



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

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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

Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time

22nd/23rd August, 2026

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves

Words from the desk of our PP...

Archbishop's Collection

Thank you for your generosity. It is not too late to give. Envelopes / brochures / QR-code are in the Gathering Space for you. Please be generous if you haven't already done so. This is an important collection – helping our archdiocese flourish.

Adults: Coming to Faith

Who do you know who is seeking to journey in faith? Maybe they can join the RCIA program heading for Easter 2027. Ask them, let them know the Doncaster office email (doncaster@cam.org.au) or give me their contact number.

Our Schools

Please keep our Catholic Schools in your prayers. There is a large upheaval going on. Our teachers will gain a well-deserved pay rise flowing from the results for government school teachers. This rise results in a major funding shortfall for independent schools including Catholic schools. In light of this particularly, but also other budget impacts, all schools and the Melbourne Archdiocese Catholic Schools (MACS) corporate structure are being required to significantly reduce their budgets with considerable consequences. As a rule in future, minimum class sizes will be 25 students, resulting in changes to staffing levels and, in some cases, joining of grades. Funds for Catholic schools come from the Federal Government. The next scheduled funding adjustment is not until 2029. While there is a lot of advocacy being done to seek additional government assistance, it is essential to move now to manage the shortfall so that our teachers and principals can receive a fair wage. As I said: keep our schools in your prayers.

Safeguarding

We are very well advanced in our Safeguarding culture and compliance – kudos to all of you for helping us get to such an excellent situation.

But ... !!!

Time can get away from us – there are renewals needed for WWCCs and training and such: have a look at your status and make sure you stay up to date. Often we will remind you of needs as well, but your vigilance is important too.

Based on recent advice I need to let you know: if we've gone longer than six months seeking for you to get a WWCC or other compliance needs and you aren't up to date, I will have to ask you to step aside from your ministry until you are compliant. This reflects the requirements of Victorian Law and Archdiocesan requirements. I do not want to take such a step but please be aware that it will come if you are not compliant soon.

Alpha

August 26th – for Adults 18 and up.

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

Both sessions have critical mass and are proceeding (Praise the Lord – Alleluia!!!)

But we have plenty of spare space for more people.

Look around you with fresh eyes and see the people you know who may benefit from coming to a closer friendship with Jesus the Christ.

Sanctuary / Carpet

The final – final sanctuary work is complete. I am very pleased. The feel of the space underfoot is now predictable and even and safe with all the changes of elevation removed. I am doubly pleased because an anonymous parishioner donated the carpet and installation (covering the full cost themselves – thank you so very much indeed). I still plan that we will get a handrail installed near the lectern but otherwise ... all is in place.

God bless, Fr Charles.

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:
Antonio Strangis, Phyllis Dunn, Carlito Gonzalez, Terese and Nicolette Lucarelli (nee Anderson), Moya Veronica Puls and Sharon Louise Hammat.

Recently Deceased:
Natalie Allard



Fr Charles’ Prayer Intention for this Week:
Our school system is going through significant funding challenges – we pray the Holy Spirit will guide all leaders in this difficult time.

Feast Days this week:...
24th August St Bartholomew
Said to have preached the gospel in India and in Armenia, where tradition indicates he was martyred.
27th August St Monica
Remembered for her parental devotion, her patience and her persistence in prayer.
28th August St Augustine
Served his people at a time of political and cultural collapse. Remembered as a model pastor and as a preacher and writer whose thought has had an enduring influence in Christian history.
29th August Passion of St John Baptist
The anniversary of the dedication of the basilica in his honour at Sebaste (Palestine) where he was buried.

LITURGY ROSTER			
Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time – 22 nd /23 rd August 2026			
1 st Read: Isaiah 22: 19-23 2 nd 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	Pauline Erickson	Maree McTaggart	Lyn Murphy Lyn Robinson Tony Robinson
Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 29/30 th August 2026			
1 st Read: Jeremiah 20: 7-9 2 nd Read: Romans 12: 1-2 Gos: Matthew 16: 21-27			
Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Tasha Vercauteren		Lynne O’Brien Maryanne McNamara
9.15am	Tony Byrne	Marie Arbogast	Kaye Byrne Mary Waddick 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 not the time to worry about what is happening, or what others are thinking. It is a time of self-forgetfulness while focusing on silence. As you begin, trust that it will work for you.



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.

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!



First Holy Communion
I had the pleasure of celebrating Mass last Wednesday with St Kevin’s students, including the Grade 3 children who received Holy Communion for the first time last Saturday evening.

Amazing to see them come up, the wonder and awe in their faces as they came for their ‘Second Holy Communion’. Thank you to Ana and Lil and all the others who made last weekend’s wonderful Sacramental moment possible.
God bless, Fr Charles

St David’s Winter Warmer Concerts
St Davids Anglican Church is hosting a **Winter Warmer Concert** where we are invited to “Sway to the Music”.

