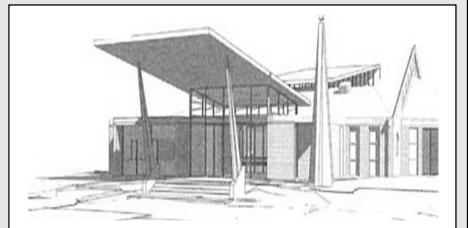


St Kevin's Parish

Hampton Park

24th Sunday of Ordinary Time – Year A
17th September 2023



PARISH CENTRE

120 Hallam Road,
Hampton Park, Vic. 3976
Tel: 9799 2108

Email: HamptonPark@cam.org.au
Office Hours:

Tue to Fri 9.15am – 1:15pm

Parish Website

<https://stkevins.org.au/> Support us' page

St Kevin's Parish is committed to the care, safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable people. **Safeguarding email:** safeguarding.hamptonpark@cam.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Fabian Smith

Asst. Priest: Fr. Anil Mascarenhas

Deacon: Rev. Dr Graeme Pender

Parish Secretary: Mrs. Macrina Martin

School Principals

St. Kevin's:

Jason Micallef – 9709 8600

St. Francis De Sales:

Christine White – 8773 6700

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday Friday
Saturday – 9:15am

Every Wednesday – 7:00pm Mass
followed by Novena to Our Lady of
Perpetual Help

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

Vigil Masses:

Saturday: 05:00pm & 07:00pm

Sunday: 09:00am, 11:00am & 06:00pm

Priest Available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation 30 minutes before all Masses and on **Saturday** mornings after Mass till 10:30am

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the first and last Sunday of the month. Prior to the Baptism, parents are asked to attend a meeting which is held every first **Thursday of the month at 7:15pm** in the Church and must bring a copy of their **own baptism certificate**.

Mass Intentions:

Please note the **cut-off** day and time for handing in names for **Mass Intentions is Thursday 1:00pm.**
Please call 03 97992108

News From Fr. Fabian

I am currently on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Fatima, and I continue to pray for you. Whilst I am away, I am sure you will make Fr. Rembert Fernando welcome as he assists in the parish. Please pray for me and for all the pilgrims that we may have a safe journey and return to Melbourne.

Catechism classes for children aged 5-10 years.

The sisters from the Alliance of the Holy Family International will be conducting Catechism classes in St. Kevin's School Hall on all the Sundays in October. The classes will be held from 12noon – 1pm (after the 11am mass). Please fill in the expression of interest sheets on the clipboard in the foyer. Parents will need to fill in enrolment forms for their children to take part in these sessions.

Safeguarding Update:

The Archdiocese advocates "Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility!" and as a parish we are presented with a challenge that we need to address collectively to come up with ideas on how we ensure the safety and dignity of our young ones as they participate in activities within the parish space.

None of the existing spaces in our church premises at this moment are fit-for-purpose from a safeguarding perspective to function as change-rooms for children, especially when this involves large groups of children. This has also been confirmed by Safeguarding staff from the Archdiocese who have inspected our church facilities. Given that we are also mandated to segregate boys and girls, and younger children from young adults, this then brings in complexities like the timed sharing of these facilities and need for supervisory arrangements to ensure everyone's safety. While we can rely on the assistance of many parent volunteers, at the more well-attended events like weekend masses and parish celebrations, we are required to ensure the integrity of this system all the time.

The immediate need is to work something out for our Altar Servers but we are approaching this from a longer-term perspective, so that whatever we decide on as a parish will not only suit the needs of the Altar Server ministry but also be suitable for any other group or ministry which involves children going forward, for example, for children that need to get dressed for the nativity play on Christmas eve at the Family Mass or for our Carols by Candlelight event.

So, we are appealing to you to come out and give us your ideas. Even if you don't have a child currently in any of our ministries, child safety is our collective responsibility. You use this church space, you attend confessions in the Room of Mercy, give us your suggestions. **Please put your suggestion in the suggestion box in the foyer for the next 2 weeks and every suggestion dropped in there will be considered. Please make sure to leave your contact information with your suggestion just in case we need to explore your idea further with you.**

Keep in mind that we have a finite built-up space and repurposing any of our existing rooms is not only going to involve costs that come out of the parish budget but also means a disruption to the activity that the room was previously used for...and we want to ensure that you, our parish community have had a chance to have your voice heard.

