



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

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

15/16th August, 2026

First Eucharist Weekend

Our Presider today is: Fr Anton Aseervathampillai

Words from the desk of our PP...

Archbishop's Collection

This weekend: the formal GIVING weekend for the Archbishop's Collection.

Please be generous – your gift helps meet the costs of many of the charitable and faith works of the Archdiocese. What more can I say: St Paul was reminded to remember the universal church in his collections for those in need – we are reminded that the body of Christ that is the church is more than just us – we are called to support the Archbishop in helping those in need across the diocese of Melbourne, and help those following a vocation to diaconal, priestly or consecrated life.

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

"Becoming a Catechumenal Church" – Bishop Etienne presented four talks on this topic during the Clergy Conference during the past week. A marvellously gifted and intentional disciple. Lots of messages. An hour and a half to begin to delve into the meanings of the story of the "Samaritan woman at the well." An hour on the amazing influx of young people (15-40) into the church in France (alongside a decline in traditional participants in faith).

He provides a strong call towards / affirmation of what we are seeking to become: parishes who work together; parishes who are welcoming and willing to invite people to come to being to know Jesus; parishes whose worship strives for excellence; parishes who reach out to the poor and marginalised. All those things at the same time.

His most surprising, though also most wonderful words were (and I paraphrase a little): "I can't explain it – we did all sorts of things reaching out, inviting, praying and nothing seemed to work: this big influx of catechumens (of people seeking to grow into the faith Jesus calls them to) this influx is "the word of God"

His words suggest strongly to me that what our evangelising, charitable and worship efforts do is open US to the work of the Holy Spirit so that we can see and respond to the people around us whom the Holy Spirit is leading into our hands. If we aren't looking we won't see.

Much more to do – but we are on the journey.

Safeguarding

Real change: about a week ago, I provided input about our Safeguarding efforts as part of a panel of parish priests talking to the whole current group of seminarians. This is a big change from the past: safeguarding is being taught and discussed and worked on from early on – so new priests will already know a lot before entering parish life, even during their years of formation. This is how we build a culture of safety for our children and for all: talk about it; share our knowledge; take responsibility; be willing to speak up when things don't seem as they should be.

Multicultural Festival

Thank you to the Social Group and Safeguarding and Music and Children's Liturgy and so many others: you made this marvellous event possible with the work you've done over the past two months. The 300 or so people who came to eat the wonderful food and chat and talk and mingle made it happen.

An amazing day through which we are able to gather and share and talk and get to know each other. Thank you to all those from St Clement's and St Kevin's who came along as well as St Greg's – it made a difference having your new faces present.

We raised \$5040. Raffle prize winners were: 1st Jenny T; 2nd Rob R; 3rd Lucy; 4th Mei Tin C; 5th Florence Noonan.

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

Saturday	5.30pm	First Eucharist Mass
Sunday	9.15am	First Eucharist 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:

Joachim Cheng Kai On, Jean Pierre Yon, Micheline Cotillon, Graham "Polly" Farmer, Bruno Orlandi, Frank "Bluey" Adams, Vincenza Venuto, Josef (Joseph) Taouk and Simon Dedrick.

Recently Deceased:



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week:

For the grace to be intentional disciples who invite others to know Jesus, who worship faithfully and who joyfully help those in need.

Feast Days this week:...

20th August St Bernard
Remembered as a most influential churchman, his inspirational leadership, and his devotion to the humanity of Christ and to the Blessed Virgin.

21st August St Pius X
Remembered for his poverty and for his promotion of liturgical participation, especially of frequent communion, to which he admitted young children.

22nd August The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Observed on 22 August to stress its relationship to the Assumption (15 August): taken up into glory, Mary became queen of heaven and earth.

