



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

Assistant Priest: Fr Anton Aseervathampillai

Lay Ecclesial Leader: Mrs Tiziana D'Costa

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 C

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st/2nd March, 2025

Project Compassion Sunday

Baptism Presentation Weekend

Our Presider today is: Fr Charles Balnaves



Words From the Desk of our PP...

Tiziana D'Costa / Lay Ecclesial Leader:

Tiziana informed me last week that her career in teaching Law has taken a marvellous turn for the amazing and now precludes her from carrying out the role of Lay Ecclesial Leader for our parish.

Tiziana has been an amazing gift of the Holy Spirit for our parish, bringing her gifts to bear to enable numerous new groups / ministries (Men's Group; Lenten/Advent Groups; ...) – and ensuring that the Alpha experience has become such a beacon of Hope for us. She has not done this on her own- of course – Ana Saro has played an amazing role with Tiziana, and Nadia and Frances, and more recently David, all bring the call of the Spirit to life with Tiziana (and myself of course).

Thank you Tiziana – I know you will be around for a few weeks long 'as needed' and till the end of the current Alpha experience and I know we will see you as a parishioner 'forever' into the future.

God bless, you and thank you and I know the Holy Spirit is guiding you into this new phase of life.

Lent 2025 / Ash Wednesday / Holy Week

The rules for Lent are the same as always: Fast and Abstinence (no meat) on Ash Wednesday (5/3) and Good Friday (18/4). Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving of your choice on all days, but especially Fridays, as a joyful discipline to help open us to the glory of the Resurrection.

We are expected to go receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation once a year for 'grave' sin and are encouraged to do so during Lent. We are expected also to receive communion once a year also – though I suspect for most who are communicants this happens weekly.

Spending some time with Jesus to keep our relationship with him on the right path is essential. While we can converse with Jesus any time and seek forgiveness, and we are forgiven the everyday sins of live in the Penitential Rite at the start of each week we attend, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a conversation with Jesus Christ himself, is the very best way to be sure that we are having an honest and loving relationship with him, with God, Father Son and Holy Spirit.

Ash Wednesday Masses will be as follows:

St Gregory the Great: 9:00 am, with the whole school present and 7:30 pm

St Kevin's: 11:45 am with whole school present and 6:00 pm

Stations of the Cross will happen at St Gregory the Great at 7 pm on the Fridays of Lent. This wonderful prayer will be enhanced by a special event:

Friday 21st March 7:00-8:00 pm: we will have the **Melbourne Octet** lead us in "A Meditation on the Cross – the Way into Hope"

See video, posters and the notice board for further details on booking.

God bless, Fr Charles

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

Saturday	5.30pm	Mass
Sunday	8.30am & 10.00am	Masses
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
Thursday	8.15am	Adoration
	9.15am	Mass
Friday	9.30am	Adoration at St Gregory the Great Church
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, Luisa Yambao, Dr Noel Smyth, Aileen Kent, Ruth Shiel, Fr Frank Maloney and Pope Francis.

Anniversaries:

Peter Di Rosa, James Paul Whelan, Betty Whelan, Mary Gage, Sheldon Fernando, Joseph Boniventure, Leo Holt, Tony Bendall, Pauline McKenzie, Roger Bannister, William & Alice Cowsley, Les Carlyon, Eric Salter, Gillian Elizabeth Scully and Arthur Bonser.

Recently Deceased: Gabriel Chiodo

Fr Charles' Prayer Intention for the Eighth Week in Ordinary Time:

For Pope Francis that amidst his illness he is strong in openness to and love of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.



Baptism Welcome

This weekend we welcome:

Jarrood and Marianne Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism

who will be introducing

Sienna Ava Marchesi

to our Parish Community in preparation for her Baptism next weekend.



LITURGY ROSTER

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 1st/2nd March 2025

1st Read: Ecclesiasticus 27: 4-7 2nd Read: 1 Corinthians 15: 54-58 Gos: Luke 6: 39-45

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Tasha Vercauteren	Kathy Pearce	Lawrence Ceconello Margaret Turner
8.30am	Paul Polidano		Adrian Teo Frances Bettiol
10.00am	Tony Byrne	Liz O'Connell	Kaye Byrne Lyn Murphy

First Sunday of Lent – 8/9th March 2025

1st Read: Deuteronomy 26: 4-10 2nd Read: Romans 10: 8-13 Gos: Luke 4: 1-13

Time	Commentator	Lector	Special Ministers
5.30pm	Pauline Erickson	Fiona Watson	Bredenia Raquel Maryanne McNamara
8.30am	Pamela Rivera	Erika Castro	Pat Rowland Mary Waddick
10.00am	Carmel Purdey	Bernard Butler	Tony Robinson Lyn Robinson