All suggestions presented will be reviewed and evaluated by me along with the Safeguarding Committee to assess the risk, practicality and costs involved for every idea that is proposed.

ROSTERS for 23rd and 24th Sept.

Readers & Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion please see Notice Board or Parish Website for Rosters.

CHURCH CLEANERS

Team 5: Tyrone, Tyronie, Emeli and Pelenato

COUNTERS

Team 3: Sumith, Samantha, Ransiri, Michael, Gilbert, Sharon

Last Weekend's Collection

Envelopes: \$ 2222.00

Unpledged: \$ 1553.65

Presbytery: \$ 2963.80

Thank you!

THIS SUNDAY WE PRAY**In Thanksgiving:**

Dineri Kariyawasam
Shantel Joseph
St. Kevin's Prayer Group
Roman MaGee
D'Souza Family

For those who are sick:

Mary Fernandez

For those who have died recently:

Mina Gomes
Maxwell Mortimer
Ivor Johnson
Cecile Martillano

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

K.Dorairaj
Dorothy Braz
Severina Moraes
Dudley MaGee
Richard D'Souza
William (Bill) Pope
Bertram D'Netto
Carl Adams
Clement and Barbara Passagne
Simeon and Maria Ambayec
Epifanio Sr. and Milagros Ambayec

Privacy legislation requires the written permission of an authorised person before any name can be printed. Any list of the sick in the parish bulletin will undergo renewal according to a four-week cycle. After four weeks a person's name on the sick list will be removed. However, once again based on written permission of an authorized person the name can be re-added to the list.

Feast Days for the Week:

Wednesday, 20th September: Saints Andrew Kim Taejon, Priest, and Paul Chong Hasang, and their Companions, Martyrs

Thursday, 21st September: Saint Mathew, Apostle and Evangelist - Feast

Saturday, 23rd September: Saint Padre Pio

Social Services Sunday

Sunday 17 September 2023 marks Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we give thanks to the dedicated work of the thousands of staff and volunteers who serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised. We acknowledge with gratitude Catholic Social Service Victoria's 40 member organisations, their 8,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who work together to serve and support over 211,000 people.

Catholic social services hold a unique position in social services because they serve and are part of an established, connected community of people sharing in the social mission of the Church. We thank parishes for often being at the forefront of providing services to members of their community in need.

2024 Study Tour: Journey with Paul

Catholic Theological College would like to bring to your attention Dr Rosemary Canavan's 2024 Study Tour: Journey with Paul: Türkiye – Greece that might be of interest to you, your lay ministers, or interested parishioners.

There will be online information sessions in September and October 2023. For anyone interested in attending one of the information sessions, please contact Dr Rosemary Canavan to register. Join Dr Rosemary Canavan online via ZOOM on any of the following dates: 9, 16, 23 September at 2pm *Receive a full briefing * have your questions answered

* Meet some of your fellow travellers. Register here to get all the Zoom details: rosemary.canavan@ctc.edu.au

MARCH FOR THE BABIES

Come and show your support for the unborn. Join the March for the Babies on 7th October 2023 at 12.30pm in the Treasury Gardens, Cnr Spring & Wellington Pde. Wear blue or pink.

Heart of Life (Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation): Waiting at the Well

Waiting at the Well is a series of four sessions on Thu, 5, 12, 19 & 26 Oct, 10am–12.30pm (in-person event)

This series offers an opportunity for those waiting to have their thirst quenched at the Well of Life to explore the depths of wisdom in their own heart, to recognise wisdom in the encounter with another, and to dwell in the Heart of Contemplation. Places limited. Bookings via <https://www.heartoflife.melbourne/events/waiting-at-the-well-series/> or email info@heartoflife.melbourne. Cost \$100 for the series or \$30 per session.

Thanksgiving Envelopes

The next set of Thanksgiving envelopes have been placed in the foyer. These envelopes cover the period October 2023 to February 2024. Please take your envelopes home. If you have any enquiries regarding your thanksgiving envelopes, please call the Parish Office.

