our Parish Community in preparation for her Baptism next weekend.



Pope Francis Prayer Intention for July 2026

The intention is to pray for the respect for human life, recognising it as a gift from God. The Pope calls on Catholics to pray for the protection of human life and to learn to accept life unconditionally, tenderly care for fragility, and courageously defend those who have no voice. The intention also emphasises the importance of a new heart ready to choose life and generous hands that protect it through concrete actions. The Pope hopes that the Lord will help his Church become a living witness to the Gospel of life, an open home where every life is celebrated, and where dignity is always respected.



This weekend we celebrate the end of:

NAIDOC Week (National Aboriginal and Islanders Day Observance Committee Week)

This is a time to honour and learn about the cultures, traditions and spirituality of Australia's First Nations people, and an opportunity for all members of the Catholic community to reflect on the contributions of Indigenous peoples to the Church and society.

What is Cultural Appreciation?

Cultural Appreciation means appreciating another culture in a respectful, sincere way that helps broaden perspectives and build cross-cultural connections.

Thank You to our Liturgy Team!

Our sincere congratulations to the Liturgy Team for the thoughtful and inspiring Masses last week to honour our First Nations sisters and brothers during NAIDOC week. We are in awe of the huge amount of work and preparation that the team put into it. Our solidarity makes an important statement about this key social justice issue and it is testament of our commitment to follow Jesus' example. Well done!

God Bless, Fr Charles



Synodality and the Margins

Synodality may seem slower than top-down decision-making, but it often leads to deeper, more lasting renewal. What is discerned together is more likely to be embraced together.

For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

The seed that fell on good soil produced
a hundredfold.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

What a sentence! It sums up the entire cycle of nature, repeated year after year. Rain waters the earth and makes it makes fruitful; the earth produces a crop for harvesting and seed for next year's cycle.

And all this is taken as a metaphor for God's creative word. We listen and take it to heart and we flourish and live. In the lyrics of Come to the Water, Frank Anderson sets this text with a refrain that ends: *Come, listen, live.*

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

All creation is waiting for the revelation of the children of God.

The world is charged with the grandeur of God. It will flame out, like shining from shook foil; It gathers to a greatness, like the ooze of oil Crushed....

There lives the dearest freshness deep down things; ... Because the Holy Ghost over the bent World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings. (Gerard Manley Hopkins)

Today's wonderful passage from Paul inserts human beings into the whole of creation, not yet perfect, but already containing the glory of God's kingdom. Paul imagines the entire creation groaning in one great act of giving birth! This magnificent image expresses the state of the world and the hope we have of coming to fullness through the Holy Spirit.

Taken from 'Break Open the Word'

PRAISE & WORSHIP
Night
FRIDAY
24 07 26
7-9 PM

WITH EUCHARISTIC ADORATIONS
TESTIMONIES
GROUP DISCUSSIONS

ST GREGORY'S
71 Williamsons Rd
Doncaster

Social Justice Action

St Kevin's Parish, Templestowe

Crisis of Male Grievance and Belonging - How might the Church respond? (Edited extract, and US perspective, from Brent Howitt Otto, S.J. America Magazine, 26 June 2026)

Church attendance among young adults is far lower than among older generations. The (US) Pew Research Center reports that only about a quarter of Americans in their 20s attend religious services monthly, compared with over 40 percent of seniors. Among Catholics, more young adults have left the church than have entered it. And in many parishes, the sacrament of confirmation effectively functions as a ritual of graduation from church life rather than of deeper integration into it.

At the same time, young men are reporting rising levels of loneliness and social disconnection. The American Perspectives Survey found that 15 percent of men report having no close friends—up sharply from prior decades. Participation in civic and voluntary associations has declined. Many young men are less embedded in deeply interconnected, intergenerational communities than in previous generations.

But this does not necessarily mean they are less religious. Rather, religious identity and moral language are being relocated. They are increasingly mediated online and are often intertwined with political identity. Over half of Americans now listen to podcasts monthly, with higher rates among men. YouTube is used daily by a large majority of teens. And into this digital environment has stepped a constellation of influential voices, including the late Charlie Kirk and others, whose audiences are disproportionately young and male.....What we are witnessing, then, is not exactly secularisation. It is a migration of moral authority—from parish, pastor and family (organic stable communities) to podcast hosts, algorithms and political entrepreneurs (elective and elusive communities without the bonds of mutual accountability). – **John Costa, SJA**