



# St. Kevin's Catholic Parish

HAMPTON PARK



## Second Sunday of Lent (Year A) – 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026

### Parish Centre

A: 120 Hallam Road,  
Hampton Park, Vic. 3976

T: (03) 9799 2108

E: [hamptonpark@cam.org.au](mailto:hamptonpark@cam.org.au)

H: Tue to Fri 9.15am - 1:15pm

W: [stkevins.org.au](http://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](mailto: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.**

### Altar Servers Training and AGM – Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm

We invite all altar servers and their parents to attend the next altar servers training on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm in the Church. Parents are invited to stay for the first thirty minutes to attend the annual AGM.

### Good Friday Passion Play – Youth needed

If you are aged Grade 4 to 25 years and are interested in being part of the Good Friday Passion Play, please sign up using the link

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/10udZExXlary1v30pogLyTUviEneHpCNNtgUWtfzBOI/edit?ts=6995c52c>

or QR code. The first Passion Play practice will be held on

**Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> March from 3pm to 5pm in St Kevin's School Hall.**



### Working Bee – Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> March – 8am to 2pm

We would like to clean the inside and outside of our church in readiness for Holy Week and Easter. If you can spare an hour or more of your time, please sign up for the Parish Working Bee on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> March from 8am. Please contact Brian D'Souza via the Parish Office 03 97992108.

### Parish Safeguarding Night – Thank you!

Thank you to Tamara Cugnetto, Senior Safeguarding Officer, Southern Region, from the Archdiocese of Melbourne's Safeguarding Unit, who facilitated an informative session at our Parish Safeguarding Night, held on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026. A copy of the information presented on the night is available for your reference on our Parish website <https://stkevins.org.au/2026/02/25/parish-safeguarding-night-24th-february-2026/>

### RCIA Rite of Election

On Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February Archbishop Peter Comensoli welcomed 550 candidates and catechumens from the Archdiocese of Melbourne for the Rite of Election. From our parish, 7 catechumens – Kin, Penny, Maryanna, Ashlee, Christie, Amylie, Nathan and 2 candidates - Kiarah and Floyd, attended the mass along with their sponsors and RCIA coordinators. Please keep our catechumens and candidates in your prayers as they prepare to receive the sacraments of initiation at this year's Easter vigil.

### Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for March - For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

### What's On

**Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March: 5pm:** Junior Legion of Mary

**Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March: 7pm:** RCIA

**Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March: 4.30pm:** Reconciliation class

**Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> March: 10am and 7pm:** Lenten Program

**7.15pm:** Baptism Preparation meeting

**Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March: 6pm:** Holy Hour and Confessions

**7pm:** Stations of the Cross followed by Mass and First Friday Vigil

### **ROSTERS for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> March**

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

### **CHURCH CLEANERS**

Team 3: Jeneview, Khuram, Priscilla, Maria, Jerome, Doreen, Michael

### **COUNTERS**

Team 2: Roland, Rosalia, Jackie, Savio, John, Jackie, Shehan, Maria

### **Last Weekend's Collection**

Envelopes: \$5329.90

Unpledged: \$2819.25

Presbytery: \$2707.05

**Thank you!**

### **This Sunday we Pray**

#### **Thanksgiving**

Sunaina Chatterji

Ronan Fernandez

Guillermina Li Hau

Brian David Pereira

#### **For those who are sick:**

Dominique

Solly Moosa

Jason Large

John Vasquez

Jean Pierre Michaud

Baby Vash

Samantha

Giedrius Kalvaitis

Felicity Rulach

Lily Hayes

Charles

Sistek Shalia

#### **For those who have died recently:**

Ricky Mabul

Pedro Mau Ribus Da Silva

Marcelino Alvares Pereira

If you would like to donate towards the building of the Grotto:

**St Kevin's Building Appeals A/c  
BSB 083 347**

**Account No.:851452646**

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, 4<sup>th</sup> March: St Casimir

Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> March: Sts. Perpetua and Felicity

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

Josiane Lubin, Fernando Marques, Maria Carlota, Oscar L. Pereira Araujo, Frank and Heather Mathews, Prosper, Godere, Oliva and Brabant families, All the souls in purgatory, Bernard Koelmeyer, Samuel Lazaro, Mazie De Zilva, Anthony Schwallie, Yves Leo Mootosamy, Alice Jacinta Francis, Elmo De Zilva, Juan Cabildo, Hera Devi, Amelia Pinto, Florence Seline John

### **Lenten Preparation: COMPASSIO Lenten Program 2026**

All parishioners are warmly invited to join our Lenten Prayer, Reflection, and Discussion Group. Session Details

☞ Thursdays, beginning **19 February 2026**

🕒 After the **9:15am Mass** – Church Foyer

For those unable to attend in the morning, the same session will be repeated on Thursday evenings at **7:00pm**. Those interested are kindly asked to register using the QR code, where you can select your preferred session time.