LITURGY ROSTER

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	Pauline Erickson	1 st Eucharist Child	Lynne O'Brien Maryanne McNamara
9.15am	Paul Polidano	1 st Eucharist Child	Penny Teo Liz Polidano Raffaela Dinelli

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time – 22nd/23rd August 2026

1st Read: Isaiah 22: 19-23 2nd Read: Romans 11: 33-36 Gos: Matthew: 16: 13-20

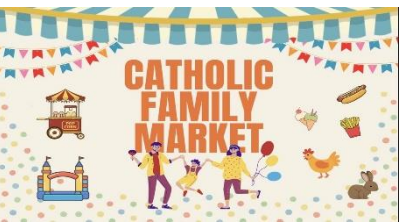
Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Bredenia Raquel	Kathy Pearce	Lawrence Cecconello Anne Maguire
9.15am	Frances Johnson	Maree McTaggart	Lyn Murphy Lyn Robinson Tony Robinson

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

As we sit down to meditate,
we commit to silence and stillness.
We leave behind all our thinking and planning,
our failures and successes.
Through meditation we are content to *be*
in the presence of God.



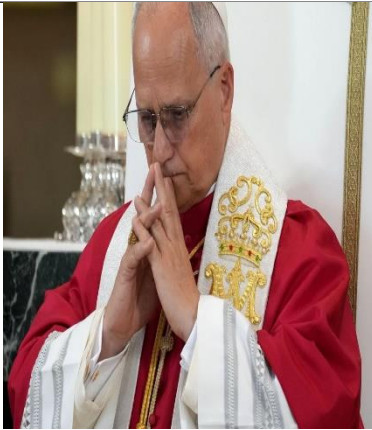
BOOKISH MORNING TEA
Our next Bookish Morning Tea is scheduled for Thursday 27th August. All are welcome to come to the Church Gathering Space on this morning at 10.00am for a chat, browse through the book swap library and a delicious morning tea!



Catholic Family Market
Sunday 16 August 2026
12.00pm–3.00pm

Join Catholic families from around Melbourne for a fun, relaxing day to come together and connect with others. The afternoon will include market stalls, food, music and a jumping castle for the kids.

Where? Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 631 High Street, Prahran.



Evangelisation in the city: Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention for August

Pope Leo XIV is inviting Catholics to pray 'for evangelisation in the city' as his August prayer intention, asking the Lord to accompany millions searching for meaning amid the noise and haste of urban life.

'Make us a Church that goes forth, able to reach out to the peripheries, to console those who are lonely, and to sow fraternity and connection instead of giving in to indifference,' the Chicago-born Pope prayed.



Synodality and Leadership

Leadership in a synodal Church is not about control but about service. Leaders create spaces where gifts can emerge and flourish.

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

ALPHA YOUTH

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**

More words from the desk of our PP...

3 Parishes

Initial follow up from our gathering of the three parish pastoral councils recently suggests our top priorities are: to develop a plan for how we communicate (so it's not just ad-hoc/accidental); to have a common calendar (a way forwards here is already in test mode); to have the youth / young adults across all three parishes meet / talk about things they want / need.

There is more to do to put flesh to these ideas but ... things are moving steadily.

Alpha

August 26th – for Adults 18 and up.

August 28th – for children (13-17) and parents as needed.

SIGN UP NOW – PLEASE, if you haven't already done so or participated before.

Be willing to ask the people around you – people who are perhaps struggling in their lives but have no faith or have drifted away.

Alpha is one of the ways through which we can become 'a catechumenal church' – a church that thrives on bringing people to know Jesus and become his disciples.

Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament

I was recently asked to give a talk on the practice of adoration before the Blessed Sacrament. There are many facets but to this beautiful practice but at the core it is about silence – silence from physical action; silence from words or songs of prayer; silence from thinking about our needs. The action elements are designed to lead us into silence and in the silence ... as Elijah found as he stood outside the cave in last week's first reading ... in the silence we hear God's words and call; we feel and are comforted by his presence. Hard to do? Yes! Does it work if my prayer and silence is imperfect? Yes! Please make space for adoration, even if it can't be before the Blessed Sacrament itself. Make space for silence. Make space for God's presence.

Sanctuary / Carpet

It's taken months but finally we have completed our sanctuary works (except for a new hand-rail – coming soon if all goes well).

First Eucharist:

We have our children receiving Holy Communion at both Masses this weekend – please welcome them and pray for them and wish them well.

God bless, Fr Charles



St Kevin's Parish proudly extends a warm welcome to the following children who come to the Table of the Lord for the first time this weekend.

