



St Kevin's Catholic Parish



Parish Office Hours: Tue to Fri: 9am to 4pm
26 Herlihys Road, Lower Templestowe 3107
PO Box 985, Templestowe 3106
Telephone: 9850 5983 Fax: 9850 1545

Pastoral Worker: Mrs Ana Saro
Lay Ecclesial Leader: Mrs Tiziana D'Costa
Parish Priest: Fr Charles Balnaves
Assistant Priest: Fr Isaac Zaki

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 B

Ascension of the Lord

11/12th May, 2024

Mother's Day Weekend

Our Presider today is: Fr Gerry McKernan



A word from our Lay Ecclesial Leader...

When the Archangel Gabriel announced to Mary that she was going to be the mother of God, Mary said 'Yes'.

Did Mary really know what she agreed to? What joy and heartache lay ahead? Was she anxious?

There are hints in Luke's Gospel that Mary was perplexed and perhaps a little anxious about what lay ahead. How was this plan going to work out for a young, unmarried woman? The angel Gabriel reassures her. Setting aside her misgivings, Mary says 'here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word' (Luke 1.38).

Mary is a paragon of discipleship. She served God faithfully through motherhood.

Saying yes to motherhood (whether it be biologically, through adoption or by being a mother figure) requires courage, commitment and faith. It is a life of service with incredible highs and lows - sometimes experienced on the same day!

On this Mother's Day weekend, and during May - the month dedicated to Mary, let us remember and pay homage to all mothers and mother figures. They live a life of service and devotion through motherhood. There's no limelight or fanfare. Motherhood demands grit, determination and a 24/7, 7 days a week commitment. You are always on. And yet, as a mother, I would not have it any other way.

I especially remember my paternal grandmother, Maria, whom I got to know very well. She sacrificed a great deal in order for our family to succeed in life. And my mother, Laura, who showed me what it is to love both tenderly and fiercely.

Maria and Laura are both with God, but I remain forever grateful. I stand on the shoulders of giants.

My best wishes for a wonderful Mother's Day to all mothers in our parish.

Blessings, Tiziana

Mother's Day

My mother (and father) abhorred the commercial event that was presented as MOTHERS DAY—and that was sixty years ago!

My mother said "I would be delighted to receive a gift from you for Mother's Day—but only if you have made it yourself." So, always, since then for mother, wife, daughter-in-law I don't buy a gift, I present something from me. Occasionally I miss a year but always I present my thanks, blessing and expectation for God's grace for them.

So, today, to all our mothers for this Mother's Day a prayer from me:

You take on the joyful (though not always happy) task of caring, each and every day. Caring with a cackle of delight when children are healthy and strong and need amusement. Caring with soothing lullaby when there is illness and what is needed is just to sit quietly and comfort a fevered brow. Caring with a laugh when the toileting misses the pot. Caring and caring ...

Thank you for allowing the Holy Spirit to enter your heart and give you the strength, courage, wisdom and love to be that most wonderful of vocations: a mother.

God bless each of you, Fr Charles.



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

Saturday 5.30pm Mass
 Sunday 8.30am & 10.00am Masses
 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
 10.15am Adoration
 Thursday 8.30am Adoration
 9.15am Mass
 Saturday 5.30pm Mass
 Sunday 8.30am & 10.00am Masses



We pray for Better Health:

Danielle Hardy, Maeve & John Reardon, Eugenia Pozzebon, Margaret Turner, Graham & Jason Gooden, Lynda O'Meara, Milda Sarzetakas, Andrew Amalfi, Ana Saro, Tracey Tucker, Fr Terry Kean, Teresa Paolilli, Frankie Pettinella, Margaret Enriquez, Lucia Butler, Rosanna Campagna, Fr Brendan Dillon, Greg Hodson, Brooke Evans, Anne Materazzo, Melissa Wirata and Peter Sheehan.

Anniversaries:

Graham Lewis Morrison, Ron Polidano, Michael Williamson, Savina Baruta, Brendan Edwards, Enzo Pieropan, Russell Healy, Annesley Noble and Peter Maher.

Recently Deceased:

Feast Days this week:...

13th May Our Lady of Fatima

This day commemorates the apparition of Our Lady to three shepherd children in the small village of Fatima in Portugal in 1917. She appeared six times to Lucia, who was 9 years old, and her cousins Francisco (aged 8) and Jacinta (aged 6). A significant day for those who honour the Blessed Virgin Mary and her messages to the world.

14th May St Matthias

A companion of Jesus and a witness to the resurrection. Chosen by lot to take the place of Judas and so to share the apostolic ministry of the twelve.

18th May St John I

The first "Pope John". He was a martyr for the faith, imprisoned and starved to death by a heretical Germanic king during the sixth century.

