



St Kevin's Catholic Parish

26-44 Herlihys Road, Templestowe Lower



Mass Times

St Kevin's: 5.30pm Saturdays

8.30am and 10.00am Sundays

St Gregory the Great: 6.00pm Saturdays

9.00am, 10.30am and 5.00pm Sundays

Reconciliation at St Gregory the Great every

Saturday morning at 9.30am

Parish Priest:

Fr Charles Balnaves

Lay Ecclesial Leader: Mrs Tiziana D'Costa

Business Manager: Mr David Hii

Pastoral Worker: Mrs Ana Saro

Postal Address:

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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 C

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

1st/2nd February, 2025

Baptism Weekend

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves



Words From the Desk of our PP...

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord: I find it intriguing and wonderful how God, through his only begotten Son Christ Jesus of Nazareth, takes what has been and grows it to fullness. Our Lady, Mary, goes to the temple to complete her ritual purification after 40 days. Mary and Joseph take Jesus to the temple to offer him as required: the first fruits of the womb are to be offered to God. God takes these to rules of the Mosaic Law (which at its core was given by God) and adds to them by having Simeon and Anna there: and they announce that God has come among us. Wow! As I prepare for the weekend, I am struck by the way God helps us to grow and grow again out of the (good) learnings and practices we already have.

Alpha: We have sufficient confirmed participants for three full tables, so we are not accepting any further registrations for the current experience. We will of course accept expressions of interest for the next Alpha which will start in August. We are getting sufficient interest from younger people that we are beginning the process of planning an Alpha for youth. Thank you for your prayers and your support helping Alpha become an on-going element of how we become welcoming, invitational, and evangelising as a natural part of living our discipleship, along with our devotion and celebration of Mass and living like Christ in all aspects of our lives (well, seeking to do so).

Schools: Welcome back to all our school children and their families. I have seen some of the faces of the children as they arrive at school, and they seem excited to be coming to learn more. I look forward to hearing from my Granddaughter on Monday what her first day at school was like.

Parish Pastoral Council: Our first Parish Pastoral Council meeting will be held on the coming Tuesday (St Greg's) Thursday (St Kevin's). Please keep us in your prayers as we seek to develop a clear set of actions we can take to continue along the path of spreading the Good News and building our capacity to be disciples who collectively enact the three elements of Christ's call: to worship Father-Son-Holy Spirit / to help the poor and marginalised and to bring the Good News to all peoples by going and making disciples of all people.

Slight Changes: You may never notice because we plan never to have an emergency but the door out side as you go past the toilets has been re-hung so that it opens outwards. We don't know why it wasn't built this way but now we have it correct. At the same time this change should completely resolve the problem of rain entering under the door (now the water will run down outside with no possibility of getting inside).

God bless, Fr Charles

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION



Preparing Children for Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM AT ST KEVIN'S PARISH 2025

Do you have a child/ren who does not attend our parish schools whom you would like to have receive a Sacrament this year? If so, the time to act is now!

Enrolments are currently being accepted for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

Children will need to be in at least Grade 3 level 2025 for Reconciliation and First Eucharist and Grade 6 for Confirmation.

Please hop onto our website and download the registration/payment forms, complete them and send them back to us at the parish office as soon as you can as time is running out! [Sacraments - St Kevin's Templestowe Parish \(stkevinsparish.org.au\)](http://stkevinsparish.org.au)

On our website you will also see a series of diary dates which are most important that our Candidates and parents must attend.

Please contact the Parish Office or Ana Saro if you have any further questions. Thank you.

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	Masses (Baptism @ 10.00am)
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	



We pray for Better Health:

Elysia Pozzebon, Shiela O'Donoghue, Wang Wei Qiao, Nady Botrous, Michelle, Melissa Wirata, Michael Angelo Yambao, Rosanna Campagna, Gabriella Cunico, Alexandra Bateman, Alan Benn, Federico Aspromonte, Peter Ryan, Anton Urbas, Rosemarie Cameron, Eugenia Pozzebon and Luisa Yambao.

