



St. Kevin's Catholic Parish

HAMPTON PARK



23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) – 8TH SEPTEMBER 2024

Parish Centre

A: 120 Hallam Road,
Hampton Park, Vic. 3976
T: (03) 9799 2108
E: hamptonpark@cam.org.au
H: Tue to Fri 9.15am - 1.15pm
W: stkevins.org.au

St Kevin's Parish is committed to the care, safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people, and vulnerable people.
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 - (03) 9709 8600
St. Francis De Sales
Christine White - (03) 8773 6700

Mass Times

Weekdays

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat – **9:15am**
Every Wed – **7:00pm** followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Sunday (Vigil)

Sat 5:00pm & 7:00pm
Sun: 9:00am, 11:00am & 6:00pm

A Priest is 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) 9799 2108, email the Parish Office or drop off the mass intention envelope in the **postal slot** in the **Parish Office door**.

News from Fr Fabian

- We would like to congratulate all the young people who have been confirmed by Bishop Anthony Ireland. We wish them every blessing as they begin in a new way to use their gifts to build the kingdom of God.
- Today is Safeguarding Sunday which is at the end of National Child Protection Week (1-7 September). St Kevin's Parish and the Archdiocese of Melbourne are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. Mindful of the theme for National Child Protection Week, may we work to create safe spaces where we can have meaningful conversations with children and adults at risk about their safety. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at: <https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Safeguarding-Sunday-2024>
- Please note that the Suggestion Box has been relocated to the passageway leading to the toilets to protect anonymity, if people wish to stay out of view of the cameras. I encourage you to continue to place your suggestions in the Suggestion Box.
- Please keep Deacon Vijayraj Thomas MGL in your prayers as he is being ordained to the priesthood on Friday, 13th September in Canberra.

Mothers who pray for their children

The 'Mothers Who Pray for Their Children' movement is a heartfelt initiative that brings together all mothers who seek to intercede for their children through the power of prayer. Rooted in faith and inspired by the love of God, these women gather to lift up their families, asking for God's guidance, protection, and grace over the lives of their children. We are excited to explore the possibility of bringing the 'Mothers Who Pray for Their Children' movement to St. Kevin's Parish, Hampton Park. If you feel called to be part of this prayerful community, we warmly invite you to express your interest. To learn more or to express your interest, please contact the Parish Office.

Father's Day celebration – Thank you!

On Saturday morning over 90 Dads were treated to a special Father's Day Brunch at the St Kevin's Hall. Organised by the Social Group, it was a wonderful celebration that was filled with warmth, great food and fellowship! Thank you to all the amazing Mums and the children who participated in planning and preparing for the event; from setting up the space, to cooking the delicious food, to assisting with the games and also to everyone who helped us with cleaning up after the event! Congratulations to all of our prize winners and thank you to our speakers Justin and Andrew and for the generous donation from the [Knights of the Southern Cross Victoria](#) towards the fundraising efforts for the restoration of our church roof. Thanks also to Joey our MC and to [RnB Events](#) for their help with sound and event styling! - The Social Group

Join our Parish choirs

Music is a vital part of our liturgical celebrations, and our choirs play a crucial role in leading us in song, uplifting our hearts, and enhancing the sacredness of our Masses. Whether you've been blessed with a beautiful voice or simply love to sing, your presence in our choir can make a significant impact. We welcome singers of all ages and abilities to join us. Even if you're unsure of your musical ability, we encourage you to come and give it a try. The joy of singing in a group, united in faith, is a gift that you won't want to miss.

If you feel called to share your voice and to be part of this beautiful ministry, please reach out to Candice Vaz on 0425 843 787 for more details. We look forward to welcoming you into our choir family! Thank you for considering this invitation.

Rosters – 14th & 15th September

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

Church Cleaners

Team 1: Sophia, Brian, Andre, Miriam, Veronique

Counters

Team 5: Loma, Mervyn, Anita, Howard, Jennifer, Cheryl, Owen

Last Weekend's Collection

Envelopes: \$5025.10

Unpledged: \$2008.30

Presbytery: \$5591.75

This Sunday we pray

In Thanksgiving

Raean Fernandez

Jada Crasto

Pereira Family

Dinuki Scharenguivel

Clinton, Petal and Kelly Brambleby

Maria Rosa Karunakaran

Zenith and Rebner Baran

Ameaux Zakhariel Baran

Cassandra D'Silva

Erica Scurville

Sharlene Heldt

Darryl and Geralyn Collins

Pastorpile Family

Monica Scurville

John Eustace

Shane, Karen and Athena Merandez

For those who are sick

Francis Cordeiro

Stany Menezes

Reneir Noel Sr.

