



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

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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 Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10/11th October, 2026

Our Presider today is: Fr Anton Aseervathampillai

Words from the desk of our PP...

The Greg Sheridan Talk: God is Good for You.

An excellent evening! Over 100 people came, representing St Clement's, St Greg's, St Kevin's, St John the Evangelist and Ss Peter and Paul – at least.

Greg presented us with a wonderful journey weaving through his three books and the difficulties facing us as Christians in the Australian context – recognising we are not facing death as is the case in some / many places in the world.

It took me a little pondering to recognise the topic “God is Good for You” woven into the story he told. But it was there – not as an explicit argument but as the sub-text.

Salvation history is all about how remaining always faithful to God's love, and doubly with the coming of Jesus Christ, brings about change in us and change in the world.

His examples from the early Christian communities; his talking about Job; his comparison of the sexual customs surrounding St Paul's Corinthian community with the situation today in Australia; the beauty that can be seen through the Old Testament stories: these all point us to the ways in which God is Good for Us.

Thank you, Greg, for an enjoyable evening.

And thank you to Mary and many others who helped make the evening happen and happen smoothly.

Becoming Catholic – RCIA

Please pray for Joey, Cindy, Mark, Jamie, and Parsa as they continue their faith journey and begin their preparation for being initiated into Christian faith and our Roman Catholic Church. Come Holy Spirit! And ... it's not too late to ask someone to join the group.

Receiving the Blood of Christ as well as the Body of Christ

We've been receiving both the Body and the Blood of Christ in St Kevin's community since about 2004 (if memory serves me well) and it has been a success. Covid reduced the proportion of people choosing to receive both Body and Blood but still about 15-20% receive.

I would like to introduce the practice at St Gregory's and at St Clement's. Reception of Communion but doubly reception of the Blood of Christ would always be optional – your choice entirely.

The primary purpose I have for providing this choice is to give you the choice to receive Jesus' in the substance of his Blood as well as his Body. This more clearly makes Jesus' words of the Last supper visible in our celebration of Eucharist. That night, he said “Take and Eat” and “Take and Drink”. In addition to the physical and spiritual receiving of Jesus' self in the Body and the Blood, distributing both gives a clearer visible sign that we are following Christ and allowing ourselves to be his presence in the world today. His community. Us, the Body of Christ gathered around the table with him as we celebrate the Mass together.

Ms Michelle Verna: Michelle Verna was principal of St Gregory the Great Primary school from 2018 till mid-2025. We received news on Wednesday evening that Michelle died suddenly. She was a good and faithful person, bringing great leadership to her role as principal. The suddenness of Michelle's death reminds us of our mortality but it also reminds us that we depend greatly on our school principals as a real presence of Christ for our children and families. Please keep Michelle and her family and all her colleagues in your prayers.

God bless, Fr Charles

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	9.15am	Mass
Monday	8.30am	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	
	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, 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, Maureen Quinliven, Raffaella Dinelli and Solomon S Cua.

Anniversaries:

Salvatore Ozzimo, Doris Delaney, Lorna James, Roma Johnson, Palmara Dinelli, Peter Chin, Pam Graham, Liberato Crescia, Charles English and John Bumford.

Recently Deceased: Michelle Verna



Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week: For all those who suffer from chronic health issues – that they will know Jesus walking with them each moment, and experience his Holy Spirit sustaining them.

Feast Days this week:...

15th October St Teresa of Jesus
Honoured as a spiritual writer and mystic who experienced and comprehensively described the life of prayer. Remembered as a strong, practical reformer who restored the strict Carmelite observance of poverty, solitude and austerity.

17th October
St Ignatius of Antioch
Remembered for seven letters written on his way to execution. They show him to be devoted to Christ and his resurrection; they urge Christians to unity in and through the Eucharist and around their local bishop.

LITURGY ROSTER

Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 10/11th October 2026

1st Read: Isaiah 25: 6-10 2nd Read: Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20 Gos: Matthew 22: 1-14

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Pauline Erickson	Tasha Vercauteran	Lynne O'Brien Lawrence Cecconello
9.15am	Tony Byrne	Phil Brooks	Kaye Byrne Pat Rowland Liz Polidano

Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 17/18th October 2026

1st Read: Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6 2nd Read: Thessalonians 1: 1-5 Gos: Matthew: 22: 15-21

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Janet Parsons		Lawrence Cecconello Anne Maguire
9.15am	Carmel Purdey	Bernard Butler	Adrian Teo Paul Polidano Pat Rowland

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 a journey that each of us is invited to. We meditate not by thinking about it, but by doing it. Every time we sit down to meditate we go into a state of **one-ness** in the presence of God.



