



St. Kevin's Catholic Parish

HAMPTON PARK



2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C) 8th DECEMBER 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 email:

safeguarding.hamptonpark@cam.org.au

Team

Parish Priest: Fr. Fabian Smith
Deacon: Rev. Dr Graeme Pender
Parish Coordinator: 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

- The new Stations of the Cross have been ordered from Rome, thanks to the generosity of our parishioners. I have been informed by the supplier that this model is very popular and frequently purchased. Therefore there might be a delay in us receiving it. They will be arriving in the parish hopefully at the start of Lent.
- The old Stations of the Cross were gifted to us by the Box Hill Parish when they were renovating their Church. The old Stations of the Cross set has been re-gifted to St Michael's Parish, North Melbourne where Fr Nicholas Pearce is Parish Priest.
- Thank you to the Social Group for organising and executing a wonderful Parish Dance on 9th November. The total profit raised from this event is \$8246.39. Thank you to all who contributed towards the Dance. Thank you to the Social Group for organising last weekend's food sale. The total amount raised is \$4300.64. I would like to extend my appreciation and gratitude to all our parishioners who contributed food, time and treasure to make these events very successful. May God continue to bless you in abundance.
- Thank you to Brian and his team of volunteers who have given of their time to attend the working bee on Saturday.
- The Church's WiFi link was damaged in the rain during last week's thunderstorms. The link had to be replaced and the upgrades cost \$1820.50
- It has been a year since we set up our parish Special Needs account to help those in need in our community. Every year on one Sunday during Lent and Advent we will take up a third collection to fund this account. Next Sunday there will be a third collection for this purpose.

Children's Christmas Party

Date: 8th December

Time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM (Face painting starts at 2:00 PM)

Location: Church Hall

Join us as we make this Christmas season unforgettable for our little ones (Babies – Year 12)! This special celebration will feature games, delicious food, festive fun, and a visit from Santa himself.

Parents/carers are kindly asked to accompany their children.

Let's create magical memories together—we can't wait to see your family there!

The Heart of Christmas

Date: Sunday, 15th December

Time: 6pm (Doors open at 5.30pm)

An evening of carols, face painting, games, raffles and more!

Food and drinks on sale

For more information contact:

Candice Vaz 0425843787, Ashton Vaz 0452236785, Howard Fernandez 0431 057 615, Mary Hanekom 0418560331, Ryani Fernandopulle 0416273617

St Vincent De Paul Society Christmas Appeal

Please return the card with the hamper.

We plan to make packaging and deliveries by 19 December 2024. Therefore, we will appreciate it if the hampers are received by Sunday 15 December 2024.

Thank You, St Vincent De Paul Society – Hampton Park.

Rosters - 14th & 15th December

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

Church Cleaners

Team 4: Samoan Choir

Counters

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

Last Weekend's Collection

Envelopes: \$5250.50

Unpledged: \$2182.15

Presbytery: \$2123.95

This Sunday we pray

In Thanksgiving

Dominic Crasto

Lachlan Ferdinand

Tamara and Declyn

Charmerae and Gregory

Desmond and Bernadette

Simmons

Lukas Rughoo

Rughoo Family

For Those who are Sick

Yvonne Martin

Stella Marie Hookens

For those who have died recently

Neuza Teixeira Lopes

Maria Jose Martins

Feast days this week

Monday, 9th December: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, 10th December: Our Lady of Loreto

Wednesday, 11th December: St Damasus

Thursday, 12th December: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Friday, 13th December: St Lucy

Saturday, 14th December: St John of the Cross

For those whose anniversaries we remember

Noela Lebrasse, Nikita Araujo Boavida, Catherine Ishikawa, Herbert Claracay, Milagros Camonias, Joseph Crasto, Natividad Sonza, Pamela Green, Corrina Lyonette, Herman D'Souza, Oswald Francis, S. Michael Perera, Sylvia and Richard D'Souza, Francisco Bernardes

Calling All Bakers and Christmas Joy Creators!

We need YOU to sprinkle some sweetness into our Carols Event by donating Christmas goodies to sell whether it be homemade or store bought. Think of it as sharing joy... one delicious bite at a time. Here's How:

1. Whip up your favourite sweets or savoury items or a combination of the two
2. Pack them in pretty boxes or fancy cellophane bags, the more the merrier.
3. Add a festive gift tag and remember: the more attractive the packaging, the faster it'll sell!
4. Drop-off: at the masses on the weekend of 14/15 December in church or at the carols

Each box will sell for \$10, so portion accordingly. Need packaging? Contact an SG member for help. All proceeds go to support church activities. Let's spread Christmas cheer together!

The Social Group

Caritas Lebanon Crisis Appeal

This appeal aims to provide essential humanitarian aid to our brothers and sisters suffering in Lebanon, especially those who are displaced and without homes or shelter.

Donate today: www.caritas.org.au/lebanondonate

Parish Office - Christmas Closure Dates

The Parish Office will be closed for Christmas from 23rd December 2024 to 6th January 2025 (both days inclusive). If you would like to give mass intentions for that period, please offer them by Wednesday 18th December 2024.

Advent and Christmas 2024 schedule and the Jubilee Year Calendar are available in the foyer. Please take a copy home.

Exodus 90

Exodus 90 is a 90 day program of prayer and fasting for men. The charisms of Exodus, which we have discerned in prayer and experience, are Contemplatives First, Sonship or Death, Ad Orientem, Holy Detachment, and Magnanimity. More details about the program are in the Jubilee calendar. If you would like to be part of the program, please scan the QR code below.

Magnify 90

Magnify 90 is a 90 day program of prayer and fasting for women. More details about the program are in the Jubilee Calendar. Please scan the QR code below to express interest in being part of the program.



