



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:

PO Box 985, Templestowe 3106

Telephone: 9850 5983

Email: templestowe@cam.org.au

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

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8/9th August, 2026

National Vocations Awareness Week

International Day of the World's Indigenous People

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves

Words from the desk of our PP...

Archdiocesan Synod

Look at the themes by going to [Melbourne Synod 2026 | Melbourne Catholic](#) read the material and make your own individual or family or small group comments.

This Archdiocesan Synod is important so I encourage participation: please make an effort to look at the themes and make some comment.

Rite for Christian Initiation of Adults

Do you know anyone who might like to join this journey? Find out what it means to be Catholic and join the community? Please let me know their details or get them to talk to me or email the office doncaster@cam.org.au

Clergy Conference August 10th to 14th and after

Fr Anton and I will be away for the week of 10th to 14th August so no weekday Masses. Then Fr Anton goes on holiday for a month – so we will have supply priests for some of the Masses on the weekends and just me for all daily Masses.

Safeguarding

Please make sure you are up to date with your details and WWCC etc. And if you're new to your role/ministry please contact the office to get yourself properly set up with the various requirements for ministering.

Drop Off / Pick up / Parking

An incident at a Mass last weekend (no harm caused) says three things to me:

1. If you are picking someone up or dropping them off – be careful and don't block entry to the church for more than a few minutes – if you need to wait longer park and bring your car back later
2. If you arrive and the carpark is full, park safely, drop family or friends off and go to the side streets to park so the carpark remains safe for all (don't park illegally).
3. Keep your cool – we are all present for the greater glory of God – but there are competing needs – look at the situation from other eyes, Jesus' eyes.

Alpha

Our next Alpha sessions are coming up starting in just a few weeks. You'll be hearing some testimonies about the value of Alpha for invigorating faith or opening the path to faith in Jesus Christ. Invite people – come yourself if you haven't been – young or not: there's a space for you. People will be around to help you sign up. If you have an acquaintance who is finding life hard: invite them. Atheist or Catholic or any faith at all: invite people to come – they can only say no – every invitation is a success in itself because it says Jesus is important.

God bless, Fr Charles

DAY OF SOLEMNITY

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

On Saturday, 15th August, we celebrate the feast of the Assumption. A Mass will be celebrated here at St Kevin's on this day at 9.00am. A Mass will also be celebrated on Wednesday 19th August together with the schoolchildren at 12.30pm.

All are welcome to attend to celebrate this very faithful, courageous and inspirational woman.



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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	9.15am	Mass
Monday	8.30am	St 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, Georgette Taouk, Fay Byrne, Faye Harvey, Mike Yambao, Elysia Pozzebon and Maureen Quinliven.

Anniversaries:

Faye Whitehead, Jopie Lun, June Gillespie, Diana Carnell, Jim Monaghan, Joseph Taouk, Domenico Cerio and Peter Balnaves.

Recently Deceased:

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week:

For the blessings that abound in our lives – perhaps going unnoticed as we pursue our own desires.



Feast Days this week:...

10th August St Lawrence
Remembered in Eucharistic Prayer, and in five ancient Roman churches dedicated to him.

11th August St Clare
Remembered for her life of extreme poverty, austerity, contemplation and charity.

14th August
St Maximilian Mary Kolbe
Remembered for his energy and poverty, his compassionate ministry, and his self-sacrifice.

15th August Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
This feast celebrates Mary's passing over, body and soul, from this world into the glory of her risen Son.

LITURGY ROSTER

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 8/9th August 2026

1st Read: 1 Kings 19: 9, 11-13 2nd Read: Romans 9: 1-5 Gos: Matthew: 14: 22-33

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Pauline Erickson	Margaret Turner	Lawrence Cecconello Anne Maguire
9.15am	Julie O'Donnell	Phil Brooks	Adrian Teo Carmel Purdey Frances Bettiol

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 15/16th August 2026

1st Read: Isaiah 56: 1, 6-7 2nd Read: Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32 Gos: Matthew 15: 21-28

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Janet Parsons	Kathy Pearce	Lynne O'Brien Maryanne McNamara
9.15am	Carmel Purdey	Bernard Butler	Pat Rowland Lyn Robinson Penny Teo

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

Meditation is credited with inducing a heightened state of awareness.
Various studies demonstrate the practice can help relieve stress, manage anxiety, reduce inflammation, improve memory and attention bringing into balance the mind and body.



