



St. Kevin's Catholic Parish

HAMPTON PARK



The Exaltation of the Holy Cross(Year C) – 14th September 2025

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

Assistant Priest: Fr Antony Santhiyagu

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

Weekday Mass Times

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat – 9:15am

Every Wed – 7:00pm followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Sunday Mass Times

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.

Parish Pilgrimage to Mansfield – Saturday, 11th October

As part of our Jubilee Year of Hope celebrations, we are organising a parish pilgrimage to St Francis Xavier, Mansfield on **Saturday, 11th October 2025**. A bus will be organised which will leave St Kevin's at approximately 7am and return by 6pm. The cost per person is \$30. If you would like to go on the pilgrimage, please scan the QR code to register your details.



Safeguarding Sunday – 14th September

Today we are gathered on Safeguarding Sunday, a day when we pause to focus on our responsibility to protect and care for those who are vulnerable. In the Bible, we find a clear and strong message about justice, compassion, and speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves. We are called to be a safe, welcoming and hope-filled church.

In our everyday lives, let's be mindful of those around us who are vulnerable or marginalised. Who are the "silent" ones in our society, the ones without a voice? Today, God may be calling you to stand up for them. Whether it's through prayer, support, or direct action, we are invited to participate in God's work of justice.

ACYF Fundraising Dance – Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who helped make our ACYF Fundraising Dance a wonderful success. We had an incredible evening together, and thanks to your generosity, we raised **\$5,918.42**.

We are grateful for your support and continued generosity.

Baptism Preparation Classes Schedule for 2025

The next baptism preparation class will be held on Thursday, 6th November 2025 at 7.15pm in the church. **Please note that a class will not be held in October.**

Pope's prayer intention for September

Pope Leo XIV's prayer intention for September 2025 is for "our relationship with all of creation. The Holy Father invites us to pray that "inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect."

What's On this week

Sunday, 14th September: 3pm: Altar Servers training

Monday, 15th September: 6.30pm: Junior Legion of Mary

Tuesday, 16th September: 7pm: Search program

Wednesday, 17th September: 9.15am: Two Hearts devotion

4-5pm: First Communion preparation class

Friday, 19th September: 7pm: Alpha program (School Hall)

6pm: Junior Youth Faith Formation (Church foyer)



ROSTERS for 20th & 21st September
Readers & Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion please see the Notice Board for Rosters.

CHURCH CLEANERS
Team 4: Samoan Choir

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

Last Weekend's Collection
Envelopes: \$4463.90
Unpledged: \$1728.35
Presbytery: \$1484.35
Thank you!

This Sunday we Pray
Thanksgiving
All pilgrims of the 2025 Marian pilgrimage
Nikita Ravi
Cordeiro and Menezes families
Patrick Starr

For those who are sick:
Mery Vasquez
Rick Blacker
Anthony Morril
Gregory Jacobs
Demosthenes Aledo
Fernando Maria Marques
Oscar Moniz de Jesus
Elena Laugalis
Robert Leo
Nazario Coutinho
Linda Bailey
Oscar Francis
Rosario Giaquinta
Viktorija Dovidavicius

For those who have died recently:
Nigel Barrett
Bernadine Rosario

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:
Monday, 15th September: Our Lady of Sorrows
Tuesday, 16th September: Sts Cornelius & Cyprian
Wednesday, 17th September: St Robert Bellarmine, St Hildegard of Bingen
Friday, 19th September: St Januarius
Saturday, 20th September: Sts Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang & Companions

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Reneir Noel Snr., Ranjit Emmanuel Biswas, Walter Lockwood, Nikita Araujo Boavida, Sylvia Barbara Michael, Ermelinda Pereira Araujo, Lamberto and Emerenciana Boavida, Russel and Heanel D'Silva, Kris Clarke, Barbara and Clement Passagne, Vernon and Doris Mannays, Patricia Lebon, Deceased relatives of Godere and Prosper families, Anu Kumar, Belinda Claité Murat Peter Fernandez, Lilian Mary Hookens, Mina Fatima Cordeiro, Kingsley Noyahr, Christopher Cooray

Parish Sacrament preparation program 2026

Enrolments for the Parish Sacramental preparation program for children who attend non-Catholic schools will commence in November this year. Enrolment forms will be available after all the weekend masses on 15th, 16th November and 22nd, 23rd November.

Caritas Australia – Season of Creation

The Season of Creation's call for Peace with Creation aligns powerfully with the Turn Debt into Hope campaign, as communities burdened by debt are often those facing the worst environmental challenges.

This Season of Creation (1 September – 4 October), Caritas Australia is inviting parishes to stand in solidarity with vulnerable communities in need of sustainable development and ecological renewal by:

- signing the Turn Debt into Hope petition – caritas.org.au/debt
- committing to practical, everyday actions that promote ecological sustainability and care for creation by registering to become a Catholic Earthcare Household - caritas.org.au/catholic-earthcare/

ONLINE INFORMATION SESSION ON THE PERMANENT DIACONATE

The permanent diaconate is open to single and married men, aged between 30 and 60 years, who want to serve God and the Church as ordained ministers. The information session is open to everyone interested in knowing more about the permanent diaconate.