LITURGY ROSTER

Ascension of the Lord – 11/12th May 2024

1st Read: Acts 1: 1-11 2nd Read: Ephesians 1: 17-23 Gos: Mark 16: 15-20

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Daniel Marini	Margaret Turner	Maryanne McNamara Lawrence Ceconello
8.30am	Jessica Bartholomeusz		Adrian Teo Mary Waddick
10.00am	Miriam Ayoub	Frances Johnson	Lyn Murphy Raffaella Dinelli

Pentecost Sunday – 18/19th May 2024

1st Read: Acts 2: 1-11 2nd Read: Galatians 5: 16-25 Gos: John 15: 26-27; 16: 12-15

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
5.30pm	Rachel Marini	Kathy Pearce	Bredenia Raquel Anne Maguire
8.30am	Frank Ozzimo		Paul Polidano Penny Teo
10.00am	Carmel Purdey	Liz O'Connell	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.

In Meditation be content to say your mantra.

There is no need for great ideas or better plans.

Leave yourself behind, your ideas and plans, and say the mantra.

This is what it means to be free.

Free in spirit. Free to be.

We cannot live life to the full, if we are caught in what does not really matter.

Believe in your ability to be still.

Ma-ra-na-tha: Come Lord Jesus.



St Charles Borromeo
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

ST CHARLES BORROMEIO PRIMARY SCHOOL
230-234 SERPELLS RD, TEMPLESTOWE

www.scbtemplestowe.org.au

Tel: 9842 7634

OPEN DAYS

9.00AM-10.30AM

Tuesday 28th May

Thursday 6th June

Wednesday 12th June

Tuesday 18th June

Tuesday 13th August

Book your tour here:



Ever wondered what happens to all our beautifully handmade, bespoke blankets and beanies?

The parish of St Kevin's is very proud indeed of our Craft Group Ladies who work fervently throughout the year to provide warm blankets and beanies to the following organisations:

- * Missionaries of Charity Fitzroy and Timor
- * St Kilda Mums
- * Exodus Community
- * Sacred Heart Missions St Kilda
- * Parish Nursing Homes
- * Beanies for Charity
- * Sick Parishioners



Would you like to join us? We meet every Tuesday afternoon @ 1.00pm in the Church Gathering Space.

No experience necessary! – on the job training provided!

Thank you from CatholicCare Victoria CatholicCare Victoria is deeply grateful for the support of our parish during last week's CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. Because of the generosity of our parish community, CatholicCare Victoria can continue the mission; to create transformational personal impact, and empower every individual to reach their full potential and live life to the full. Thank you for helping those in need! For more information about CatholicCare Victoria, please visit: www.catholiccarevic.org.au

Alpha: you are welcome to join.

We are beginning the next Alpha Experience on Thursday May 30th 7:00—8:30 pm for 11 weeks with a retreat day on Saturday July 13th. Everyone is welcome to express interest in participating: so please call the office and put forward your name. We are limited in how many people we can have participate in each experience of Alpha (16 or 24 depending on who is willing and able to help lead the nights), so it is possible that your interest may have to wait until the next Alpha to be fulfilled. Yes I plan, we plan, that Alpha will be an ongoing effort in the parish. It has its limitations, but it is an effective experience to help all of us become more deeply aware of Jesus and who Jesus is for us (and doubly for those who are not baptised).

Experience elsewhere shows that most people come to Alpha because of a personal invitation (as opposed to this sort of notice in the bulletin), so most people coming will probably be invited personally but it is not exclusive: please, express your interest. A limit we are imposing at present is on the number of people from other parishes who can come along. We want to build the experience and the leadership base in St Greg's and St Kevin's before we start being more open beyond our parishes.

Fr Charles



Parish Mass Count

As we have now entered the merry month of May it is time for our Annual Mass Count. Please consider assisting with counting the number of Mass attendees.

Counters are requested to count the number of folk who are at Mass. Counting sheets are provided on the bench in the sacristy near the money bags.

This information is then forwarded to the Melbourne Archdiocese. It is a process in which we are able to maintain an up-to-date picture of Mass attendance in the Archdiocese, both in our parishes and migrant community centres.



Our next Parish Bookish Morning Tea will be held on **Thursday, 16th May** at 10.00am and continues every fortnight.




Healing Service
 With Fr Brendan Maria, CSE and Sisters of Daughters of Carmel

Come and join us for Eucharistic Adoration with intention of healing and healing prayer ministry

SUNDAY, 19 MAY 2024
5.45-7.00 PM
 (after 5PM Sunday Mass)
 there will be refreshments after service

St Gregory the Great Church
 71 Williamsons Rd, Doncaster

INFO: Vera doncaster@cam.org.au

Come Away Day

The next **Come Away Day** of the year will be held at Holy Cross on **Wednesday 22nd MAY**. The theme of the day is: **'COME REST AWHILE AND RENEW'**. This is an opportunity to continue the flow of the Spirit's gifts into our lives. The day's program provides opportunities for prayer, 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. The program concludes with a celebration of the Eucharist with a departure time of around 2pm. The cost of the day is \$25.00 or a donation according to your means. For any further details contact Sr Brigid cp on bridget.m64@gmail.com

Maintenance / Leaks

Keeping our buildings in good condition is an on-going challenge. Most recently, the monthly cleaning of the gathering space gutters stopped (inexplicably), and we got a minor flood through into our toilets.

Do you know someone who might commit to get up on the roof once a month (safely) and check and clear the gutters: it takes only half an hour but it needs to be done 'religiously' or things go wrong.

