



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

Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

17/18th October, 2026

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves

Words from the desk of our PP...

Columban Calendars

We have good stock but they are selling – so ... buy 1, 2, 3 – for yourself or as gifts.

Christmas Planning

Advent Penitential Service: December 3rd 7:30 pm at St Clement of Rome – a joint penitential service / reflection for all three of our parishes, followed by the opportunity for individual absolution.

I'll publish full Christmas / New Year Mass times in the near future.

Cornerstone Youth and Young Adults – Mass

A lovely surprise last Sunday at St Greg's – a generous person donated dinner for everyone after the amazing Youth led Mass. It has inspired some people to look at making this a regular event. The Holy Spirit is working! Inspiring! Guiding! Leading!

Come Holy Spirit.

November Masses

Envelopes are available in the Gathering Space for you to submit your requests for November Masses. You can put your envelopes in the box in the Gathering Space or into one of the collections and it will get separated out and given to me.

I gather the Mass requests and allocate them throughout the month – allocated as they arrive. Usually there are more requests than Fr Anton and I can celebrate so I pass the additional Masses to Aid to Church in Need and priests in great need get some much needed help and you get the Masses you request.

Alpha – Adult Retreat

The Alpha retreat for the adult group was held last weekend – and most successful it was. Much experience of praying with each other and the invoking of the Holy Spirit.

Many testimonials about change.

Men's Group

We have a men's group that meets at St Kevin's Church Gathering Space (26 Herlihys Road, Templestowe Lower) on the second Friday of most months (18 yrs or older). 7:30 pm start – for a couple of hours – usually with pizza and byo something to drink.

A time for chatting, touching on challenges of faith, sharing life events, stories and complexities, and generally having a comfortable relaxing time together.

Email templestowe@cam.org.au or call 9850 5983 and we can get you into the group.

Christmas Gift

I have copies of a lovely little book called "A River Dreaming" – written by Aunty Betty Pike. It presents a challenging allegory about being a person living 'between races' or 'across races' – Aboriginal and Irish in Betty's case.

I recommend it to you to read but also as a gift for young people (or older people) – easy read and well worthwhile. \$10 each. Available in the gathering space.

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:

Mary Bonnici, Eahle Kim, Eddie Lim, Marta Mlikota, Cephas and Anna Pennisi (30th).

Recently Deceased:

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for this Week:

For Pope Leo, that he will regain full health for the work he is called to lead.





Little Kev's Playgroup

St Kevin's Parish Playgroup
Every Monday during School Term
8.30 am – 11 am. Begins Monday 10 February
26-44 Herlihy Road, Lower Templestowe, in the church gathering space.
For ages 0-5 years – Registration required – \$5 entry

Connect with other parents and bring your little one for nursery rhymes, sensory play, books and more.



CONTACT
Ana Saro – Pastoral Worker
ana.saro@cam.org.au
03 9850 5983

LITURGY ROSTER
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

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 24/25th October 2026
1st Read: Exodus 22: 20-26 2nd Read: Thessalonians 1: 5-10 Gos: Matthew 22: 34-40

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Pauline Erickson	Maree McTaggart	Lynne O'Brien Maryanne McNamara
9.15am	Paul Polidano	Miriam Ayoub	Liz Polidano Penny Teo Mary Waddick

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

We may be interested in what prayer and meditation can teach us about ourselves. It is a journey into the mystery of God's immeasurable love.





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 Families

Families are schools of synodality, where listening, patience and forgiveness are lived daily. The Church learns synodality from family life.

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.

More Words from the desk of our PP...

World Youth Day – 2027 August 3-8 Seoul Korea

World Youth Day is coming! Less than a year away! We already have ten people who have committed: aged 16 and up with some parents. It would be amazing to have a large group going from our three parishes.

Best websites to get an idea of what's happening:

<https://wydseoul.org/en> and Melbourne Archdiocese: <https://youth.melbournecatholic.org/wyd27>

Vera (the Parish Secretary at St Gregory the Great) is enthusiastic and has booked tickets already and is keen to help you get involved and booked. Email her at Vera.Arief@cam.org.au and she will contact you to talk about it.

It's World Youth Day so ... of course, there is a focus on youth, 14-30 year olds. But ... Actually everyone is welcome to attend.

St Charles Borromeo Site

Progress! Our proposal for how to go forwards with the former St Charles Borromeo school site has been prepared and is being submitted to the Archdiocese for approval. Once that approval is received (hopefully in November) we will go to market – a process that will then take some time – to ensure a good result.

In the meantime the site is well cared for with ample security including security cameras recording anyone who enters the site. We have recently submitted a report to police about one incident – but the security alarms scared the people off before any damage was done.

God bless, Fr Charles



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.

Attention! **Parishioners**

Reminder

This is a reminder that all Agendas and Reports for each Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) meeting (mostly monthly) may be accessed from our Parish website, so that you always know or can find at any time out what's going on at all PPC Meetings. A LINK to all these reports is located on our Parish website 'About Us' page, just below the heading & paragraph "Parish Pastoral Council". They are added shortly following each PPC Meeting.