Our next Parish Bookish Morning Tea will be held on Thursday, 22nd October at 10.00am and continues every fortnight.

All are welcome to join in the fun!
Looking forward to seeing you all then!!



Synodality and Young People

Young people long to be heard and taken seriously. Synodality invites the Church to listen attentively to their questions and hopes.

Please Support Our Parish

Mass Volunteers

If you haven't done so already, please reply to the email requesting your known unavailability for the next six month Mass roster.

We are still looking for new people to join our team, especially for 5.30pm. Contact Pauline Erickson on 0407 824 638. We look forward to hearing from you.



RECITING THE ROSARY

For the month of October especially, we shall be reciting the Rosary at the following times and at the following Churches:

St Clement of Rome Bulleen:	Tuesdays @ 8.40am in the Chapel (in Italian) Wednesdays @ 8.40am
St Gregory the Great Doncaster:	Fridays @ 9.30am
St Kevin's Templestowe:	Thursdays @ 8.45am



2027 COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR

The new Columban Calendars for 2027 are available from the table in the Gathering Space. \$10 each. Please place cash in the box provided. Thank you.

SLIME AND CRAFT

OCTOBER YOUTH GROUP

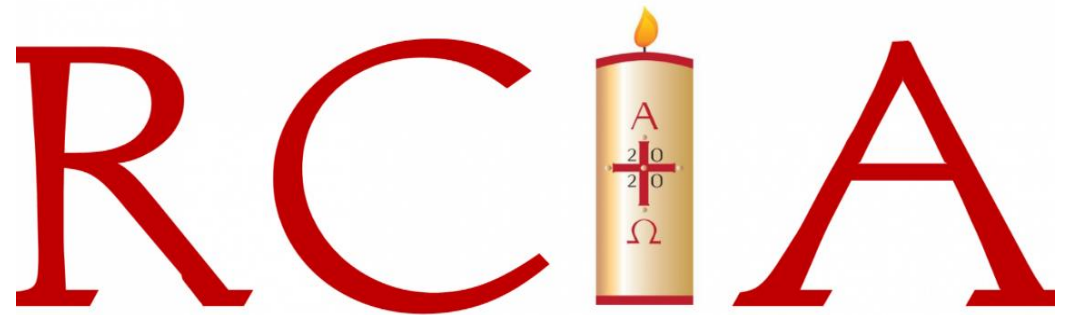
YOUTH GROUP IS HELD
IN THE CHURCH
GATHERING SPACE AT ST
KEVIN'S 26-44 HERLIHYS
RD, TEMPLESTOWE
LOWER VIC 3107
24TH OCTOBER
6:30PM - 8:30PM
LOOK FORWARD TO
SEEING YOU SOON!

ENTRY IS \$9,
DINNER IS PROVIDED, INCLUDING
VEGETARIAN OPTIONS,
GRADES 5 TO 12,
TEMPLESTOWE@CAM.ORG.AU
ALL WELCOME!



Pope Leo's prayer intention for October:

'For mental health ministry' asking the Church to welcome, accompany, and support people facing mental health challenges. We pray for the establishment and strengthening of mental health ministry throughout the Church, emphasising compassion, accompaniment, and the removal of stigma surrounding mental illness.



Are you interested in learning about Catholicism?

Learning more about Jesus?

Are you, or is someone you know, curious about this?

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) has begun its next series of meetings for St Clement's, St Gregory's and St Kevin's parishes at St Gregory's Church. It's not too late! For more information, please phone the Parish Office (9412 8425) or speak with Fr Charles. Warm welcome assured.

Baptisms, RCIA, people joining the Church:

Please, encourage your friends, ask them to just come along and see how friendly Jesus is. We are not seeing many requests for baptism or much interest in RCIA. Please. Make an effort; suggest to your friends that baptising their children is vitally important; invite a friend to join you and come to a session on becoming catholic. Take a risk! What can go wrong? They say no? So you move on and ask someone else.



Sessions have recommenced for Term 4 on Mondays, in our Church Gathering Space.

Doors open at 8.30am. All children between the ages of 0-5 years and their parents/guardians are welcome.