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 Bishops and priests and the Archdiocese:

Name: St Kevin's Catholic Presbytery Account

BSB: 083 347

Account: 643 962 334

For contributions to support the needy in our Parish:

Name: St Kevin's Special Needs Account

BSB: 083-347

Account: 897567262

All of our prayers thus far have served to bring us to the moment of Holy Communion, the moment when God incarnate joins himself with us, mingling his body and blood with ours, sharing his soul and divinity with our poor humanity.

Much of the language of the Mass has been exalted, the movements sometimes elaborate.

Yet now, as the drama reaches its climax, the rite becomes spare and simple. It is beautiful in its simplicity. It is profound in its simplicity. But it is nonetheless simple.

Each communicant bows reverently while approaching the priest. The priest holds up a host and says: "The body of Christ." The communicant says: "Amen", and receives Jesus.

The Church has preserved the rite in this simplicity since the earliest centuries. In the fourth century, St Ambrose described it in terms that still apply today: "The priest says to you, 'the body of Christ.' And you say, 'Amen.'" From the same generation, we find descriptions of the rite in Jerusalem and North Africa, and they are exactly the same.

In the West we do have options for our manner of receiving the host. We may receive on the tongue, or we may receive in the hand. If we receive on the tongue, we should open our mouth wide and move our tongue forward, making it visible and accessible to the priest, deacon, or the extraordinary minister of Holy Communion who is assisting him.

If we receive in the hand, we may follow the instructions given by St Cyril of Jerusalem in the fourth century. He said to make one hand "a throne" for the other. "Then hollow your palm, and receive the body of Christ, saying over it, 'Amen'." A right-handed person would place the right hand under the left, then receive the host in the palm of the left hand. After stepping to the side, the communicant should pick up the host with the right hand and consume it. (A left-handed person would place the left hand under the right, then receive the host in the palm of the right hand. Stepping to the side, the communicant would pick up the host with the left hand and consume it.)

St Cyril exhorts his flock to be "careful not to lose any small particle, for whatever you lose is as much a loss to you as if it were one of your own limbs. Tell me, if anyone gave you grains of gold, would you not hold them with utmost care, on guard against losing any? Will you not take greater care not to lose a crumb of what is more precious than gold or jewels?"

St Cyril continued: "Then, after partaking the body of Christ, draw near to the cup of his blood ... bowing reverently and saying, 'Amen'. Then bring a blessing upon yourself by partaking of the blood of Christ." We sip from the chalice and return it to the minister who handed it to us.

It is an easy thing to follow such a simple rite. This simplicity leaves our mind free for prayer. So we should approach Holy Communion in a recollected way and try not to be distracted, even if we catch sight of people we know. We should keep our focus on Jesus and prepare ourselves for an intimate encounter.

After Communion, as we wait for the remaining worshippers to receive, we should intensify our prayer, knowing that, at that moment, we are as close to Jesus as it is possible to be. The decision to distribute Communion under one kind or both belongs to the priest who celebrates Mass (and to his bishop). The sacramental sign is richer and more complete when the congregation receives the host and from the chalice. In that form, the Mass has more the appearance of a meal, a banquet especially that sacred meal when Jesus said,

"Take ... eat" and "Take ... drink".

Sometimes, however in flu season, for example, the local church or any individual priest may decide that it is best not to share a common chalice. His decision should be respected.

Christ, after all, is fully present under each species alone. When we receive the host by itself, we receive Jesus' body and blood, soul and divinity. When we receive from the chalice alone, we receive Jesus' body and blood, soul and divinity.

People with severe sensitivities to wheat, for example, can receive only from the chalice; but, doing so, they receive all of Jesus and all the grace of the sacrament.

From *The Mass* by Cardinal Donald Wuerl and Mike Aquilina

1st Reading - Baruch 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your dress of sorrow and distress, put on the beauty of the glory of God for ever, wrap the cloak of the integrity of God around you, put the diadem of the glory of the Eternal on your head: since God means to show your splendour to every nation under heaven, since the name God gives you for ever will be, 'Peace through integrity, and honour through devotedness.' Arise, Jerusalem, stand on the heights and turn your eyes to the east: see your sons reassembled from west and east at the command of the Holy One, jubilant that God has remembered them. Though they left you on foot, with enemies for an escort, now God brings them back to you like royal princes carried back in glory. For God has decreed the flattening of each high mountain, of the everlasting hills, the filling of the valleys to make the ground level so that Israel can walk in safety under the glory of God. And the forests and every fragrant tree will provide shade for Israel at the command of God; for God will guide Israel in joy by the light of his glory with his mercy and integrity for escort.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm-126(126)

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,

it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter, on our lips there were songs.

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels

the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad.

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears

will sing when they reap.

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves.

The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.

2nd Reading - Philippians 1:4-6,8-11

Every time I pray for all of you, I pray with joy, remembering how you have helped to spread the Good News from the day you first heard it right up to the present. I am quite certain that the One who began this good work in you will see that it is finished when the Day of Christ Jesus comes; and God knows how much I miss you all, loving you as Christ Jesus loves you. My prayer is that your love for each other may increase more and more and never stop improving your knowledge and deepening your perception so that you can always recognise what is best. This will help you to become pure and blameless, and prepare you for the Day of Christ, when you will reach the perfect goodness which Jesus Christ produces in us for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all people shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of Tiberius Caesar's reign, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of the lands of Ituraea and Trachonitis, Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the pontificate of Annas and Caiaphas the word of God came to John son of Zechariah, in the wilderness. He went through the whole Jordan district proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the sayings of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight.

Every valley will be filled in,
every mountain and hill be laid low,
winding ways will be straightened
and rough roads made smooth.

And all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.