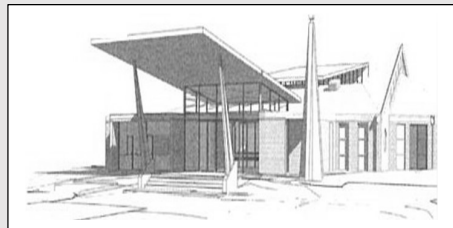


St Kevin's Parish

Hampton Park

33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time – Year A
19th 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**

Special Purpose Account

As there were no masses held during Covid, there were a significant number of requests by parishioners to make direct debit and credit card payments.

In March 2020 a Special Purpose account was created by the Parish. This was to collect the direct debit and credit card deposits.

The funds collected in this account are transferred to the Church account every week. The parish accountant has analysed this account and has indicated that the collection to this account is approximately \$3,000 per week. This amount will be added to the weekly collections that are reported in the new bulletin.

The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne has recently implemented a new accounting system. As a result, we are now hoping to consolidate the Special Purpose account and would appreciate it if parishioners who deposit direct debits and credit card payments to the Special Purpose account change their arrangements to deposit funds to the Church account. This will help the Parish office when providing yearly receipts to donors.

The Church account details are as follows: -

BSB 083 347 Account Number 643962991

Account Name St Kevin's Parish Church Account

Thank You

Finance Committee – St Kevin's Parish

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. Legacy Roofing & Plumbing Pty Ltd - \$35,000
2. McColl Plumbing & Gas Fitting - \$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.

St. Kevin's Christmas Schedule

The Advent Program and Christmas schedule has been placed in the Church foyer. Please take a copy home.

Catholic Deaf Collection

Next Sunday 26th November, there will be a third collection in aid of the John Pierce Centre which cares for the needs of the hearing impaired in Melbourne.

ROSTERS for 19th and 20th Nov.2023

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

CHURCH CLEANERS

Team 4: Samoan Choir

COUNTERS

Team 6: Ashley, Linda, Gerald, Marilyn

Last Weekend's Collection

Envelopes: \$5148.65

Unpledged: \$1565.65

Presbytery: \$2218.80

Thank you!

THIS SUNDAY WE PRAY

In Thanksgiving:

Eric Antony Moore

Don, Leanne and Lila

Alston, Ana and Adriana

Glen and Jackie

Lynn Balm

Mechelle Balm

Marcus Balm

Larissa Balm

Francis Cordeiro

For those who are sick:

Baptist Abeydeera

For those who have died recently:

Robert Taylor

Dominic Jude Abraham

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:

Tuesday, 21st Nov: The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday, 22nd Nov.: Saint Cecilia

Friday, 24th Nov.: Saint Andrew Dung Lac & Companions

Saturday, 25th Nov.: Saint Catherine of Alexandria

Food Donations for Carols by Candlelight

The Social Group is looking for donations of Chicken Biryani. If you can help with this or would like to make a cash contribution please contact one of the following members or put your name and contact information on the sheets in the foyer and we will contact you.
Linda - 046 932 0445 Anita - 040 250 5676

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 assistance.

In the year 2022, for Christmas assistance we helped approximately 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

Children's Christmas Party - 3pm - 5pm on 10th December @ St. Kevin's Hall

Let's make this Christmas season one to remember for our little ones (Babies – Year 12).

Parents/carers must accompany their children. We can't wait to share the magic of the season with your family. For further information, please contact Florence D'Costa on 0433851662.

Prayer to St. Cecilia for the choirs of St. Kevin's

Dear Saint Cecilia, one thing we know for certain about you is that you became a heroic martyr in fidelity to your divine Bridegroom. We do not know that you were a musician, but we are told that you heard Angels sing. Inspire musicians to gladden the hearts of people by filling the air with God's gift of music and reminding them of the divine Musician who created all beauty.

Amen.

Save the Date



Purgatory Is Necessary Purification

Before we enter into full communion with God, every trace of sin within us must be eliminated and every imperfection in our soul must be corrected.

At the General Audience of Wednesday, 4 August 1999, the late Pope Saint John Paul II reflected on Purgatory. He explained that physical integrity is necessary to enter into perfect communion with God therefore "the term purgatory does not indicate a place, but a condition of existence", where Christ "removes ... the remnants of imperfection".

1. As we have seen in the previous two catecheses, on the basis of the definitive option for or against God, the human being finds he faces one of these alternatives: either to live with the Lord in eternal beatitude, or to remain far from his presence. For those who find themselves in a condition of being open to God, but still imperfectly, the journey towards full beatitude requires a purification, which the faith of the Church illustrates in the doctrine of "Purgatory" (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, n. 1030-1032).

To share in divine life, we must be totally purified.