— 2026 —
Clergy
Conference

Both Frs Charles and Anton will be attending a Clergy Conference from 10th to 14th August.

Our Pastoral Worker, Mrs Ana Saro will be conducting Services of the Word with Communion on Tuesday, 11th and Thursday, 21st August at 9.15am. All welcome.



BOOKISH MORNING TEA

Our next Bookish Morning Tea is scheduled for Thursday 13th August. All are welcome to come to the Church Gathering Space on this morning at 10.00am for a chat.

ST GREGORY'S & ST KEVIN'S

Multicultural
DAY

SUNDAY, 9TH AUGUST 2026
FOLLOWING THE 10.30AM MASS

ST GREGORY THE GREAT
PARISH HALL
71 WILLIAMSON'S ROAD
DONCASTER

Event Highlights

ENJOY MULTICULTURAL FOOD AND BEVERAGES
BID ON EXCITING ITEMS IN OUR SILENT AUCTION
PURCHASE RAFFLE TICKETS FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN

RSVP: USE SIGN UP SHEETS AT CHURCH, SCAN QR CODE
OR GO TO [HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/DNFAI](https://www.trybooking.com/DNFAI)



Come in your cultural costumes or colours
Celebrate the vibrant diversity of our community
Enjoy an afternoon of fellowship, food & fun!

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!



Are you ready to be entertained?

The Parish of St Kevin’s is looking for volunteers to come and be part of the joy of Youth Group and/or Playgroup. Lead by experienced leaders, volunteers are required to have a good sense of fun and the ability to chat with youngsters and adults alike. Applicants must be over the age of 18. Please contact Ana in the Parish Office.

ALPHA

18YO AND ABOVE

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 6.30PM
FROM 26TH AUGUST TO 4TH NOVEMBER
AT ST KEVIN'S CHURCH
30 HERLIHYS ROAD LOWER TEMPLESTOWE

Registration is now open!

ALPHA

13- 17 YEARS OF AGE

FRIDAY EVENINGS AT 6.30PM
FROM 28TH AUGUST TO 16TH OCTOBER
AT ST GREGORY THE GREAT
71 WILLIAMSON'S RD, DONCASTER

REGISTER VIA QR CODE:

Alpha is a series of group conversations that freely explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment.

Free- Meals included
Donation welcome
Enquiries:
templestowe@cam.org.au, doncaster@cam.org.au, bulleen@cam.org.au
phone 03 9850 5983, 03 9412 8425, 03 9850 3262

MEN'S SOCIAL GROUP

The next **St Kevin's Men's Social Group** takes place on **Friday, 14th August @ 7.30pm** in the **Church Gathering Apace**.

Open to men of any age (older teenagers are welcome (with their guardian) - parishioners and non parishioners alike.

All are welcome! Invite a friend, relative or neighbour along. Supper is provided. BYO alcoholic drinks. \$10 donation suggested to cover costs. For catering purposes, please indicate your intention to attend by contacting the parish office on 9850 5983 or via email templestowe@cam.org.au

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK

Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured. In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage. Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life.

FIRST EUCHRASST MASSES

Next weekend 15/16th August, we will be celebrating the First Eucharist of our school and parish children.

All are welcome to come and pray and support our children as they travel along their faith journey.

SHAPE THE FUTURE: BE COUNTED AS CATHOLIC THIS CENSUS

Australia’s national Census will be held on 11 August 2026. Catholics are encouraged to mark “Catholic” in the question on religion. In a time when some would seek to diminish the importance of faith, it is vital that the Catholic community be represented in our national statistics. Census data supports Church pastoral planning and contributes to government decision-making on health, education, infrastructure, and social services – guiding resource and funding allocations across Australia. By identifying as Catholic, you can help ensure that the contribution and needs of faith communities are properly recognised and considered in future planning and policy decisions.