Thank you to the Finance Committee and volunteers for their dedication and concerted effort in ensuring that the thanksgiving envelopes were available on time.

Father's Day Appeal Collection

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$640.50 towards the Priests Retirement Foundation's Father's Day Appeal that was gathered from last week.

Brown Scapular – Part 2

The Thirteenth Century was a turbulent time, and the Church was threatened by enemies on all sides. It was then that the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to St. Simon Stock, Superior General of the Carmelite Order, on July 16, 1251, and in her hand, she held the "Garment of Grace", which we know as the Brown Scapular.

The Brown Scapular is a Roman Catholic devotion to Mary under her title of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. It is worn as a sign of love and devotion for the Mother of God. The idea of the scapular and the giving of oneself to another for protection were not something new to medieval Europe. It had been around since 550, when the monastic orders came about. The two pieces of cloth joined at the shoulders and hanging down the back and breast had deep spiritual meaning. Our Lord said in the gospels, 'My yoke is sweet, and my burden is light.' The monks by putting on this garment realized that the sweet burden of Divine service was upon him and the whole day was dedicated to God. Our Lady chose that which was traditional and widely practiced to be a Sign of Salvation, a Protection in Danger and a Pledge of Peace for all who would cloth themselves with the 'Garment of Grace.'

An important aspect of wearing the Scapular is the Sabbatine Privilege. This concerns a promise made by Our Lady to Pope John XXII. In a papal letter he issued, he recounted a vision that he had had. He stated that the Blessed Virgin had said to him in this vision, concerning those who wear the Brown Scapular: "I, the Mother of Grace, shall descend on the Saturday after their death and whomsoever I shall find in Purgatory, I shall free, so that I may lead them to the holy mountain of life everlasting."

According to Church tradition, there are three conditions necessary to participate in this Privilege and share in the other spiritual benefits of the Scapular: wear the Brown Scapular, observe chastity according to your state in life, and pray the Rosary.

In addition to the Sabbatine Privilege, enrolment in the Brown Scapular also makes a person part of the Carmelite family throughout the world. They therefore share in all of the prayers and good works of the Carmelite Orders. Participation in the Carmelite family also, of course, places you in a special relationship with the Carmelite saints, especially St. Elijah, St. Teresa of Avila, St. John of the Cross, St. Therese of Lisieux, and, most importantly, Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

St. Alphonsus Liguori had a very special devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel and while alive wore his brown scapular faithfully. He said: "Just as men take pride in having others wear their livery, so the Most Holy Mother is pleased when Her children wear the Scapular as a mark that they have dedicated themselves to Her service and are members of the Family of the Mother of God." Many years after his death his grave was opened; the body and priestly vestments in which he was buried had turned to dust! But his scapular was found PERFECTLY INTACT! St. Alphonsus Liguori's Brown Scapular is still miraculously intact and on exhibit in his Monastery in Rome.

Many popes and saints have strongly recommended wearing, the 'Garment of Grace' to the Catholic Faithful, including, Pope John XXII, Pope Pius XI, and Pope Benedict XV. Pope Benedict XV, addressing seminarians in Rome: "Let all of you have a common language and a common armour: The language, the sentences of the Gospel - the common armour, the Brown Scapular of the Virgin of Carmel which you ought to wear and which enjoys the singular privilege and protection after death."

I personally have worn the scapular since the day I made my first Holy Communion. Every time I touch the scapular I am reminded of the gentle protection of our Lady. When I experience some turbulent times knowing that I am clothed with her Garment of Grace gives me comfort that Our Lady is always protecting me from all harm. In this day and age we need every spiritual help to persevere in our faith and to live our life to the full. To receive the spiritual blessings associated with the Scapular, it is necessary to be formally enrolled in the Brown Scapular by a priest. Once enrolled, the enrolment is for life and need not be repeated. Our Lady loves Jesus so much, I pray that She will enable us to love Him more and more each day.

For more info see www.FreeBrownScapular.com



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

1st Reading – Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin.

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord?

Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.

Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High and overlook the offence.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm - Psalm 102: 1-4, 9-12

Res: The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
and never forget all his blessings.

The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.

He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.

The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

2nd Reading – Romans 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel – Matthew 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said, "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.' The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.