When: Sunday, 30th August, 2026 **Time:** 2.00pm
Cost \$40 (\$30 Concession) which includes afternoon Tea
Where: St David’s, 1111 Doncaster Road, Doncaster East
More information is on the flyer on the noticeboard in the Gathering Space.

Synodality and Leadership
Trust grows when people know their voices matter. Synodality helps rebuild trust within the Church and between the Church and society.



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 WILLIAMSONS 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*

29th

August Youth Group

Dress up movie night!



WHAT?

We will be watching a
selection of popular movies
voted by you! Dress up as
your favourite movie
character for a chance to
win a prize!

WHERE?

Youth Group is held in the
church gathering space at
St Kevin's 26-44 Herlihys Rd,
Templestowe Lower VIC
3107

6:30 - 8:30

Entry is \$9,

Dinner is provided, including
vegetarian options,

Grades 5 to 12,

Templestowe@cam.org.au

All welcome!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Come and
encounter Jesus
through the
Blessed Sacrament

Friday,
4th September
7PM Start

WORSHIP
TESTIMONY
ADORATION
FELLOWSHIP

*All Are
Welcome*

St Gregory the Great Church
71 Williamsons Road, Doncaster
Info: doncaster@cam.org.au

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

Your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading	Second Reading
Isaiah 22:19-23 A reading from the prophet Isaiah <i>I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.</i> We are used to some shuffling in political responsibilities from time to time. New appointments to the portfolios of government will occur after an election, for example. Here in this reading is an obscure example of such a shuffle seven hundred years before Christ in the reign of Hezekiah in Judah. The master of the household is dismissed and a replacement is installed – with some ceremony! What possible significance can this have for us? Good question. The link with the gospel is ‘the authority of the keys’. To be a holder of the keys is to have power, to be able to open and close. Here a new person is being put in charge.	Romans 11:33-36 A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans <i>From him, through him, and in him are all things.</i> This text begins with a wondrous exclamation of the sacred mystery of the transcendent God: <i>how rich... how deep... how impossible to penetrate...</i> Then three rhetorical questions lead to an emphatic statement of faith in the creator which ends with a doxology of praise. Normally prepositions are not stressed. The end of this reading would be an exception: <i>‘from him, by him, for him’.</i> This beautiful and powerful reading needs to be listened to with a sense of awe and reverence. Its purpose is to try to move the listeners to worship. <i>Taken from ‘Break Open the Word’</i>

Social Justice Action
St Kevin's Parish, Templestowe

Social Justice an 'Internal Matter'?

(includes edited extracts from UNESCO, Al Jazeera 11 & 15 August 2026, Global Catholic 14 August)

Beyond 2nd Collections, our recent parish contributions of parishioner donated fabric, enabled CatholicCare to teach recent Afghan refugees how to make clothes they can't afford to purchase. Our contribution recently benefited also from Anglican Parish of Balnarring's Vicar Kieron Jones' kind donation through us of a large and future volume of fabric for CatholicCare, enabling ongoing training and clothes production by Afghan refugees and others.

Five years since the Taliban returned to power they have imposed more than 100 decrees restricting Afghan women's rights, affecting every aspect of their daily lives, from education and employment to freedom of movement, healthcare and access to justice. Despite repeated Taliban promises to find an "ideologically compliant" way for them to attend school, girls are still banned from Secondary schools, and women from Universities. Recently the Taliban hosted a cricket match as part of their 5 years in power - but just like much of public life in Afghanistan, women and girls were banned from attending.....Recently "a group of 56 countries including Britain, France, Germany, Japan, Lebanon, the United States and the United Arab Emirates called on the Taliban to reverse restrictions on women and girls". Closer to home, for individuals, our Parishes, and groups such as CatholicCare, Social Justice is far from just an "Internal Matter".

In advance of Social Justice Sunday *next weekend* the Australian Catholic Bishops have issued a stark warning about threats to social cohesion, citing growing division, racism, intolerance and violence. Drawing on strong statements from Popes Francis and Leo XIV they call for 'cultures of encounter' - **John Costa SJA**



Knights of the Southern Cross—Archbishop’s Dinner 2025

Friday 16 October 2026 7.00pm–11.00pm

Join the Knights of the Southern Cross Victoria to celebrate the 26th annual Archbishop’s Dinner. The dinner is held each year to raise funds for the Priests Support and Education Fund. This fund was established by the Knights of the Southern Cross to assist in the funding and education of seminarians and the post-ordination education of priests.

Venue : Grand Star Convention and Reception Centre, 499 Grieve Parade, Altona North **Cost:** \$170 per person
Dress: Black tie, business suit, after-five wear
For all enquiries or to book tickets, please email Nadia Bolzonello at giveback@optusnet.com.au or call 0407 055 237.