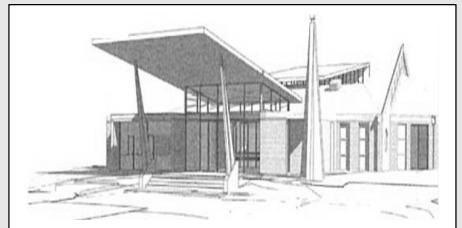


St Kevin's Parish

Hampton Park

1st Sunday of Lent – Year B

18th February 2024



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

Admin Assistant: Miss Nikita Ravi

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 third 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 **Wednesday evening**.

Please call 03 97992108, email the Parish Office or drop off the mass intention envelope in the postal slot in the Parish Office door.

News from Fr Fabian

• Faith Formation for Liturgy Ministers

The next two sessions of faith formation for readers and extraordinary ministers will be held on Saturday 24 February from 3-4pm and on Thursday 29 February from 7-8pm. We invite you to attend one session. We invite any parishioners wishing to serve in the Liturgy ministry to please attend at least one session.

• What's On for Lent - Please take a copy of the Lenten Schedule home. **Please note that there has been a change made to the schedule - the Talks about The Mass will begin on Sunday 25th February at 4pm.**

• New set of envelopes - 2024

The next set of envelopes will be available for collection this weekend. Please collect your envelopes from the foyer.

• Consecration to St Joseph-Update

Please pray for all those who are doing the 33-day Consecration to St Joseph. Please note the change in schedule. **The weekly meeting of those undertaking the Consecration will take place from 6.00 to 7.00pm on Tuesdays in the church.**

St Kevin's Youth Lenten Program

We will be undertaking the Lenten program as a youth group again this year, every Friday after Stations of the Cross and Mass in the school hall. Youth aged 18-35 are welcome.

Mother's Group Meeting – 19th February at 10.00am

Are you a young mother with any children under school age? Looking for a community of like-minded Catholic mums to spend some time with? The first meeting of the mother's group will take place on Monday 19th February after the morning mass, in the church foyer.

Altar Servers Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Altar Server Annual General meeting will be held on Sunday 25th February from 12 to 1pm. Altar servers and their families are invited to attend. Parents of all children who have received First Communion and are interested in enrolling in the altar server ministry are also invited to attend the AGM.

WHAT'S ON FOR LENT THIS WEEK

20th February

Tuesday – 10.00am – Lenten Program (after mass, in the church foyer)

6.00 - 7.00pm – Holy Hour with confessions and Consecration to St. Joseph with benediction (please note the change in timing)

22nd February

Thursday – 7.00 – 7.45pm – Lenten Program (in the Parish Office)

23rd February

Friday – 6.00 – 7.00 – Holy Hour with confessions

7.00 – 7.30pm – Stations of the Cross

7.30pm – Mass

25th February

Sunday – 4.00pm - Talk about The Mass

ROSTERS for 24th & 25th February
Readers & Extra-ordinary Ministers of
Holy Communion please see Notice
Board or Parish Website for Rosters.

CHURCH CLEANERS

Team 2: Vasanthi, Samangi, Jerome
and Joelle

COUNTERS

Team 1: Anne, Michael, Lyn, Nadine,
Tyronie, Josephine

Last Weekend's Collection

Envelopes: \$4914.30

Unpledged: \$1450.55

Presbytery: \$2139.40

Thank you!

THIS SUNDAY WE PRAY

In Thanksgiving:

Hanekom Family
Cassandra and Michael
Rhea Fernandez

For those who are sick:

David D'Cruz
Rita Vincent
Carmen Sepulvera

For those who have died recently:

Maria Calau Gomes
Nikita Araujo Boavida
June Florence Miles
Gerty Fernandez

**For those whose anniversaries occur
at this time:**

Augustu Boavida
Albert Britto
Avinash Fernandez
John and Gladys Rodricks
Marcus and Stella Pereira
Rolland Tellis
Herman and Sylvia D'Souza
Desmond Joseph Hookens
Stella D'Cruz
Sugath Olagama
Alcina Albino Da Silva

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, 21st February: St Peter Damian

Thursday, 22nd February: The Chair of St Peter

Friday, 23rd February: St Polycarp

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN – EASTER 2024

**CAN WE SPARE A COUPLE OF HOURS FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR CHURCH
AND ENRICHMENT OF OUR LIVES**

St. Kevin's Parish are looking for volunteers to assist in the interior and exterior cleaning of our beautiful church on Saturday 16/03/2024 from 07:00 am onwards and TIME IS FLEXIBLE, in readiness for the EASTER feast celebrations in our Parish. There will also be a VOLUNTEER LIST made available in the Church Foyer. Please put your name forward and highlight the tasks you would be keen in attending to- inside or outside the church.

Please contact/txt:

Brian on 0414363725; St. Kevin's Parish Office—9799 2108 and leave a message.
Thank you in anticipation!

Special Purpose Account

Thank you for your generous contributions towards the Special Needs Account.

Since the Parish has continued to receive requests for financial support from parishioners who need urgent assistance to meet the costs of education and living expenses, if you would like to contribute towards the needs of fellow parishioners,

The bank account details are:

Account name: St Kevin's Special Needs Account

BSB: 083 347

Account number: 897 567 262

Parishioners who are in need, please see Fr Fabian for assistance.

Caritas Boxes and envelopes

In anticipation of the season of Lent beginning this week, Caritas boxes and envelopes have been placed in the foyer. Please take one home.



