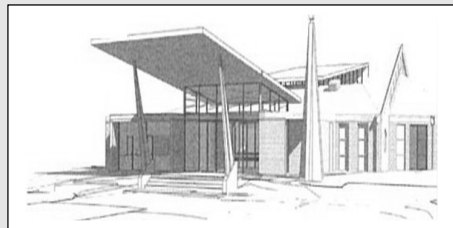


St Kevin's Parish

Hampton Park

32nd Sunday of Ordinary Time – Year A
12th November 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

Deacon: Rev. Dr Graeme Pender

Parish Secretary: Mrs. Macrina Martin

School Principals

St. Kevin of Glendalough:

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 and the child's birth certificate for our records, as we cannot accept originals.**

Mass Intentions:

Please note the **cut-off** day and time for handing in names for **Mass Intentions is Thursday 01:00 pm.**
Please call 03 97992108

Church Roof Repairs

The church roof has been an issue for several years. The roof has been constantly leaking. The parish has taken remedial action to clean the roof, however no major maintenance has been carried out since the church was built.

A recent inspection by a contractor employed to clean the roof has identified significant damage to the beams on the roof because of rainwater seeping through. The pictures of the damage can be seen in the church foyer. As per the contractors, the repairs are required to be done as soon as possible.

We have obtained two quotes for this repair work from two contractors. The costs estimates are as follows:

1. Name of the Contractor TBA - \$35,000
2. Name of the Contractor TBA - \$45,000

We have decided to go ahead with the contractor charging the lower cost.

During the preparation of the last budget, a significant amount of funds was allocated to the maintenance budget to cover additional costs. However, the amount allocated will not be sufficient to cover these costs.

The Social Group will be organising some fundraising events to cover the costs for the above repairs. In the interim we will utilise parish funds to carry out the repairs.

Thank You

Finance Committee – St Kevin's Parish.

ALTAR SERVERS- ENROLMENT FORMS

Parents of all Altar Servers please note that there are new enrolment forms available in the foyer. As part of our Safeguarding Review and Risk Assessment and to comply with the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne Safeguarding Guidelines, all current Altar servers will need to complete the new enrolment forms and return them to the Parish Office. Completed forms may also be sent by email to HamptonPark@cam.org.au

Friendship Group

The Friendship group has organized a bus trip to Melton Country Club and thereafter for a visit to the Melton Botanic Gardens, on Friday 24th November.

Lunch can be purchased at the Club's Chariots Bistro. Bus leaves St. Kevin's church at 10.00 am and returns at 5.00 pm. Bus charges \$ 20/- per head. If interested, contact, Benita, Lorna or Helen.



The season of Advent is a time of preparation and expectant waiting for the birth of Jesus in our hearts to renew our lives. To prepare ourselves for Jesus' birth, St Kevin's Parish has organised an Advent program which will take place commencing Tuesday November 28th at 7pm. The program will be held on Tuesday 28th November, Tuesday 5th December, Monday 11th December and Tuesday 19th December.

For Adults – "Some of the Significant Figures in Scripture" (Talk will be in the Church)

For Children 5yrs – 10yrs (Space to be Advised)

For all ages 11 + (Space to be Advised)

ROSTERS for 11th and 12th Nov.2023

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

CHURCH CLEANERS

Team 3: Marina, Jeneview, Khuram, Maria, Michael

COUNTERS

Team 5: Lorna, Mervyn, Anita, Howard, Jennifer, Cheryl

Last Weekend's Collection

Envelopes: \$2796.70

Unpledged: \$1735.50

Presbytery: \$2581.00

Thank you!

THIS SUNDAY WE PRAY

In Thanksgiving:

Keshia Hendricks
Kerry Hendricks
Pastorpile Family
Mignonne Yates

For those who are sick:

For those who have died recently:

Herbert Claracay

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time and those whose names are in the Book of Remembrance, we pray.

Prayer of St. Gertrude for souls in purgatory

Eternal Father, I offer You the most precious blood of thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the Masses said throughout the world today, for all the Holy Souls in Purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal Church, for those in my own home, and in my family.
Amen

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 15th Nov: Saint Albert the Great

Thursday, 16th Nov.: Saint Gertrude

Friday, 17th Nov.: Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

St Vincent De Paul Society Christmas Appeal

The members of the St Vincent De Paul society have been remarkably busy during the current year. With the increase in the cost of living we have a significant increase in requests for help. The help provided is close to \$52,000 this year up to end of October. This includes food vouchers, rent assistance, and help with Utility bills and other help.

In the 2022-year Christmas assistance we helped approx. 150 families with toys and food hampers. We were able to carry out this with the generous help of the St Kevin's Parish community and the two primary schools - St Kevin's and St Francis De Sales.

This year we have a considerable number of families that require help during Christmas. Therefore, once again we request your generous support by taking a tag from the Christmas tree in the foyer of the church and donate a toy for a needy child.

We plan to make packages and deliver by 18 December 2023. Therefore, we will appreciate it if the toys are received by Sunday 10 December 2023.

Thank You,

St Vincent De Paul Society – Hampton Park.

World Youth Day Thanksgiving: Save the date.

The WYD pilgrims would like to host a thanksgiving event to thank all the parishioners of St. Kevin's that helped raise funds and helped us on our pilgrimage journey.

On the 26th of November after the 11 am Mass, for Christ the King Feast, we will hold a short Adoration after Mass, followed by the Thanksgiving event in the school hall. There will be a presentation and sharing from pilgrims. Food will be provided.