Antonio Rocco Rosata

Giovanna Rosata

Zayden Kahveci

For those who have died recently

Michael Perera

Denzil D'Netto

Desiree Anthony

Gerard Modeley

For those anniversaries we celebrate

Leonardo Moniz Araujo, Oscar Araujo

Nikita Araujo Boavida

Ermelinda, Leonardo Araujo

Richard (Ricky) D'Souza

Pamela and Maximus Gonsalvez

Gina Rosata, Alfredo Rosata

Late Charles Coates

Bienvenido Noel Sr

Dolores Noel

Sergio Cabido Sr, Sherlina Cabido

Sergio Dacua, Expeditha Dacua

Candelaria Escleto

Celine Fernando

Heanel D'Silva, Russel D'Silva

Max Mortimer

Darren Bowlut

Annie Philogene

Brendan and Ian Parnell

Leslie Lodrick

Ernest and Geoffrey Atkinson

Kenny Atkinson

Patricia Lebon

Prisca Jeronimo, Milena Jeronimo

Feast days this week

Monday, 9th September: St Peter Claver

Thursday, 12th September: The Most Holy Name of Mary

Friday, 13th September: St John Chrysostom

Saturday, 14th September: The Exaltation of the Cross

Support our Parish

For contributions to support our Parish:

Name St Kevin's Parish Church Account

BSB 083 347

Account 643 962 991

For contributions to support our priests and the Archdiocese:

Name St Kevin's Catholic Presbytery Account

BSB 083 347

Account 643 962 334

Encounter – 15th September at St Francis Xavier Church, Box Hill

5.30 – 8.30pm

High school aged teenagers are invited to an unforgettable evening offering a unique opportunity to encounter Jesus with prayer, worship, fellowship, free dinner and, of course, a whole lot of fun! A Youth Mass is included in the night. <https://trybooking.com/CTDJP>

Migrant Youth Festival – 29th September 2024

The ethnic and migrant youth of Melbourne are invited to the inaugural Migrant Youth Festival, an initiative of the Migrant Catholic Chaplaincies. The day will include a keynote address, a panel featuring Archbishop Peter A Comensoli, group activities and a mini cultural concert. We will join the broader Catholic community for the annual Migrant and Refugee Mass—or 'Mass for All Nations'—at St Patrick's Cathedral, which will close out the festival. Lunch will be provided. Find out more at <https://melbournecatholic.org/events/migrant-youth-festival>

Sponsorship Opportunity – Memorial Cuppa

For years, the Social Group has hosted a delightful cuppa after each mass on the second weekend of the month. In the past, many of the parishioners have reached out to us asking if they could contribute in any way. We are introducing a meaningful way for you to participate starting in September named *Cuppa Sponsorship in memory of a loved one*.

Details are here below:

A parishioner can sponsor the cuppa for the mass that the family will be attending on the second weekend in the month, in honour of someone who has passed recently or to commemorate a birthday or death anniversary. A donation of \$100 will be made to the Social Group for the sponsorship of one cuppa for one mass on the second weekend in the month. Your loved one's name will be displayed on a special board, and parishioners will be asked to say a prayer for their souls. This has to be organised a month in advance.

Please note that we may have more than one person's name per weekend

If you're interested, please reach out to Anita Fernandez @0402505676 or Warren @ 0423247093



THE MASS – THE PREFACE AND THE ‘HOLY, HOLY, HOLY’

PRIEST: The Lord be with you.

CONGREGATION: And with your spirit.

PRIEST: Lift up your hearts.

CONGREGATION: We lift them up to the Lord.

PRIEST: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

CONGREGATION: It is right and just.

When we exchange these words, as we do at every Mass, we are adding our voices to those of countless Christians since the first generations. St Hippolytus includes this dialogue in his account of the Roman Mass in the early 200s AD. St Cyprian, just a few years later, explains these words as he described the Mass in north Africa: “The priest, by means of the preface before his prayer, prepares the minds of the people by saying, ‘Lift up your hearts’. He does this so that when the people respond, ‘We lift them up to the Lord’, he may be reminded that he himself ought to think of nothing but the Lord.”