2. In Sacred Scripture, we can grasp certain elements that help us to understand the meaning of this doctrine, even if it is not formally described. They express the belief that we cannot approach God without undergoing some kind of purification. According to Old Testament religious law, what is destined for God must be perfect. As a result, physical integrity is also specifically required for the realities which come into contact with God at the sacrificial level such as, for example, sacrificial animals (cf. Lv 22: 22) or at the institutional level, as in the case of priests or ministers of worship (cf. Lv 21: 17-23). Total dedication to the God of the Covenant, along the lines of the great teachings found in Deuteronomy (cf. 6: 5), and which must

correspond to this physical integrity, is required of individuals and society as a whole (cf. 1 Kgs 8: 61). It is a matter of loving God with all one's being, with purity of heart and the witness of deeds (cf. *ibid.*, 10: 12f.). The need for integrity obviously becomes necessary after death, for entering into perfect and complete communion with God.

Those who do not possess this integrity must undergo purification. This is suggested by a text of St Paul. The Apostle speaks of the value of each person's work which will be revealed on the day of judgement and says: "If the work which any man has built on the foundation [which is Christ] survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire" (1 Cor 3: 14-15).

3. At times, to reach a state of perfect integrity a person's intercession or mediation is needed. For example, Moses obtains pardon for the people with a prayer in which he recalls the saving work done by God in the past, and prays for God's fidelity to the oath made to his ancestors (cf. Ex 32: 30, 11-13). The figure of the Servant of the Lord, outlined in the Book of Isaiah, is also portrayed by his role of intercession and expiation for many; at the end of his suffering he "will see the light" and "will justify many", bearing their iniquities (cf. Is 52: 13-53, 12).

Psalms 51 can be considered, according to the perspective of the Old Testament, as a synthesis of the process of reintegration: the sinner confesses and recognizes his guilt (v. 3), asking insistently to be purified or "cleansed" (vv. 2, 9, 10, 17) so as to proclaim the divine praise (v. 15).

Purgatory is not a place but a condition of existence.

4. In the New Testament Christ is presented as the intercessor who assumes the functions of high priest on the day of expiation (cf. Heb 5: 7; 7: 25). But in him the priesthood is presented in a new and definitive form. He enters the heavenly shrine once and for all, to intercede with God on our behalf (cf. Heb 9: 23-26, especially, v. 24). He is both priest and "victim of expiation" for the sins of the whole world (cf. 1 Jn 2: 2). Jesus, as the great intercessor who atones for us, will fully reveal himself at the end of our life when he will express himself with the offer of mercy, but also with the inevitable judgement for those who refuse the Father's love and forgiveness. This offer of mercy does not exclude the duty to present ourselves to God, pure and whole, rich in that love which Paul calls a "[bond] of perfect harmony" (Col 3: 14).

5. In following the Gospel exhortation to be perfect like the heavenly Father (cf. Mt 5: 48) during our earthly life, we are called to grow in love, to be sound and flawless before God the Father "at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints" (1 Thes 3: 12f.). Moreover, we are invited to "cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit" (2 Cor 7: 1; cf. 1 Jn 3: 3), because the encounter with God requires absolute purity. Every trace of attachment to evil must be eliminated, every imperfection of the soul corrected. Purification must be complete, and indeed this is precisely what is meant by the Church's teaching on purgatory. The term does not indicate a place, but a condition of existence. Those who, after death, exist in a state of purification, are already in the love of Christ who removes from them the remnants of imperfection (cf. Decree on purgatory: DS 1820). It is necessary to explain that the state of purification is not a prolongation of the earthly condition, almost as if after death one were given another possibility to change one's destiny. The Church's teaching in this regard is unequivocal and was reaffirmed by the Second Vatican Council which teaches: "Since we know neither the day nor the hour, we should follow the advice of the Lord and watch constantly so that, when the single course of our earthly life is completed (cf. Heb 9: 27), we may merit to enter with him into the marriage feast and be numbered among the blessed, and not, like the wicked and slothful servants, be ordered to depart into the eternal fire, into the outer darkness where 'men will weep and gnash their teeth' (Mt 22: 13 and 25: 30)" (Lumen gentium, n. 48).

6. One last important aspect which the Church's tradition has always pointed out should be reposed today: the dimension of "communio". Those, in fact, who find themselves in the state of purification are united both with the blessed who already enjoy the fullness of eternal life, and with us on this earth on our way towards the Father's house (cf. CCC, n. 1032). Just as in their earthly life believers are united in the one Mystical Body, so after death those who live in a state of purification experience the same ecclesial solidarity which works through prayer, prayers for suffrage and love for their other brothers and sisters in the faith. Purification is lived in the essential bond created between those who live in this world and those who enjoy eternal beatitude.

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

1st Reading – Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31

A perfect wife – who can find her?
She is far beyond the price of pearls.
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,
from her he will derive no little profit.
Advantage and not hurt she brings him
all the days of her life.
She is always busy with wool and with flax,
she does her work with eager hands.
She sets her hands to the distaff,
her fingers grasp the spindle.
She holds out her hand to the poor,
she opens her arms to the needy.
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.
Give her a share in what her hands have worked
for,
and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm – 127(128):1-5

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be happy and prosper.

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive,
around your table.

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion
all the days of your life!

Happy are those who fear the Lord.

2nd Reading - 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it. But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Live in me and let me live in you, says the Lord;
my branches bear much fruit.
Alleluia!

Gospel – Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. 'The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 'Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made." 'His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness." 'Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said, "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."