Job Opportunity @St. Kevin's Parish

There is an opportunity for an Administration Assistant to undertake office administrative functions at St Kevin's Parish, Hampton Park in a part time role.

For more information and to apply, please use this link:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies/administration-assistant-st-kevins-parish>

Lost Property

Dear parishioners our lost property box in the foyer is full. If the items are not claimed, they will be dropped off at Vinnies.

Ordinations to the diaconate and priesthood

On Saturday 25 November, three deacons will be ordained to the priesthood: Rev Tien Van Tran, Rev Doan Ngoc (Peter) Nguyen and Rev Thomas William Christie. Jean-Sébastien Géry will be ordained to the transitional diaconate. Jean-Sébastien Géry who has visited us twice on Good Shepherd Sunday has personally invited parishioners from St. Kevin's to his diaconate ordination. The invitation is displayed on the notice board in the foyer.

Save the Date



Purgatory - continued from last week

What is Purgatory like?

The Catechism of the Catholic Church clearly affirms the Church's belief in Purgatory and the purification of the soul after death: "All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but, after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of Heaven. The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect, which is entirely different from the punishment of the damned." (Cf No 1030-32).

From this teaching, we see that:

- (1) a person's stay in Purgatory is temporary'
- (2) purgatory is different from Hell; and
- (3) a person in Purgatory undergoes purification for venial sin and the hurts caused by sins.

What does this purification entail? Like Hell, there is the pain of loss and the pain of sense: however, the severity of these pains between Hell and Purgatory is vastly different. The pain of loss for those in Purgatory is the temporary deprivation of the Beatific Vision. Each of us longs to be with God, see him, and be enwrapped in his love. The Apostolic Constitution *Benedictus Deus* (1336) promulgated by Pope Benedict XII, defined that the souls of the just "see the divine essence with an intuitive vision and even face to face, without the mediation of any creature by way of object of vision; rather, the divine essence immediately manifests itself to them, plainly, clearly, and openly, and in this vision they enjoy the divine essence". Therefore, the souls in Purgatory long for this vision. That longing and deprivation is what torments their soul.

The pain of sense

While not defined, traditionally this pain of sense has involved some purifying fire, which causes torment. In the Book of the Prophet Zechariah, the Lord spoke: "I will bring the one-third through fire, and I will refine them as silver is refined, and I will test them as gold is tested" (13:9). The School of Rabbi Shammai interpreted this passage as a purification of the soul through God's mercy and goodness, preparing it for eternal life.

Similarly, the Book of Wisdom (3:1-9): "The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them. ... Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself. As gold in the furnace, he proved them, and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself."

Think of this image of 'fire-tried' gold or silver. When these precious metals are mined from the earth, other minerals or rocks accompany them. By fire, these impurities are separated, and the pure gold or silver remains. In the same sense, a soul containing the impurities of venial sin or hurts caused by sin will first be purified, ie, 'fire tried'. Perhaps a more modern version would be the idea of radiation therapy 'burning' out the cancer cells; while such therapy is very painful, one has the hope of returning to good health.

Consolations of Purgatory

In a more positive light, St Francis de Sales wrote of the sufferings of Purgatory, but as they are mitigated by the consolations which accompany them: "We may draw from the thought of Purgatory more consolation than apprehension. The greater part of those who dread Purgatory so much think more of their own interests than of the interests of God's glory; this proceeds from the fact that they think only of the sufferings without considering the peace and happiness which are there enjoyed by the holy souls. It is true that the torments are so great that the most acute sufferings of this life bear no comparison to them; but the interior satisfaction which is there enjoyed is such that no prosperity nor contentment upon earth can equal it. The souls are in a continual union with God."

The 'living flame of love'.

Similarly, in *Crossing the Threshold of Hope*, Pope John Paul II related God's "living flame of Love" spoken of by St John of the Cross to the doctrine of Purgatory: "The 'living flame of love', of which St John speaks, is above all a purifying fire. The mystical nights described by this great Doctor of the Church on the basis of his own experience corresponds, in a certain sense, to Purgatory. God makes man pass through such an interior purgatory of his sensual and spiritual nature in order to bring him into union with himself. Here we do not find ourselves before a mere tribunal. We present ourselves before the power of love itself. Before all else, it is Love that judges. God, who is Love, judges through love. It is love that demands purification, before man can be made ready for that union with God which is his ultimate vocation and destiny."

Once again, we are left with a very positive image of Purgatory. Nevertheless, the old pictures of the suffering souls in the fires of Purgatory should motivate us now to regularly examine our conscience, go to confession, and do penance. We need the graces that come through prayer and especially the Holy Eucharist. We must strive for holiness now and keep a strong and close union to the Lord. Such an attitude and such practices will be the best preparation for when we leave this world and have to account for our lives before our Lord.

Source: Rev William P. Saunders. What is Purgatory Like? Arlington Catholic Herald.

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

1st Reading – Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.
By those who love her she is readily seen,
and found by those who look for her.
Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she
makes herself known to them.
Watch for her early and you will have no trouble;
you will find her sitting at your gates.
Even to think about her is understanding fully
grown;
be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly
leave you.
She herself walks about looking for those who are
worthy of her
and graciously shows herself to them as they go,
in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 62(63):2-8

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

On my bed I remember you.
On you I muse through the night
for you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.

My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

2nd Reading - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

Gospel – Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.