Simply go to our website: stkevinsparish.org.au and click on 'About Us' tab then click on 'Leadership' tab.



Pope Leo XIV's surgery reveals lung cancer

Pope Leo XIV has been diagnosed with lung cancer following a 90-minute surgery on 13 October, during which surgeons removed the lower lobe of the Pope's right lung. In a joint statement released at just before 10pm Rome time, his doctors said that the 'examination confirmed the diagnosis of lung adenocarcinoma, as suspected by the preoperative tests.'

Pope Leo was expected to remain for one week of recovery in Rome's Gemelli Hospital, located atop Monte Mario, the highest hill in Rome. The Vatican has cancelled all of the Pope's scheduled audiences through to 20 October.

The hospital's chapel was overflowing with people on Tuesday evening as Cardinal Baldassare Reina, the Vicar General of the Diocese of Rome, led a Rosary for the Pope's healing as people anxiously awaited the results of the Pope's operation.

Pope Leo's operation took place just days after he first revealed to the world that he needed surgery at the end of his Angelus address in St Peter's Square on 11 October.

Speaking from the window of the Apostolic Palace, the Pope announced that doctors had discovered a nodule in his lung during a medical examination, adding that the growth was detected 'at a very early stage' and it was 'well contained'.

'The doctors believe intervention is advisable, so, following their advice, I have decided to undergo surgery to have it removed,' Pope Leo said.

Australian Archbishop Timothy Costelloe said the Pope's announcement was 'both a surprise and a matter of deep concern, not just for Catholics but for all those who see in him a powerful advocate for peace, compassion and stability in an increasingly volatile and fractured world.' He noted that 'the knowledge that not just Catholics but all people of faith and goodwill will be praying for Pope Leo will be a source of comfort for him.'

For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
First Reading	Second Reading
Isaiah 45:1.4-6 A reading from the prophet Isaiah <i>I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.</i> Cyrus was the Persian king. How could a pagan ruler be called the Lord's anointed (messiah)? Well, his empire took over from Babylonian rule and he allowed the Israelites in exile to return home. Thus, he came to be regarded as God's instrument. The second part of the reading however, when God speaks, reestablishes right order. The liberation is all God's work and God is '<i>the Lord, unrivalled – there is no other...</i>' The reader will not be able to explain who Cyrus is, but will be able to emphasise in the liturgical proclamation the triumphant acclamation of God's greatness in the second half.	1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians <i>We are mindful of your faith, hope, and love.</i> Dating from about 50 AD, this letter is the oldest piece of writing in the New Testament; it provides a valuable witness to the way the first Christians understood Jesus' death and resurrection, and testifies to the fact that they expected Christ's triumphant return in glory to happen soon. Today we have Paul's formal greeting and his appreciation of the community who responded to the Good News by showing faith in action, working for love, and persevering through hope (the triad of faith, hope and love presented here together for the first time). The people had not only listened to Paul's words but, with utter conviction, opened themselves to God's power and to the Holy Spirit. A thoughtful approach to this reading might leave the assembly asking themselves: could Paul speak to us like this? <i>Taken from 'Break Open the Word'</i>



Future, Present and Past possibilities

Last Wednesday, just after this item was written, Catholic Social Services Victoria will have publicly released their Election Priorities, intended to urge the new Parliament's attentiveness to particular social policy areas they think will have significant impact on the conditions that bring out the best in people. We will have participated in associated workshops on Wednesday following the launch - on the issues of "Flourishing Families and Communities", "Houses as Homes", Reconciliation", and "Women and Children Free from Violence". The readily available Election Priorities will be of interest to all concerned about Social Justice in our society, and will soon be published on our website SJA page.

Last Saturday at short notice some of us from St Kevin's with around 80 others from various communities shared a screening and discussion on a profoundly powerful, harrowing yet unexpectedly positive video "The Narrow Bridge". It was presented by our neighbouring Manningham Uniting Church in Wood St, Templestowe. Imagine bringing together Jewish and Palestinian victims of extreme and traumatic horror and personal suffering that each separately experienced, while ultimately discovering to their own deep surprise, something other than how evil and different they expected each other to be. Instead, as the video shared, they experienced the surprising reality of how very much alike they and their personal experiences, suffering, and hopes actually were. This ultimately provided a now ongoing rare opportunity and strong desire to actually work together, in friendship, towards peace. This is something the wider world of power and politics has so far repeatedly failed to achieve after unending years of mass suffering. For anyone interested we are endeavouring to arrange access to that video, and another, demystifying the long, painful and complex history of the ongoing, now genocidal, warfare in Gaza, for possible screening and discussion among those interested within our three Parishes. - **John Costa SJA**

FOOTNOTE: As our Parish Website 'Readings and Reflections' for the weekend appropriately comment - Albert Einstein is supposed to have said, "*those who believe that politics and religion do not mix understand neither.*"

The human being is not separated into a political part and a religious part, nor is human society. Contact between the spheres must be based on dialogue about values, ideals and priorities. Today's gospel raises these questions for us. Which gods do we serve?