



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

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

12/13th September, 2026

Safeguarding Weekend

Our Presiders today are: Fr Erick Niyiragira (Saturday evening), Fr Brian Traynor (Sunday morning)

Words from the desk of our PP...

Rite for Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA):

Go gently but don't hesitate to invite someone to become a Catholic. Let me know via email Charles.Balnaves@cam.org.au or give me a contact number.

Safeguarding:

This is Safeguarding Sunday: a Sunday dedicated to helping us to grow in active awareness of safety for all who are vulnerable, especially children. Please continue to join me and our Safeguarding Committee in becoming ever more effective in caring for everyone with God's "agape" self giving love and compassion.

Parish Groups / Ministries:

The Holy Spirit is active in our parishes, inspiring people to offer their services as part of parish groups / ministries.

If you feel moved / called / led by the Holy Spirit to do something more than you are – please come forwards.

Lectors / Holy Communion (at Mass or to the home or the aged) / Liturgy Group / Safeguarding / Social group / Craft Group / Men's Group / Sacristans / Musicians and Singers / Youth group / Children's Liturgy / Young Adults / Play Group / RCIA / Alpha / Sacramental Preparation / Evangelisation.

Some groups are present in each parish and some in only one and some work across all three parishes – you can join a group across a border or that crosses borders – and then we can support all three parishes more effectively.

St Charles Borromeo Site:

No news – well not much news. Things have been moving slowly towards determination of the next use of the St Charles Borromeo School site. We recently received some of the necessary valuations that are needed and we have prepared a vision and have been getting background papers in place. After discussions this week we hope to have a clearer way forwards in timing – it remains the case that the site will be placed on the market in a formal process (which will necessarily take some months to execute). We are progressing!

Columbarium:

We have the planning permit in hand now for the Columbarium with 44 niches. We are now seeking quotations for constructing the wall. If you know of a person who does good work and who would be willing to look at a smallish job: please give me their contact details or get them to contact me.

God bless, Fr Charles



Safeguarding a Practical Expression of Love

This weekend marks Safeguarding Sunday. This year's theme, "Love Protects", recognises that safeguarding is a practical expression of Christian love. This Sunday also provides an opportunity to acknowledge the work of clergy, staff, volunteers and safeguarding leaders who work to foster cultures of safety and trust throughout church communities. Today we are gathered on Safeguarding Sunday, a day when we pause to focus on our responsibility to protect and care for those who are vulnerable. In the Bible, we find a clear and strong message about justice, compassion and speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves. We are called to be a safe, welcoming and hope-filled Church.

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	
	6.30pm	Mass at St Gregory the Great Church
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, Michael Angelo Yambao, Elysia Pozzebon and Maureen Quinliven.

Anniversaries:

Jasmine Milanes, Ann Tipton, Nathan Jones, Margaret Cunningham, Danny Frawley, Antonio Ziino, Rosemary Mercieca, Donald Mullin, Liberato Crescia and Aldo Magnanini.

Recently Deceased:

Andrew Shiel and Mario Toppi.

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week: For all who are vulnerable in their lives, especially children: that they can be nurtured warmly and experience the generous love of Jesus Christ and his Holy Spirit.



Feast Days this week:...

14th September
The Exultation of the Holy Cross
A feast of the Lord, it celebrates the 'lifting up' of the Son of Man on the cross, into glory, and the paradox of the cross as a sign of humiliation and death, yet the source of victory and life.

15th September Our Lady of Sorrows
This feast celebrates Mary, first disciple and first to share in the pain and triumph of the cross.

16th September
Ss Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian
Remembered as compassionate pastors who developed the Church's teaching and practice of reconciliation.