We call this part of the Mass the **Preface** because it is the very threshold of the most important prayer the Eucharistic Prayer and so it takes us to the very gate of heaven. Through Eucharistic Prayer, Jesus becomes really present among us, as he promised; and where Jesus abides, there is heaven.

Since the root meaning of the word *Eucharist* is ‘thanksgiving’, it is fitting that we begin our great Eucharistic Prayer on a note of gratitude. Thankfulness is indeed the dominant theme in the prayers used for the preface: “Father, all-powerful and ever-living God, we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks, through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

What follows then will vary from Mass to Mass. There are prefaces for the various liturgical seasons and special prefaces for the great feasts of the year. There are prefaces for Masses commemorating the Blessed Virgin Mary, and for different categories of saints (Apostles, martyrs, and so on). We give thanks for the great events of salvation history. We give thanks for the lives and witness of the saints.

Usually the preface is recited, but sometimes it is chanted or sung. It lends itself to music because it is a great hymn of praise.

The preface is an invitation. We are approaching the most important part of the Mass, so we are invited to stop, to reflect, and to lift our hearts and minds to God. With this upward movement, we find that we on earth are joining the prayer of praise that heaven offers unceasingly. The preface concludes by reminding us that we are praying now “with all the saints and angels”.

And so we sing or say:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Like the Gloria, which we sang earlier, the *Holy, Holy, Holy* sometimes called by its Latin name, the *Sanctus* is a song that God’s people learned from the angels. The angels sang the Gloria when they appeared upon earth. But the thrice-holy hymn is the song they sing forever in heaven. We find this revealed not just once, but twice in the Scriptures.

In the Old Testament, the Prophet Isaiah reports a vision of heaven: “Seraphim were stationed above; each of them had six wings; with two they veiled their faces, with two they veiled their feet; and with two they hovered aloft. ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts!’ they cried one to the other. ‘All the earth is filled with his glory!’” (Isaiah 6:2-3).

In the New Testament, St John repeats this detail as he describes his own mystical experience of heaven: “The four living creatures, each of them with six wings … day and night they do not stop proclaiming: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and who is, and who is to come’” (Revelation 4:8).

In the Mass, heaven and earth join in a single act of worship; and so the Church has long employed this song in the Mass. Pope St Clement of Rome mentions it in a letter written in the first century. St Cyril of Jerusalem said, in the fourth century: “We recite this confession of God, delivered down to us by the seraphim, so that we may share with the hosts of the world above in their hymn of praise.” Cyril’s contemporary and friend, St Gregory of Nyssa, saw this part of the Mass as symbolising one giant leap for mankind. With Jesus, heaven has come to earth; and with his ascension, human nature has been elevated to glory. This part of the Mass represents the intersection of heaven and earth. We are at a glorious crossroads. “Heaven itself may now be walked upon by man,” St Gregory explains. “And the creation that was once in conflict with itself the world below against the world above is now knit together in friendship; and we, men and women, are made to join in the angels’ song, offering the worship of their praise to God.”

In the Western Church, we add another acclamation to the angels’ song. With the crowds who hailed Jesus as he entered Jerusalem, we say: “Hosanna … blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest!” (Matthew 21:9). And so we accompany our Lord as he leads us into the heavenly Jerusalem. We are pleased to say these words as we recall Jesus’ prediction in the earthly Jerusalem: “I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord’” (Matthew 23:39).

Christians have always interpreted the thrice-holy hymn as a confession of the triune God: the Blessed Trinity. The word *holy* means set apart, transcendent, heavenly as opposed to earthly; and God alone is holy by nature.

As we sing the hymn, we should remember that we are as close to heaven as Isaiah and St John were in those visions we read about in the Bible. We have lifted up our hearts to the Lord, and he has stooped down to our lowliness, as all the angels follow. We cannot help but join in their song. Centuries ago, St John Chrysostom said of the Mass in his day: “The angels are present here … The whole air about us is filled with angels.”

1st Reading – Isaiah 35:4-7

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm – 145(146): 7-10

Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,
Who is just to those who are oppressed.
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,
The Lord, who sets prisoners free.

Praise the Lord, my soul!

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,
Who raises up those who are bowed down,
The Lord who loves the just,
The Lord, who protects the stranger.

Praise the Lord, my soul!

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan,
But thwarts the path of the wicked.
The Lord will reign for ever,
Zion's God, from age to age.

Praise the Lord, my soul!

2nd Reading – James 2:1-5

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

Gospel – Mark 7:31-37

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.