This year, Project Compassion brings you the stories of three resilient women from three different corners of the world. They are facing vastly different challenges, but are all united by one dream: to create a better tomorrow *for all future generations*.

Meet **Ronita** from the Philippines. Ronita is a mother of two young boys living in a slum in Quezon City. She went back to school to finish her education so that she could earn income to support her children.

Meet **Leiai** from Samoa. Not having access to a reliable source of clean water was very difficult for Leiai and her family. But, with the support of Caritas Australia, a water tank was installed at their home, improving their health and living conditions.

Meet **Memory** from Malawi. Memory, the eldest daughter from a rural Malawian family, trained to become a carpenter and is now a trailblazer for future generations of women in her village.

Throughout Project Compassion, you will get to know the stories of Ronita, Leiai and Memory. Journey with them as they forge a path to a brighter future for all generations.

Please donate to Project Compassion.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling 1800 024 413.

Photo: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia



The Penitential Rite

When we go to Mass, we take our place among God's people. We go because we have been called. Yet we know we have not always been faithful to our calling. We know that we have not always lived up to the teaching of Jesus Christ. "If we say, 'We are without sin,'" says St John, "We deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us" (1 John 1:8-9).

Weakness and a tendency to sin have been part of our human condition ever since the sin of our first parents, Adam and Eve. Nevertheless, St John adds in the very next verse of Scripture: "If we acknowledge our sins, [God] is faithful and just and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from every wrongdoing."

And so, we come before the altar, we come before the Church, we come before Christ in a penitential spirit, and we express our sorrow in the traditional prayers. In the pages of the Bible, so many people acknowledge their weakness with the words, "**Lord, have mercy**" (see Matthew 17:15, and Matthew 20:31); so we do the same.

The Church has used this simple prayer since ancient times, sometimes as part of a long litany of petitions at the beginning of Mass. Now, we pray, repeating after the priest: "Lord, have mercy ... Christ, have mercy ... Lord, have mercy." We address the three petitions to the three persons of the Blessed Trinity. This prayer is also known as the **Kyrie**: **Kyrie** is the Greek word for 'Lord'.

Jesus once told a story that illuminates this part of the Mass: "Two people went up to the Temple area to pray," he said. "One was a Pharisee, and the other was a tax collector. The Pharisee took up his position and spoke this prayer to himself, 'Oh, God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity—greedy, dishonest, adulterous—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income.' But the tax collector stood off at a distance and would not even raise his eyes to heaven but beat his breast and prayed, 'O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.' I tell you, the latter went home justified, not the former; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 18:10-14).

The one Jesus praised was the one who recognised his own failings. Both men needed mercy. Only one asked for it. Can we doubt that we, too, need forgiveness before we enter the presence of the all-holy God?

The Penitential Rite gives us a chance to recognise our failings and ask God to cleanse us of all that might hold us back from the celebration of the Eucharist. Our faith teaches us that this action will indeed remove the stain of any sins we have committed that are not mortal sins. (Mortal sins require forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There the Church exercises the power of the keys, granted by Jesus to his Apostles [see Matthew 16:19 and 18:18]. If we have committed any grave sin, we must first go to sacramental confession before we receive Holy Communion.)

During this part of Mass, the congregation may also pray a longer prayer, called the Confiteor (a Latin word meaning 'I confess'):

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask Blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the angels and saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

As you and I acknowledge our sins, we take full responsibility. I have sinned through 'my fault'—not anyone else's. In order to emphasise the point, we repeat the phrase and intensify it: 'through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault'. The prayer gives us a brief summary of the ways we can go wrong—by sins of word or deed, omission or commission. We say we're sorry for all of them.

Moreover, we say we're sorry not just with a word, but with a deed too, a gesture. Like the tax collector in Jesus' story, we strike our breast as we make the three-fold acknowledgment of our fault. We hope to go home justified, as the tax collector did.

Note too that the form of the prayer reflects the unity of the Church on earth and in heaven in the Communion of Saints; for not only do we make our confession in the presence of our brothers and sisters there at Mass with us, but we call on them and, on Our Lady, and all the saints to pray for us.

As Christians, we wish to do better, but we should not despair because of our failures. The Bible makes it clear that we are wounded by sin, and while we may often be tempted and fall, we need not stay down. Jesus gives us the grace to rise again with him to the life of virtue. The choice is ours. The wise Solomon said: "The just man falls seven times and rises again, but the wicked stumble to ruin" (Proverbs 24:16). Now is our chance to rise again, in the Penitential Rite.

Sometimes, the priest celebrating Mass may substitute a 'rite of sprinkling' for some or all the prayers. He will douse a brush, branch, or special instrument called an *aspergillum* with holy water and sprinkle it on the congregation. This recalls the waters of baptism, which save us and wash away our sins.

No matter which option the priest chooses, the effect is the same: we have repented. Like the prodigal son in the parable, we have made our move towards our Father God, who is hurrying now to meet us.

1st Sunday of Lent – Year B

1st Reading – Genesis 9:8-15

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm 24(25):4-6,7b-9

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, teach me your paths.

Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.

In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

The Lord is good and upright.

He shows the path to those who stray,

He guides the humble in the right path,

He teaches his way to the poor.

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

2nd Reading - 1 Peter 3:18-22

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!
No one lives on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel – Mark 1:12-15

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.