LITURGY ROSTER

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 12/13 th September 2026			
1 st Read: Eccles 27: 30-28: 7 2 nd Read: Romans 14: 7-9 Gos: Matthew 18: 21-25			
Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Vianney Shiel	Margaret Turner	Lynne O'Brien Lawrence Cecconello
9.15am	Carmel Purdey	Phil Brooks	Adrian Teo Mary Waddick Carmel Shiel
Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19/20 th September 2026			
1 st Read: Isaiah 55: 6-9 2 nd Read: Philippians 1: 20-24, 27 Gos: Matthew: 20: 1-16			
Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Ana Saro	Maree McTaggart	Lawrence Cecconello Anne Maguire
9.15am	Pauline Erickson	Marie Arbogast	Liz Polidano Raffaella Dinelli Paul Polidano

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

The benefits of meditation are not only spiritual closeness to God but also physical:
clearer mind,
sharper focus,
calmness,
controlled emotions,
contentment.

BOOKISH MORNING TEA

Is taking a hiatus for the month of September and will recommence on **Thursday 8th October**.

However, this does not mean you are not able to stay for a cuppa and catch-up with any of our Mass-goers after any weekend or weekday Mass. All are welcome.

Synodality and Scripture

From Abraham's journey to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, Scripture is full of stories of God walking with His people. Synodality places us within that biblical story.

Come Away Day - Wednesday 16th September at Holy Cross Monastery
207 Serpells Road, Templestowe

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 SEPTEMBER 16th**. The theme of the day is **'COME TO THE WATERS ...'** After our Winter break, we are invited to celebrate the coming of the Spring Season and all that this evokes in us physically, emotionally and spiritually. We have an opportunity to rest, reflect and focus on the deeper meaning, changes, and movements of growth in our own life journeys 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 in the Holy Cross Main Dining Room**. 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. Everyone is welcome.

Speakers Evening

Be inspired by

Greg Sheridan AO

“God is Good for You”

A journalist proclaims Christ to a secular world

Greg is the foreign editor of The Australian newspaper, a well-known author and is a parishioner of St Gregory's Parish

Greg's three books on religion and Christianity have been best sellers.

Friday 2nd October The Clifton Centre

(adjacent to St Clement of Rome's Church)

Pizza Dinner 6.30pm, followed by the presentation and discussion.

Sign-up sheets are available on the table in the Gathering Space.

**13TH SEPTEMBER
MASS 5.00PM**

★ ★ ★
**FROM THE EMPTY TOMB TO
THE ALTAR**



**COME WITH
EXPECTANT HEARTS.
BRING YOUR FAMILY
AND FRIENDS.
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

There will be
Refreshments after
Mass

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS MASS

ST GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC CHURCH

71 WILLIAMSON'S RD, DONCASTER



The next batch of parish Thanksgiving Envelopes have been prepared by our ever efficient Peter Norman (thank you very much Peter) and are now ready for collection from the table in the Gathering Space.

If you give via credit card, your receipts have been emailed to you.

Please remember to collect your envelopes before leaving today.

“For the care of water’: Pope’s prayer intention for September.

As Christians mark the season of Creation, Pope Leo XIV is dedicating his September prayer intention to the care of the water, highlighting both its spiritual significance and the global crisis of access to clean drinking water. The Pope has called on Catholics to reject waste and pollution and to defend access to safe water as a fundamental human right.



An invitation from our Archbishop of Melbourne, Peter Comensoli...

PRAYER SERVICE OF LAMENT – 15 September 2026 – St Patrick’s Cathedral Grounds, East Melbourne 4pm

The Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows invites us to stand with Mary at the foot of the Cross. There we see a mother who remains close to her Son in His suffering steadfast in faith and open to the hope that God alone can bring. In Mary, the Church learns not to turn away from suffering, but to remain present with compassion, humility and prayer. In 2026, on this memorial we will gather as the Church in Melbourne for our annual Service of Lament for survivors of abuse. I invite you all to join me on **Tuesday 15 September 2026** at 4.00pm in the **grounds of St Patrick’s Cathedral** as we come before the Lord in prayer and lament. This Service is an occasion to humbly stand alongside those who have suffered abuse, and all who continue to carry its lasting effects. It is for us, as the Body of Christ, to acknowledge and lament sincerely and with humility the failures that have caused such profound harm, and to place before the Lord our prayer for healing, justice and the ongoing conversion of His Church. Survivors and their loved ones remain at the heart of this gathering. Through the proclamation of God’s Word, silence, music and symbolic ritual we will commend to the Lord all who have been harmed by abuse, asking that His healing mercy bring light where there has been darkness, hope where there has been despair and renewed trust where trust has been broken. As we stand with Mary at the foot of the Cross, may we allow the Lord to deepen within us hearts that listen with compassion, seek the truth with humility and remain steadfast in the ongoing work of healing and reconciliation.