Robert Fitzgerald AM on faith, human rights and ageing with dignity

As Australia ages, Age Discrimination Commissioner Robert Fitzgerald AM believes the measure of society lies in how it treats older people. Marking last week's International Day of Older Persons, he reflects on the connections between Catholic social teaching, human rights and the importance of accompaniment in responding to isolation.

Mr Fitzgerald believes our ageing society is one of our most pressing social challenges, arguing that older people risk becoming 'the most depressed and isolated generation we've ever had'. Mr Fitzgerald states people must be supported to age with dignity and remain valued and visible. His role's purpose is to combat ageism, promote the rights of older people and ensure Australians of all ages are treated fairly in employment, health care, education and public life.

'Faith in action has been a dominant theme in our family, but also in my personal life, and remains so today,' he says, adding that his father's work in health and community services and as state president of the St Vincent de Paul Society was a great influence.

'When I was 21, doing commerce and law at New South Wales Uni, I joined the St Vincent de Paul Society and headed up a conference that was visiting families and individuals in great distress. That really gave me a deep exposure day by day with those who were living on the margins. True dignity is when you treat people with a value that is equal to yours, and that only comes if you accompany them.'

That principle of equal human worth sits at the centre of Mr Fitzgerald's work in human rights, particularly his concern with the way older people are treated by institutions and society. He sees this as inseparable from Catholic Social Teaching.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights draws heavily on the social teachings of the Church. The very first human right is respect for the dignity of all people, and that has been Church philosophy for a very long time.

For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.
Response to Prayers of the Faithful
Hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
First Reading	Second Reading
<u>Isaiah 25:6-10</u> A reading from the prophet Isaiah <i>The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.</i> Isaiah presents a glorious vision of God’s ultimate victory and the establishment of his reign over all the earth. Isaiah uses the ancient image of a rich banquet; it is set on a mountain, a traditional site for encountering the divine presence. The vision is radically inclusive: it is for ‘all peoples’, ‘all nations’. God’s bounteous love will remove death and tears, mourning and shame. Instead of feeling alienation, people will rejoice and celebrate that the salvation they hoped for has come. As the people hear this text proclaimed, it should stir up a deep yearning to be so blessed by God.	<u>Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20</u> A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians <i>I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.</i> Paul had a good relationship with the people at Philippi. As he concludes his letter to them, he gratefully acknowledges their financial support (<i>it was good of you to share with me in my hardships</i>). But, as he often has said, he tries to be independent of outside help. He says he will manage with God’s help: poor or rich, poverty or plenty. He ends, first with a blessing invoking God’s lavish gifts, and then with a doxology glorifying God. Amen, indeed! We can learn from Paul’s detachment from worldly things, his trust in divine providence, and from the support offered him by the Philippians. <i>Taken from ‘Break Open the Word’</i>



Looking Ahead: Extract from Catholic Social Service Victoria Newsletter, Josh Lourensz, Exec Director, August 2026

".....For many Catholic social services, reaching out and working with others of good will, moving beyond tolerance to community, is a natural fit. But at the same time, with the pressures of risk, outcomes and contracts, an attentiveness to this dimension of our role as spaces for genuine community connection can be seen as an added extra – an ‘on top of’ to contracted or programmatic work obligations. It takes enlivened teams and leadership (both executive and governance), who understand the broader mission of which our organisations and communities are a part to foster this kind of work.

Sacred Heart Mission held an important forum and panel this week addressing the political climate where issues like housing costs and homelessness are blamed on ‘the other’ – immigration or migrants or on people experiencing homelessness themselves. This blaming does not take account of the reality of policy settings and years of wealth creation by housing price increases that have meant secure housing is genuinely difficult to hold onto. Even those on a median wage can struggle to find housing that is affordable — let alone those who are on a fixed income, out of work, or working in important but lower paid jobs such as in aged care, cleaning, or in warehouses. We need to seek out the truth rather than attend to answers that seem easy, and then work together for positive change.

That is what CSSV will be working to do when we release our election priorities in October (14th), urging the new Parliament’s attentiveness to particular social policy areas that we think will have significant impact on the conditions that bring out the best in people. This could create a foundation for us all to connect more deeply with each other through our organisations and in our own neighbourhoods, enabling us to tackle social problems together with a sense of shared responsibility....." Josh will leave this role shortly to pursue doctoral studies. In looking forward to the 14 October Statement we thank him for his imaginative leadership of CSSV, and willingness to support our parish, wishing his studies well - **John Costa SJA**