Anniversaries:

Frances Patricia Alexander, Lewis Calleja, Domenico & Maria Salvo, Mary Colnon, Nellie Doolan, Tim Mullin, Estefan Rosales, Chris Mullens, Patricia Dyson, Brenda Mary Hatten, Margaret Bath, Peter Bonser and Heather Brady.

Recently Deceased:

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord:

For the participants in the Alpha Experience: that they will be moved to new knowledge and love of Jesus Christ.



Feast Days this week:...

5th February St Agatha
Venerated in Rome as a virgin martyr. Remembered in legend for her faith and for remaining resolute under torture.

6th February St Paul Miki and Companions
Paul Miki, aged thirty-five years at his death, was a Jesuit scholastic from an aristocratic Japanese family. Remembered as a notable preacher who inspired the local Church in his own time and in the centuries that followed to be strong in faith during persecution and isolation.

LITURGY ROSTER

The Presentation of the Lord – 1st/2nd February 2025

1st Read: Malachi 3: 1-4 2nd Read: Hebrews 2: 14-18 Gos: Luke 2: 22-40

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Janet Parsons	Tasha Vercauteren	Anne Maguire Maryanne McNamara
8.30am	Paul Polidano		Adrian Teo
10.00am	Tony Byrne	Liz O'Connell	Kaye Byrne Raffaella Dinelli

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 8/9th February 2025

1st Read: Isaiah 6: 1-8 2nd Read: 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11 Gospel: Luke 5: 1-11

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Tasha Vercauteren	Christine Marini	Bredenia Raquel Margaret Turner
8.30am	Frank Ozzimo	Miriam Ayoub	Mary Waddick Penny Teo
10.00am	Carmel Purdey	Bernard Butler	Tony Robinson Lyn Robinson

Meditation Sessions will recommence for 2025 online via zoom on Wednesday 5th February @ 9.30am. Why not try it? Contact the Parish House for the online link. This invitation is also extended to all members of the wider parish community. All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you all again on Wednesday.



Prayer for the Beginning of the School Year

God of wisdom and might we praise you for the wonders of our being, for mind, body and spirit. Be with our children as they begin a new school year.

Bless them, their parents, and their teachers and staff.

Give them strength and grace as their bodies grow; wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding; and peace and zeal to their spirits.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



St Gregory's and St Kevin's Parish BBQ & Lunar New Year Celebrations!

Join us for a BBQ to start 2025 and celebrate Lunar New Year with our fellow Parishioners



When: Sunday, 9th February after 10.30am Mass

Where: St Gregory the Great Parish, 71 Williamsons Rd, Doncaster

RSVP: Please use the trybooking link:

<https://www.trybooking.com/CYSPO> or

QR Code



or use the sign up sheet at Church

Food and Drinks will be provided and outdoor activities for families (weather permitting)

parents and carers are requested to supervise children at all times
please email dietary requirements to doncaster@cam.org.au

BETHANY WAY RETREAT

'At the feet of Jesus: on retreat with Martha, Mary, and Lazarus

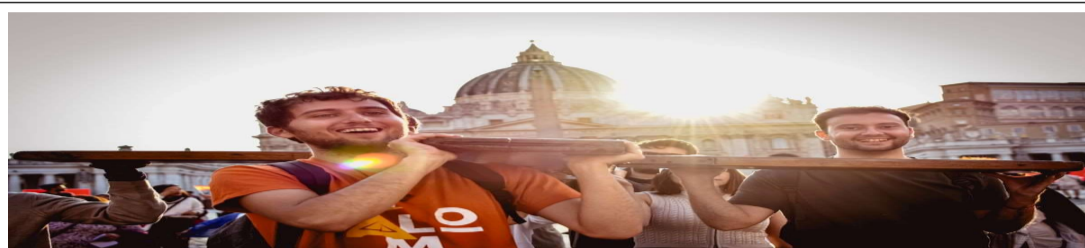
8 February 2025 12pm–4pm

Catholic Leadership Centre, 576 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne

All are welcome to join for Mass at 11:30am. Lunch included.

This free retreat will introduce you to The Bethany Way—a journey of being formed in the faith and equipped to form others, whatever your field of influence. Grow to: pray more authentically, believe more deeply, articulate more clearly, love more faithfully.

RSVP BY 3 FEBRUARY www.trybooking.com/CXHY or proclaim@cam.org.au or 9926 5761



JUBILEE OF YOUTH PILGRIMAGE 2025

DATES Monday 21 July 2025 – Tuesday 5 August 2025

Itinerary 16 days / 13 nights

Turin (2 nights) | Lucca | Pisa (1 night) Florence | Siena | Assisi (3 nights) Rome—Jubilee of Youth (7 nights)

Bookings are now open for the Archdiocese of Melbourne's Jubilee of Youth Pilgrimage 2025. This pilgrimage is open to Catholics aged between 18 and 30 years.

Harvest Journeys is the pilgrimage provider, and Fr Jude Johnson will accompany the pilgrims as their chaplain.

This graced and hope-filled journey will take in the towns and cities of Italy, the homes of great saints like St Francis and St Clare—and soon-to-be canonised saints Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati—before culminating in a visit to the Eternal City of Rome, where we will walk through the Holy Doors of St Peter's Basilica and participate in the Jubilee celebrations.

Embark on an incredible pilgrimage to encounter God and deepen your faith with fellow pilgrims.

Registrations for this pilgrimage will close on Friday 11 April 2025. Book now and be a pilgrim of hope!



'Marriage' with Matt and Cameron Fradd

Thursday 6 February 2025, 6.00pm–9.30pm (inc BBQ dinner)

ACU Cathedral Hall, 22 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy

Join internationally renowned speakers Matt and Cameron Fradd for an evening filled with inspiration, joy and practical wisdom on marriage. Whether you're single, engaged, newly married or have been together for decades, this event will provide insights, encouragement and laughs for everyone.

Cost: \$30 adults - \$20 concession/student

Free for children under 10

Free for priests and religious brothers and sisters



JUBILEE OF FAMILIES PILGRIMAGE 2025

DATES Tuesday 20 May – Wednesday 4 June 2025

Itinerary 16 days / 13 nights

Padua (3 nights) | Venice Ravenna | Bologna | Florence (2) Siena | Assisi (3) | Subiaco Rome—Jubilee of Families (5)

Registrations for the Archdiocese of Melbourne's 2025 Jubilee of Families pilgrimage will close on 7 February. The pilgrimage, which coincides with the Jubilee of Families, Grandparents and the Elderly, is open to all parishioners.

This graced and hope-filled journey will take in the towns and cities of Italy, the homes of great saints like St Francis and St Clare—and soon-to-be canonised saints Carlo Acutis and Pier Giorgio Frassati—before culminating in a visit to the Eternal City of Rome, where we will walk through the Holy Doors of St Peter's Basilica and participate in the Jubilee celebrations.

Harvest Journeys is the pilgrimage provider, and Fr Andrew McCarter will accompany the pilgrims as their chaplain.

Embark on an incredible pilgrimage to encounter God and deepen your faith with loved ones and fellow pilgrims.

For more information, contact Harvest Journeys at info@harvestjourneys.com, or call 1800 819 156.

Book now and be a pilgrim of hope! Registrations must close on Friday 7 February 2025.



St Kevin's Parish warmly welcomes
through the Sacrament of Baptism...

Darcy Thomas Amalfi

Son of Michael and Sarah

Little brother of Chloe



World Day of Prayer 2025
Cook Islands
Friday, March 7th

"I made you wonderful"

Here at St Kevin's Church at 7.30pm

What is World Day of Prayer?