MARCH FOR THE BABIES

Come and show your support and march for the babies at 1.00pm Saturday, 10th October - Treasury Gardens, Cnr Spring St and Wellington Pde, Melbourne

Wear pink and blue for the Babies! www.marchforthebabies.com

This is the 17th annual March for the Babies, and every year since 2009, thousands of Victorians have gathered peacefully with grief and hope to remember the ever-increasing number of babies killed by abortion in this state since the Government legalised abortion-till-birth on October 10, 2008.



Please join the march in their 17 year anniversary. Attendance is completely free, all you have to do is book your tickets in advance for yourself, your family or group using this QR code:

**BOOK
YOUR
FREE
TICKETS**



A free bus is being offered for our parish – if we can recruit 58 people, a number required by those who are financing this offer. Departure from our church or similar location and return after the event. Details to follow soon.

For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

The Lord is kind, and merciful
the Lord is kind, and merciful.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Merciful Lord hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
First Reading	Second Reading
<u>Sirach 27:30 – 28:7</u> A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus <i>Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.</i> Ecclesiasticus is sometimes called the Wisdom of Sirach. It is a loose collection of sayings compiled in the second century before Christ. The book does not offer a systematic treatment of its subject matter but groups together a variety of thoughts and maxims. The material is organised into couplets, a form we often see in the psalms. Today's collection cluster around the themes of resentment and vengeance, forgiveness and compassion. One thought leads to another in a kind of 'stream of consciousness'. The word 'remember' forms a verbal link in the last four sayings. The themes here prepare the listeners well for the reading of the gospel parable.	<u>Romans 14:7-9</u> A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans <i>Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.</i> This short text brings our semi-continuous readings from Paul's letter to the Romans to a close. We have been reading from this letter since Eastertime. Some may know this reading from funerals they have attended. Paul recognises that, while people are different, they interact with one another. What is common to everyone in the Christian community is Christ – we belong to Christ. The passage ends with a fine acclamation of faith: Christ is Lord of the living and the dead. <i>Taken from 'Break Open the Word'</i>



Am I OK? are you OK? A conversation could change a life

One thing peaceful cities and environments tend to have in common is that they are relatively small, and where people know, trust, depend on and care for one another, in a living community of shared spirit, imagination, and sense of equality. Such communities tend both to support and enrich shared life, at times also benefiting from additional members, including recent migrant families, who readily contribute to small community viability. It's often harder to achieve such things in larger cities.

The wider world heavily exposed by media is regularly alarming, and threatening. It's hard to think of thee and me without being overwhelmed by the suffering and at times devastation of others. Yet how can we help others if we can't also help ourselves?

Thursday 10 September marks start of the annual RUOK? program. Our parishioners and groups are already well known for supporting others, eg the Knitting, Vinnies, Hospitality, Pastoral, Youth, Reading, Discussion, Social Justice and other groups, and moneys kindly contributed to Parish 1st & 2nd Collections for special needs. But there are many other informal opportunities to simply ask of others - are you OK? - and follow up. While large city isolation is not uncommon, the Australian 2026 RUOK? campaign simply suggests, as appropriate, and with sensitivity: 1, Ask someone whether they're OK; 2, Listen with an open mind; 3, Encourage them to take action if needed; and 4, Check in with them over the next couple of weeks. While statistical analysis of measured results before and after simple RUOK campaigns don't show dramatic improvements, they do confirm worthwhile improvements. In any case, as we are helpfully reminded "Always treat others as you would like them to treat you". Beatitudes (Mt 7:12). - John Costa (SJA)



Knights of the Southern Cross—Archbishop’s Dinner 2026

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.