ARCHBISHOP’S CAMPAIGN

The 2026 Archbishop’s Campaign is now underway, and we ask everyone to consider a one time or monthly pledge to support the vital ministries of our Archdiocese. Brochures with more information can be found around the Church. Online (direct debit or credit card) donations are the most secure and preferred method of donating and can be made via the QR code. You can also donate via the supplied campaign envelopes or anonymously via cash directly into the collection plate during the campaign weekends.

For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

Show us your steadfast love, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
First Reading	Second Reading
<u>1 Kings 19:9.11-13</u> A reading from the first book of the Kings <i>Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.</i> It requires a penetrating gift of discernment to discover how God is present in our lives and working in the world. Here Elijah provides a wonderful example for us. Sometimes we seek God in spectacular events – a cyclone, earthquake or bushfire. Indeed this is how Moses met God on Mt Sinai. Elijah's experience was different. He had a profound encounter with God in the gentlest breeze. The NRSV translates this poetically as 'a sound of sheer silence'. This text should be listened to with a sense of wonder and awe, inviting the assembly to reflect on how and where they discover the sacred and encounter the living God.	<u>Romans 9:1-5</u> A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans <i>I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.</i> What Paul says here is very deeply felt. His seriousness is expressed at the beginning by speaking in union with Christ and the Holy Spirit. For him, Christ is the fulfillment of all Israel's hopes. However, Paul is profoundly sorrowful and anguished because the people of Israel seem, by and large, to have rejected Christ and the gospel. Unfortunately, the text itself does not make this issue clear. Paul lists the blessings and opportunities the chosen people have received: adopted as God's children, gifted with the patriarchs, the covenant, the law, ritual, the promises of protection and finally, from their own flesh and blood, a Messiah, the Christ. This testimony reinforces for us today the common history and spiritual inheritance shared by the Christian community and the people of Israel God first made his own. The unity expressed here is a reason to bless God! <i>Taken from 'Break Open the Word'</i>

Social Justice Action
St Kevin's Parish, Templestowe

Responses to 'dirty secret' in the luxury-chocolate industry, and to established Australian slavery?

Fellow lovers of good chocolate, and others concerned also with morality, will have been dismayed by revelations in two recent connected episodes of ABC TV "Four Corners", on Luxury chocolates, and long known but mostly ignored, Australian slavery, and food mislabelling (27 July & 3 August 2026, iView).

Slave labour in Ghana was vividly revealed in very young worker-children and struggling worker-families. Enduring extreme heat and hours of unhealthy labour, day after day, year after year, merely to support minimum food, squalid conditions with health, happiness and education opportunities denied. Such harsh and shorter lives currently offer no alternatives. What Christian or any human can watch and accept this, while enjoying resulting luxury brand, expensive chocolates, magnifying the vast wealth of fine-chocolate purveyors? Ironically, if such widely valued exclusive and expensive chocolates charged just 20c extra per packet, more food and opportunity would at least help its slave labour.

For similar suffering, long-term Australian-slaves already isolated from (mostly) Pacific Island families they support, there's little further to loose beyond miserable lives by going public. So, aren't there slavery laws in Australia? Yes! But as the program disturbingly further revealed, much of it is outdated, and not readily enforceable. There's little enforcement appetite amidst other political, social and administrative priorities. There are also issues of seriously mislabelled foreign food inclusions. A telling closing interview of widely esteemed former regulator Prof. Allan Fels when asked about use of Tariff measures to reduce overseas slavery, or mislabelled foreign food content was "I didn't think I'd ever say this, but Donald Trump knows what to do about slavery, Anthony Albanese doesn't". Perhaps not a case of not knowing what to do, but rather being distracted by other, politically or socially-unmoving issues! So what might we do? - **John Costa SJA**



Synodality is a Conversion

True synodality requires conversion of hearts, attitudes and sometimes structures. It asks us to let go of habits that no longer serve the mission.