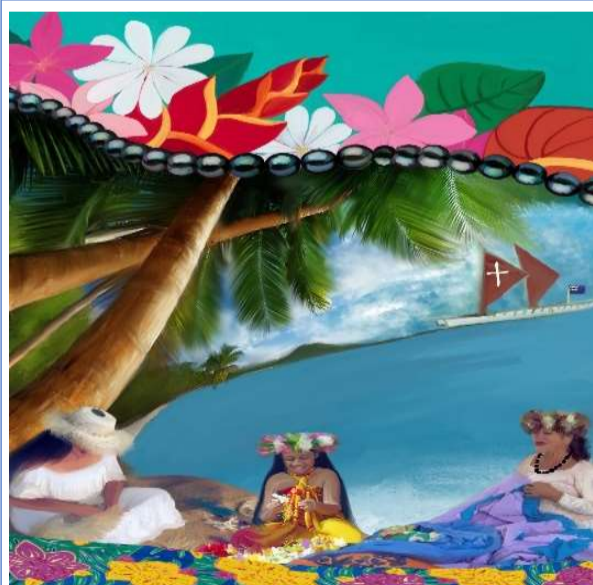
PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion Sunday

1st and 2nd of March 2025

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion.

Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities.



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

"I made you wonderful"

Holy Trinity Anglican Church – 10.00am

106 Church Road, Doncaster

Speaker: Father Kevin Dillon

Assistant priest at Donvale & Doncaster East Catholic Parishes

All welcome. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of each service.

Contacts: 0438 034 739 or 9850 1150

St Kevin's Catholic Church – 7.30pm

30 Herlihys Road, Templestowe Lower

Speaker: Pastor David Jonassen

United Pasifika Council of Victoria

As it is our turn to host a World Day of Prayer Session, we are seeking some assistance please with providing supper for our guests. If you feel you are able to help, please add your name to the clipboard sheets on the table in the Gathering Space. Thank you very much.



BOOKISH MORNING TEA – PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!

Due to the cancellation last Thursday, our next Bookish Morning Tea is scheduled for this Thursday 6th March. Please note this change of date in your diaries. All are welcome to come to the Parish House on this morning at 10.30am for a chat, browse through the book swap library and a delicious morning tea! Hope to see you

Dear St Kevin's community,

It has been a privilege to serve as your Lay Ecclesial Leader for these last three years. This is a wonderful parish, so it is difficult to let you know I have resigned from my role to pursue an academic career full time. This was not an easy decision to make.

In a parish, no one works alone. I am grateful for the trust placed in me by Fr Charles, and for the support of the hardworking, caring and talented parish staff (Nadia, Ana, Frances and David), the dedicated and enthusiastic groups of volunteers and all of you. I am heartened to see the fruits of our labour in bringing the parish out of the pandemic times to renewal and vibrancy.

I have led, supported and facilitated many initiatives. My role has been varied: to assist, to problem-solve and to be the conduit between different parts of the parish and to support the office staff. My role is practical - dealing with day-to-day management and pragmatic issues; pastoral (leading and coordinating certain ministries and liturgies) and strategic - looking ahead at parish renewal through ministries, providing leadership and ensuring financial sustainability. In my role, I have been acting Chair of the Parish Council, member of the finance committee, member of the liturgy committee, and member of Fr Charles' support group.

When I began my role in January 2022, we were just coming out of the pandemic and there was a lot of rebuilding to be done. I am delighted to have achieved so much in three years. For a detailed list of highlights, please see my report to the March Parish Council meeting which you can find here from next week: <https://www.stkevinsparish.org.au/about-us/leadership/> (please scroll to the bottom of the page).

My last day is April 16. I leave my role, but not the parish. I remain a St Kevin's parishioner throughout. This is an inclusive parish, a Spirit-filled place where people are beacons of God's love: they care and look out for one another.

I have laughed with you and cried with you. I have learnt so much from you. Thank you very much for trusting in me and supporting me.

Blessings, Tiziana

Come Away Day

The first Come Away Day for 2025 will be held at Holy Cross on **WEDNESDAY MARCH 5TH – ASH WEDNESDAY**. The theme of the day is **'LET GO ... LET GOD'**. This is an opportunity to focus on the deeper meaning of our Lenten journey. 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**. 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.



The next **St Kevin's Men's Social Group** takes place on **Friday, 14th March @ 7.30pm in the Church Gathering Space**.

Open to men of any age (older teenagers are welcome (with their guardian) - parishioners and non parishioners alike. All are welcome.

Invite a friend, relative or neighbour along. Supper is provided. BYO alcoholic drinks. \$8 donation suggested to cover costs. For catering purposes, please ring the parish office on 9850 5983, or email Tiziana at tiziana.dcosta@cam.org.au



Ash Wednesday this year is Wednesday, 5th March

Masses will be held at St Kevin's Parish Church at 11.45am and 6.00pm.