Fr Charles

Interpreting the signs of the times: doing theology in a synodal way

Meeting 23 May 5 pm-6.30 pm at Newman College, University of Melbourne
 The meeting will include a talk by Fr A.E Orobator, SJ, a response by Prof Robyn Horner, Professor of Theology, ACU and discussion from the floor.
 Register now to ensure you have a seat, at <https://www.trybooking.com/CQLKM>
 The presentation will be recorded for later viewing.

In late 2023 Pope Francis issued an Apostolic Letter calling for a 'paradigm shift' in theology for world of today. His call was for theologians, priests, and parishioners 'to start from the different contexts and concrete situations in which peoples are inserted', allowing themselves 'to be seriously challenged by reality', and to discern the "signs of the times" in the light of the gospel?

Fr Orobator, SJ is the Dean of the Jesuit School of Theology, Santa Clara University, California. He is a Nigerian by birth and is former head of the Jesuit Conference of Africa and Madagascar. He has been deeply involved in the different stages of the current Synod on Synodality, including his participation in the First Assembly in October 2023 in Rome, at the invitation of the Pope.
 This important meeting has been made possible by Newman College and is facilitated by the Sense of the Faithful group.
 All will be warmly welcome.

For information on our Parish Schools please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School
Phone: 9273 9999

St Charles Borromeo Primary School
Phone: 9842 7634

Responsorial Psalm

God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, graciously hear us.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS FOR THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

First Reading

Acts of the Apostles 1: 1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

There is an interesting difference of detail between Luke's gospel and the Acts with regard to the ascension. In the gospel the ascension appears to take place at the end of Easter Day; in the Acts it occurs forty days later. In his gospel Luke (like John) presents the Easter mystery as a unified event, comprising resurrection, ascension and sending of the Spirit. In Acts it suits his purpose to highlight each phase separately, allowing time for the disciples' experience to mature. The number forty, of course, has a fine biblical pedigree.

Today's reading begins with a dedication to Theophilus that parallels the one in the gospel and continues to reinforce the author's claim to literary respectability. Luke then proceeds to populate the forty days with Jesus' appearances and instructions. In spite of the apostles still expecting him "to restore the kingdom to Israel," Jesus gives them a mandate to be his witnesses "to the ends of the earth." This one verse encapsulates Luke's agenda for the whole book. Geographically it culminates in Rome, but temporally it extends until Jesus returns "in the same way you have seen him go."

The reading falls into three parts. The first is Luke's formal introduction and resumé of the post-resurrection interlude. The second is Jesus' final interaction with the apostles, and the third is Luke's account of the ascension. The variety of material – reporting, instruction, dialogue and action – make this an interesting text for the assembly to engage with.

Second Reading

Ephesians 1: 17-23

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
He made Jesus to sit at his right hand in heaven.

Paul's letter to the Ephesians is evenly divided between teaching and exhortation. In the optional reading for Year B, we hear the opening verses of the exhortation. This in turn falls into two halves. The first is a litany of unity, the second a catalogue of diversity. The community is one Body, one Spirit, united under one Lord and one Father by one hope, faith and baptism. At the same time the baptised are many and varied. They are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. These themes of unity and diversity recur in other letters of Paul's.

The reason why this passage has been chosen for the feast of the Ascension is clearer in the longer version than the shorter one. Paul cites and interprets a psalm verse in terms of the ascension. Its original purpose was to praise God who is exalted on high and given tribute for conquering the enemy. Paul applies this to Christ who has overcome and taken captive the powers of this world. But he changes the psalm text to have Christ bestow gifts on human beings, not receive tribute himself. Paul then embarks on a creative but obscure line of thought about descent. This unclarity remains, but is greatly lessened, in the shorter version, making it the preferable one to use.

Both options retain Paul's helpful saying that Christ "rose higher than all the heavens to fill all things." This captures the fruitful ambiguity of the ascension. It is at the same time a departure from this world and an enduring presence throughout it.

So many good works amidst some unawareness

There are many good people in our Parish doing many good things. Just knowing they're there can prompt comfortable feelings, sometimes forgetting or not really knowing all they are doing. Such people don't actively seek recognition. The Knitting Group, for example, spends hours each Tuesday, working expertly and energetically, but the multitude of groups their work supports across various Melbourne groups and overseas in creating warm and beautiful clothing and accessories for those in real need, are rarely known. Their concern for others further extends to now elderly former active members of their group, such as one right now who at this stage of her life unexpectedly needs to quickly find affordable accommodation. In another example, many of us think we know everything about 'Vinnies', whereas beyond commonly known activities there are many others few people are aware of, all driven by core values. There's a valuable opportunity next Thursday evening, 16 May from 7:30pm to 8:30pm, to find out more from the comfort of our homes via Zoom. This Parish SJA online event "So Many Good Works" is free, but registration is essential.

Online DETAILS and/or REGISTRATION for the St Kevin's Parish SJA Vinnies "So Many Good Works" ZOOM event on 16 May from 7:30pm - 8:30pm as described above.

Details/Registration code:



John Costa, SJA

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults.