



St. Kevin's Catholic Parish

HAMPTON PARK



3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C) 15th 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

- It has been a year since we set up our Parish Special Needs account to help those parishioners 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. This Sunday there will be a third collection for this purpose.
- The Christmas 2024 schedule and the Jubilee Year Calendar are available in the foyer. Please take a copy home.
- First rite of Reconciliation will be held on Monday 23rd December from 6-7pm. There will be seven priests available. Please make every effort to attend as this will be the last reconciliations heard before Christmas masses.
- Please email the Parish Office if you would like to make bookings for your choir/group for 2025. Please note that whilst we are taking Church and meeting room bookings for the whole year, there are certain times when these spaces might not be available. You will be notified in advance of any changes.

Children's Christmas play - Family Mass 7 pm Christmas Eve

The St Kevin's Youth will be organising the Children's nativity play for the Family Mass on Christmas Eve. Practices will be held in the church foyer on Wednesday 18th December from 5.30-6.30pm and 21st December from 2-3 pm in the church foyer. Please bring your children along if they are interested in participating.

Piety Stall

2025 Columban calendars are being sold in the piety stall. The calendars are \$10 each with part of the money raised sent to support the Columban missions. Nativity sets of various sizes are also available.

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.

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.

Thanksgiving Envelopes 2025

The next set of Thanksgiving envelopes are available in the foyer. Please take your envelopes home. The envelopes cover the period from January to July 2025. Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions or wish to make any changes.

Rosters - 21st & 22nd December

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

Church Cleaners

Team 5: Tyrone, Tyronie, Emeli, Pelenato, Susanne

Counters

Team 3: Sumith, Samantha, Ransiri, Michael, Gilbert, Marilyn

Last Weekend's Collection

Envelopes: \$5496.60

Unpledged: \$2219.35

Presbytery: \$2299.20

This Sunday we pray

In Thanksgiving

Amara Scharenguivel
Ashley Coates
Manjula Weerasuriya
Nipps family
Alana Peters
Michelle Vaz
Sabrina D'Costa
Gini Shajan
Treasure Clarke

For Those who are Sick

Yvonne Martin

For those who have died recently

Stellamarie Hookens
Neuza Teixeira Lopes
Maria Jose Martins
Dorothy Costa

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

Feast days this week

Saturday, 21st December: St Peter Canisius

For those whose anniversaries we remember

Noela Lebrasse, Nikita Araujo Boavida, I. F. Elizabeth, Evelyn and Sebastian Valdero, Angela Coutinho, Oswald Francis

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

Catholic Mission Appeal - Thank you!

Catholic Mission thanks the parish of St Kevin's for your generous support of this year's World Mission Day Appeal. Through your contribution of \$2,944.00, you have empowered Church workers across 1047 mission dioceses to share a message of hope and compassion with communities around the world.

Your partnership with Catholic Mission makes an incredible difference. Thanks to you, Cardinal Giorgio Marengo and Brother Andrew in Mongolia can continue delivering life-saving care, essential resources, and educational support. Your gift not only uplifts individuals but also strengthens global mission programs, reaching countless others who need our support. Thank you for being a light of hope to those in need!

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.

Prayer - Read Tobit Reading & Reflection. 30 Minutes of Silent Prayer. Make a Morning Offering. Make a Nightly Examen. Make one Holy Hour each week. Celebrate the Lord's Day on Sundays. **Asceticism** - Get a Full Night's Sleep (8 hours). Hold Vigil for 1 Hour at 2am on Friday Morning. Wake Up at the Same Time each day. No Snoozing the Alarm Clock. No Social Media / News. Fast on Wednesday & Friday. No Meat on Wednesday & Friday. Cold Shower on Wednesday & Friday. **Fraternity** - Daily Anchor Check-in (one of the men in your fraternity). Weekly Fraternity Meeting (5-7 men). The Exodus 90 app will support your formation throughout the entire calendar year — offering a practical, realistic, and effective path to growing in freedom not just for a month, but every day, year-round, 24/7/365.

The first 14 days of the Exodus app are free. On Day 15, you can join Exodus+ for \$90 / year or Exodus Basic for \$10 / month.

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. *Magnify 90 is a journey into the desert of spirituality and asceticism.*

<https://www.mag90.com/magnify90>

The format is as follows:

Begin with prayer - spontaneous and seeking intercession of Mary as Spouse of the Holy Spirit. Have a presenter go over the theme for the week with anything that stuck out to them, or focusing on a scripture/CCC/saint quote that was impactful. Time for sharing highs and lows / what stuck out to individual women. Shared prayer intentions. End with prayer such as litany of humility or other rote prayer from Magnify 90. Optional fellowship time if anyone is able to stick around. Please scan the QR code below to express interest in being part of the program.



Sometimes at Mass, we may notice people holding back from receiving Holy Communion. They remain in their pews when others go forward, or they indicate to the priest or deacon that they will not receive.

You and I may not know the reasons they decline the sacrament, but we should respect their thoughtfulness and integrity. In their way, they are recognising the importance of the Mass.

To respond to the Lord's invitation to eat his flesh and drink his blood, the believer must be prepared. St Paul urges us to examine our conscience: "Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord unworthily will have to answer for the body and blood of the Lord" (1 Corinthians 11:27). Before we approach the table of the Lord it is important to reflect on our life, ask God's forgiveness for our failings and if necessary due to serious sin to avail ourselves of sacramental confession.

The examination of conscience that we must make as to whether we are worthy to receive the body and blood of Our Lord includes our fidelity to the moral teaching of the Church in personal and public life.

These days many Catholics have an incomplete understanding of the Eucharist, specifically of the real presence of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Whatever the cause of such misunderstanding of the faith, each person who approaches the table of the Lord needs to recognize the significance of this action and the importance of spiritual preparation. It sometimes becomes the task of older members of the family to review with youngsters what is happening at Mass and who we receive in Holy Communion. Grandparents have in some instances a unique and privileged role as teachers of the faith in an age when the awareness of the real presence seems to be diminished. We should thank God that such an overwhelmingly generous gift was given to us but we must also challenge ourselves to live so as to receive Our Lord reverently and frequently.

The cleansing of the vessels

After Communion, If any of the precious blood remains in the chalice, the priest and deacons consume it, assisted by the extraordinary ministers.

The priest or deacon will then take water and cleanse the inside of the vessels: the ciboria, patens, chalices and so on. If a fragment of the host sticks to the priest's fingers, he wipes or washes his fingers over the paten. Meanwhile, he also looks for fragments that may have fallen onto the altar cloths. The priest or deacon purifies the chalice with water and then drinks the water. The paten is usually wiped clean with the purificator. The simple, homey actions are a profound witness to Jesus' real presence in the sacrament. If he is entirely present in every drop and every crumb, then the priest must take special care to consume every drop and every crumb.

The Blessing and the Dismissal

Does it seem strange to you that the Mass takes its name from its final words, the Dismissal? The Latin words are *Ite, missa est*. In modern English they are rendered: "Go forth, the Mass is ended."

Does it seem strange that the Mass ends so abruptly after Communion? We reach the highest peak possible, then suddenly we are sent away after the barest blessing:

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 Wuerland and Mike Aquilina

1st Reading- Zephaniah 3:14-18

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion,
Israel, shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem!
The Lord has repealed your sentence;
he has driven your enemies away.
The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst;
you have no more evil to fear.

When that day comes, word will come to
Jerusalem:
Zion, have no fear,
do not let your hands fall limp.
The Lord your God is in your midst,
a victorious warrior.
He will exult with joy over you,
he will renew you by his love;
he will dance with shouts of joy for you
as on a day of festival.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Isaiah 12

*Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is
the great and Holy One of Israel.*

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear.

For the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my saviour.

With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.

*Cry out with joy and gladness: for among
you is the great and Holy One of Israel.*

Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his
name!

Make his mighty deeds known to the
peoples!

Declare the greatness of his name.

*Cry out with joy and gladness: for among
you is the great and Holy One of Israel.*

Sing a psalm to the Lord

for he has done glorious deeds;
make them known to all the earth!

People of Zion, sing and shout for joy,
for great in your midst is the Holy One
of Israel.

*Cry out with joy and gladness: for among
you is the great and Holy One of Israel.*

2nd Reading - Philippians 4:4-7

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat,
what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident
to everyone: the Lord is very near.

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need,
pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving,
and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we
can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in
Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 3:10-18

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he
answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the
man who has none, and the one with something to eat must
do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for
baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?'
He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some
soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must
we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be
content with your pay!'

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people,
who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ,
so John declared before them all, 'I baptise you with water,
but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful
than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals;
he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His
winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and
to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in
a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many
other things he said to exhort the people and to announce
the Good News to them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.