We will be conducting a weekly Lenten Program in St Kevin's Chapel commencing on Thursday, 6th March, directly after the 9.15am morning Mass, and will continue every week during Lent.

This program will be guided by our Lay Ecclesial Leader, Tiziana D'Costa, who will be using the Lenten Program booklet written by Fr Christopher Monaghan, a Passionist Priest. The booklet will be provided for you all to use during the Lenten Program or for you to study at home if you are not able to attend every session.

BE UPLIFTED IN YOUR LENTEN JOURNEY
BY THE BEAUTIFUL VOICES OF THE

MELBOURNE OCTET

A MEDITATION ON THE CROSS
THE WAY INTO HOPE

FRIDAY, 21 MARCH • 7-8PM
ST GREGORY THE GREAT CATHOLIC CHURCH
71 WILLIAMSONS RD, DONCASTER

FREE ENTRY - DONATIONS WELCOME

**Jubilee Year: "Hope does not disappoint"
– Being Pilgrims of Hope:**

With the Parish Pastoral Council and Liturgy Group, we seek to bring this truth of being Pilgrims of Hope into everything we do. This truth informs and enlivens all that we seek to implement as disciples of Christ to the world around us.



FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO REGISTER, VISIT
[HTTPS://WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/CZGUX](https://www.trybooking.com/CZGUX)



OR CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE 9412 8425 | DONCASTER@CAM.ORG.AU
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE OCTET, VISIT WWW.MELBOURNEOCTET.COM



For information on our Parish School please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School

Phone: 9273 9999

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

O Lord our rock, hear our prayer.

REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS OF THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading

[Sirach 27: 4-7](#)

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

Ecclesiasticus is often named Sirach after its self-identified author Ben Sirach. It is a long compilation of quite short sayings or proverbs. This puts it in the category of Wisdom writings which are concerned with questions of everyday living – how to live well, justly, humanely and happily. It is a teacher's manual for right living. In this brief excerpt, by means of three concrete examples (the sieve, the potter, the fruit tree), Sirach proposes that a person's true character may be estimated by their words. One can judge a person's ideas and attitudes by what they say. This point resonates with the saying at the very end of today's gospel reading.

Second Reading

[1 Corinthians 15: 54-58](#)

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Victory has been given to us through Jesus Christ.

A strong conclusion to Paul's chapter on resurrection from which we have read over recent weeks. This is about victory and never admitting defeat. Even Death itself is swallowed up in Victory. Christ is the one who defeated death when God raised him to life. We who are united with Christ share in this glorious victory.

The rhetorical questions (*Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting?*) allow for an emphatic proclamation which demonstrates something of Christ's victory.

Paul concludes by using Christ's triumph to encourage the people of Corinth to continue the work of the gospel: Christ will ensure that their labour will not be in vain.

Taken from "Break Open the Word"

'Thank you for the prayers of comfort': Pope Francis sends Angelus message from hospital bed



Pope Francis, who has been hospitalised at Rome's Gemelli Hospital since 14 February and has been diagnosed with double pneumonia, 'shows slight improvement', although his clinical condition remains 'critical', according to a bulletin issued on 24 February. In a message released by the Vatican for the midday recitation of the Angelus prayer on Sunday, the 88-year-old Pope said, 'I am confidently continuing my hospitalisation, carrying on with the necessary treatment; and rest is also part of the therapy!' He expressed his gratitude for the 'many messages of affection' he had received, 'and for the prayers of comfort I have received from all over the world'.

"Thinking about" those less fortunate - or directly "Listening & Engaging"?

Being directly involved with Social Justice might seem like kindness, but to those involved it's far more uplifting and rewarding than any sense of "doing good". CathNews on 26 February reported on a timely call to all Christians from Pope Francis before his hospitalisation urging "It would be a good Lenten exercise for us to compare our daily life with that of some migrant or foreigner, to learn how to sympathise with their experiences and in this way discover what God is asking of us." The opportunity to listen directly is even more powerful. This was powerfully understated by a young, hospitalised, badly wounded yet extraordinarily positive Ukrainian soldier interviewed on ABC TV Foreign Correspondent, 26 February (available on iView): "so how are you?" the interviewer asked. "I'm Great. We were in a defensive position, and we were hit by mortar fire. And this is the result. My legs are all broken and I've got no hands. I have ten splinters in my face, the stitches were removed. There's still one left, and I've got eight stitches in my left eye. " "What can I say? We're not going to give up hope. We're going to go on living. Things will calm down and I'll be able to walk again. I think I will also have prostheses, and I will be able to drive the car again and work. I have to go on living. You mustn't complain." "I wish you a good recovery". "Well thank you" he gratefully replied!



(Photo: ABC Foreign Correspondent). SJA invites and welcomes anyone interested in joining our small group. - **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.