Congratulations and Welcome to:

Antony Alescio	Gabriel Barrera	Abigail Bausejean	Rian Chan	Eliana Di Cioccio
Valentina Ferlito	Harriet Hall	Xarias Harrison	Jacob Lane	Phoebe Larrat
Edward Love	Sofia Muto	Rafael North	Elisha Pearce	Evan Pearce
Luca Pizzo	Harvey Russo	Sienna Santoro	Cheryl Tran	Ellie Ye

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

Let the peoples praise you, O God,
let all the peoples praise you!

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
First Reading	Second Reading
Isaiah 56:1.6-7 A reading from the prophet Isaiah <i>I will lead the foreigners to my holy mountain.</i> Returning from exile in Babylon, the chosen people are changed – foreigners have joined them. Isaiah here is quite inclusive. Those with a care for justice and who act with integrity will be drawn into the realm of God’s care. If they love and serve the Lord (which includes respecting the sabbath and the covenant), they can take part in the Jewish offerings on the holy mountain. God’s house will be a house of prayer for all peoples! From the first, this reading establishes the breadth of God’s embrace. It breaks down a view we often encounter, that this is a people set apart, special in God’s eyes. Instead, it opens up themes of welcome and hospitality for all.	Romans 11:13-15. 29-32 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans <i>The gifts and call of God are irrevocable.</i> Paul is writing to the Christian community in Rome, made up of both Jewish and Gentile Christians. He says he is proud to be proclaiming the gospel to the pagans, but then admits that an important dimension of this mission is to make his Jewish brothers and sisters envious. In fact, he says, the Jewish rejection of Christ has opened up the mission to the Gentiles. If this would make the Jewish community jealous and draw them to Christ, it would actually affirm their first election by God and lead them to something greater: resurrection with Christ. The second paragraph is difficult but restates the argument. ‘Disobedience’ is an equivalent for ‘disbelief’. Jewish disbelief in Christ opened the mission to the Gentiles, drawing the Gentiles from disbelief in God to mercy in Christ; this mercy shown to the Gentiles, Paul hopes, will lure disbelieving Jews eventually to mercy as well. Thus, all this disbelieving may result in mercy for everyone! The key phrase (still today a key phrase in understanding our relations with Judaism) is that ‘<i>God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice</i>’. <i>Taken from 'Break Open the Word'</i>



"Faithful work in Changing Times"

That's the title of Catholic Social Services Victoria July News Bulletin, by experienced (and youthful) Executive Director Josh Lourensz. Josh kindly agreed to our earlier invitation to speak/engage with our Parishioners on Social Justice, at a time to be arranged. It seems a great opportunity to share this also with fellow parishioners at St Greg's and St Clement's, very much including young people? For everyone's convenience, and given logistics, an interactive **Online** event some evening, say from 7pm to 8pm could be the format? With details to follow confirmation, the following includes (a very few) edited extracts from Josh's Bulletin.

"In times of change like this..... what doesn't change is the need to put forward well-grounded positions on social policy and priorities based on the experience of our members in light of Catholic social teachings....."This allows us to advocate with collaborative certainty in direct meetings with our incumbent parliamentarians, such as our recent meeting with the new Housing Minister, as well as to put forward our priorities for any who become members of the 61st Parliament later this year." The 'Members' Josh refers to include all Victorian Catholic social justice organisations, groups and volunteers, including ourselves, directly involved in Social Service/Justice.

"I am still reflecting on the 140 year celebration of the Brigidine Sisters' gathering I attended earlier this month in light of all the changes we continue to navigate: an ageing population, biodiversity and environmental challenges, a fracturing political dynamic, a wealthy country that is facing a growth in inequality and poverty to name but a few. A lot of change occurred in the world, in the Church..... Key to good work seems to have been well-discerned, courageous decisions that account for the reality of our moment without allowing core principles to be compromised. This, and a dose of humility that, in spite of our best efforts, we don't always get it right. A sustained commitment to continue to reflect, learn, change and serve is key." - **John Costa SJA**

PS: Appropriately, the "Sunday Readings and Reflections" for next weekend suggest:

"More broadly, the readings today engage us with themes of openness and inclusion, welcome and hospitality. It is not for us to draw boundaries or set limits. Let us leave these judgements to God. Instead, we respect every human being and treat them with kindness."