World Day of Prayer is an international ecumenical Christian movement initiated by women. On one day a year it is an opportunity to set aside time to pray around a designated theme for the needs identified by the women of a specific country.

More information will come but in the meantime.....

please save the date!

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

The Lord of hosts,
he is king of glory!

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Lord, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

First Reading

Malachi 3: 1-4

A reading from the prophet Malachi

The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.

Malachi means 'my messenger'. It is a short anonymous prophesy of the 5th century BC that calls for God to purify the people. A messenger will prepare the way of the Lord; this opening sentence is an allusion to John the Baptist. Then the Lord will enter the Temple suddenly. The liturgy applies this text to Jesus the Messiah who today appears in the Temple. Malachi looks forward to a new beginning, a prophesy ultimately to be fulfilled in Christ. The messiah will purify and refine, to use Malachi's metallurgic imagery. This reading poses a great challenge. Its meaning is not transparent and the phrases are obscure for both the reader and the assembly: "angel of the covenant", "the day of his coming", "refiner's fire", "fuller's alkali", "sons of Levi", "the offering of Judah and Jerusalem".

The key message is that the Lord is to come unexpectedly to his Temple. The gospel will take up this theme, paradoxically in fact, for the Lord comes not in power and might but in poverty and weakness.

Second Reading

Hebrews 2: 14-18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

He had to be made like us in all things.

Like the text from Malachi, this passage from the letter to the Hebrews is neither easy for readers to proclaim nor for the assembly to understand. It begins with a long and difficult sentence.

The argument goes like this. Jesus has become a human being and so shares human flesh and blood and even human temptation.

Consequently, his triumph over the power of death/evil (on the cross) is a victory for the whole human race. As a compassionate high priest (at the altar of the cross) he is able to atone for human sin. The text contains a message of consolation and salvation for all.

The reading makes an important connection between the incarnation and the cross. We will see this recur in the Gospel when the child of forty days is held by Simeon in the Temple.

Taken from "Break Open the Word"



Fr Anton Aseervathampillai: New Assistant Priest:

On 15th February we will welcome a new Assistant Priest for St Greg's and St Kevin's. Here below follows a brief biography in his own words:

"My name is Fr. Anton Punithakumar Aseervathampillai, but I go by Fr Anton. I was born on 4th September 1973 in Mullaitivu, the northern part of Sri Lanka. After having completed my Philosophy and Theology at St Francis Xavier's Major Seminary, Jaffna, Sri Lanka, I was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Jaffna on 23rd April 2005.

I served for 3 years as an assistant priest before serving as a parish priest for 12 years in three different parishes. I came to Melbourne on 16th March 2020 as a chaplain to the Tamil speaking people from Sri Lanka, India, Malaysia and Singapore who live in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. I served for 5 years as a part-time assistant priest of St Andrew's Parish, Werribee. Serving in Doncaster & Templestowe will be my second appointment as a part-time assistant priest in the Archdiocese of Melbourne. I am so thrilled to be with you serving in ministry. As I begin my ministry with you, could I kindly request your continuous support and prayers to be a good and worthy servant of God."

Where might the world and our Church be heading?

What do we think of the world today, and how might we imagine it just 25 years ahead? What might we do today for people suddenly forced to leave their land, homes, and families because of war, poverty or politics? How do we address homelessness, lack of opportunity, physical and mental ill-health today, and what do we project for all these ahead? What does inequality for First nations peoples look like now and what might this become ahead? How do we address injustice? How will we address Climate change? How will we care for a growing proportion of elderly and infirmed? Can we ensure that our children have values and consciences that respect and care for others as much as ourselves, and have the chance of healthy, peaceful and happy lives ahead in a more-connected world? We're now also starting to sample the power of artificial intelligence, what might this look like 25 years away? Luckily we're not alone, but how might we work together to help build a better world for everyone? As a Parish what do you and I think of all these things now? - **John Costa, SJA**