Online Diaconate information meeting
Tuesday, 24 September 2025 beginning 19:00 – 20:00
Location: via ZOOM

Attendance will be by invitation. Express your interest by emailing Deacon Kevin Pattison. Kevin.Pattison@cam.org.au

In the week before the session the ZOOM link will be sent to those who have expressed interest.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

As part of our ongoing commitment to Safeguarding and in compliance with the Archdiocese of Melbourne safeguarding requirements, all volunteers are required to provide the following to the Parish office: Working with Children Check (WWCC): Go online to apply

<https://service.vic.gov.au/services/working-with-children>

Safeguarding Essentials Training certificate: this Training is required and needs to be renewed every three years. You may undertake this training online at:

<https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2F>

The Basic forms of Prayer: Meditation

Meditation is a quest

Meditation engages thought, imagination, emotion, and desire. This mobilisation of faculties is necessary in order to deepen our convictions of faith, prompt the conversion of our heart, and strengthen our will to follow Christ. Christian prayer tries above all to meditate on the mysteries of Christ, as in *Lectio Divina* or the Rosary. This form of prayerful reflection is of great value, but Christian prayer should go further: to the knowledge of the love of the Lord Jesus, to union with him. (*Catechism*, §2708)

Each day you should reserve some time — five, 10, or 15 minutes can be a good start — to spend in quiet, heart-to-heart conversation with Christ. This is called Christian meditation. The goal of this kind of prayer is to deepen your personal relationship with Christ, praising God and receiving his grace, and to identify yourself more and more with the purpose of your life: to live in communion with God through the fulfillment of his will. As you develop the habit of this prayer, you will find ways to personalise the method. To begin, however, and in order to overcome the distractions and dryness common to those starting off on a more demanding life of prayer, the following structure has shown to be of great utility.

Be sure to choose a time and place conducive to the silence and attention required; most spiritual masters recommend that we do our meditation early in the day, before the thousand cares of the world tangle us up in their knots. They also recommend that we do it at the same time every day, and in the same place, somewhere quiet, where we know that interruptions and distractions will be limited. More important than the time and place, however, is the commitment to make meditation part of your daily spiritual fare, no matter how busy you get or little you feel like praying.

Your meditation can be divided into 4 steps — the four “C’s: Concentrate, Consider, Converse, Commit.

Concentrate

This simply means focusing your attention on God, on his presence, on your relationship with him. You renew your faith, your love, your hope in him. You ask him for the particular grace you are seeking in this time together with him. You recall that he created you and is interested in you — so much so that he sent his Son to save you and established the Church to guide you to your eternal home. This first step of your prayer means concentrating on your true centre: your identity as a creature, a beloved child of God in need of his grace.

Consider

In the second step of your meditation you take a passage from Scripture, or from a spiritual book, or the *Catechism*, of the writings of a saint, or even a sacred image or a beautiful natural landscape (you work out what kind of material is best for you through experimentation and the guidance of a spiritual director) and you read it over. You reflect on what it means, what it tells you about God and his ways and his plans, and what it means for you personally, in your particular situation and state in life. At this stage you ponder in your mind and heart some truth or aspect of God’s revelation, you apply it to your life and make it your own. Sometimes asking questions can help: what is the meaning of the passage? What are its key words? What is going on here? How would I express it in my own words?

Converse

Here is the core of the meditation: a heart-to-heart conversation with Christ about the passage you have been considering and the insights that the Holy Spirit has been giving you. This intimate, personal exchange is what separates Christian meditation from merely psychological exercises that do not move beyond concentration.

Here is the mark of true prayer, where you respond to the Word of God with words of your own, expressing your admiration, your gratitude, your love, your confusion, your need — whatever the consideration stirred up in your soul. You also give him time and room to speak to you. He often chooses to do this not with words or even ideas, but by moving your will, by directly touching your heart. (Try not to get hung up on hearing him explicitly every day, but you should be able to look back over several days or weeks and recognise his action in your prayer life.) As you converse, in the silent depths of your heart you open yourself to God, offering your life and inviting him once again to come and show you the way to a living communion with him.

All the other steps of the meditation are directed to this step, so if you only need a brief moment of concentration and consideration in order to enter into heartfelt conversation with the One who loves you, do not dawdle on steps one and two.

Normally, however, we need to gather our attention in order to be able to hear and respond to the Word of God, and steps one and two help us to do that.

Commit

Finish your prayer by letting it affect your life: commit yourself to do something concrete today as a result of the time you spent with our Lord, whatever you think the Lord is asking of you or whatever you think would please him. Whether it means making an extra visit to a chapel to spend more time with him, or asking someone to forgive yesterday’s temperamental outburst, or calling a person who needs a call — something concrete, measurable, real; something about which you can say at the end of the day: yes, I did that, or no, I didn’t. This insures that our prayer life does not become a mere psychological sedative or an exercise of vanity.

As you offer this commitment to the Lord, thank him for his presence and the graces he has given you during this time of prayer, ask pardon for your distractions (especially if you invited them or gave in to them out of laziness or lack of faith), and finish by entrusting the fruits of your prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary through reciting a Hail Mary.

End with the sign of the cross, and then go forth to glorify God by fulfilling his will out of faith, hope, and love.

First Reading - Numbers 21:4-9

On the way through the wilderness the people lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.'

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, 'We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.' Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, 'Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.' So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

Responsorial Psalm - 77(78):1-2,34-38

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Give heed, my people, to my teaching;
turn your ear to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable
and reveal hidden lessons of the past.

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

When he slew them then they would seek him,
return and seek him in earnest.

They would remember that God was their rock,
God the Most High their redeemer.

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

But the words they spoke were mere flattery;
they lied to him with their lips.

For their hearts were not truly with him;
they were not faithful to his covenant.

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Yet he who is full of compassion
forgave them their sin and spared them.
So often he held back his anger
when he might have stirred up his rage.

Do not forget the works of the Lord!

Second Reading - Philippians 2:6-11

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,
because by your cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia!

Gospel - John 3:13-17

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

'No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man who is in heaven; and the Son of Man must be lifted up as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.'

Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.'