### **Caritas – Project Compassion Sunday 2026**

This Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Your generosity this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need. Please donate today. You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code on the poster. Or online at: [www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate](http://www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate) Or by calling: 1800 024 413. Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

### **KSC Football Tipping Competition**

The Knights of the Southern Cross Dandenong North Branch would like to invite all parishioners to participate in its huge and popular Football Tipping Competition in 2026. Cost to participate is \$50 for the entire season, where 50% of funds raised go to prizes, and the other 50% to the Branch in its support of the local Parishes. Those who guess all 9 tips correctly win \$30 for the round, and the overall winner of the season will receive over \$1,000 in prize money. The rules for the 2026 KSC Footy Tipping Competition can be found on the Parish Bulletin board. **Please contact** Carmine Miranda on 0412 817 995 or [carmine.miranda@bigpond.com](mailto:carmine.miranda@bigpond.com) for any queries and expressions of interest. Round 1 commences on Thursday March 5, with Sydney vs. Carlton. Parishioners can encourage friends and relatives to participate. This is one of KSC Dandenong North Branch's biggest fundraisers, with over 140 participants and \$3,500 raised last year, which funds our projects and donations within the surrounding parishes. Tips to be lodged via internet <http://www.footytips.com.au> Login – username – password. The name of our competition is 'KSC North Dandenong' and can be found by searching for that name in the 'Search Competitions' section.

### **Prayer to Sts. Perpetua and Felicity**

Saints Perpetua and Felicity, you lived in a pagan society but chose to become Christians and to follow Christ. This choice to follow Christ came at a great cost, because the Christian faith was not allowed in your society. Despite this cost, you did not waver in your faith. Imprisonment, mockery, and threats did nothing to keep you from serving Christ. You remained faithful to Christ and His Church through great sufferings, until you finally gave up your life for Him. Pray that I may also choose to be as steadfast in my own faith against the influences of the world as you were, no matter what it may cost me.

## Feast Day – Sts. Perpetua and Felicity – 7<sup>th</sup> March

Sts. Perpetua and Felicity are among the most beloved martyrs of the early Church, remembered for their fearless witness to Christ and their profound spiritual unity.

In 202 A.D., five catechumens preparing for Baptism were arrested at Carthage during a time of intense persecution under Emperor Septimius Severus. Learning of their arrest, their teacher in the Faith turned himself in to Roman authorities to face martyrdom with them. Among those arrested were Sts. Perpetua and Felicity. St. Perpetua was a well-educated young noblewoman and the mother of an infant son. St. Felicity was her enslaved companion and pregnant at the time of their arrest. Despite their differences in status, the two women formed a deep bond rooted in their shared beliefs and hope in Christ.

While imprisoned, St. Perpetua recorded visions and reflections that provide rare insight into the spiritual life of early Christians. She endured repeated pleas from her father to renounce her Faith for the sake of her family and child, yet she refused to deny her Lord and sacrifice to the pagan gods. St. Felicity feared that her pregnancy would prevent her from dying with her companions, but she gave birth prematurely in prison after fervent prayer.

On March 7, 203, Roman soldiers took them into the arena and subjected them to brutal public execution. Their serenity and courage deeply impressed many who witnessed their martyrdom, including some soldiers. But other pagans seethed with anger and called for their torturous death.

Sts. Perpetua and Felicity stood side by side as wild beasts attacked them and as the soldiers' swords delivered the final blow.

The Church has honored Sts. Perpetua and Felicity from ancient times, and their names are included in the Roman Canon of the Mass.

Why is St. Perpetua's account of her martyrdom historically significant?

St. Perpetua's martyrdom account is historically valuable because it is a rare, personal, first-hand narrative from an early Christian martyr. As a noblewoman martyred alongside slaves, her story demonstrates that Christianity united people across social divides, making all believers equal in faith and suffering. It offered invaluable insights into early Christian life, including faith, persecution, and spiritual experiences. St. Perpetua's prison diary is one of the earliest-known Christian writings by a woman and gives insight into her role and voice in society. It sheds light on early Christian theology, baptismal preparation, and the lived faith of persecuted believers in the third century.

Did St. Perpetua have prophetic gifts?

St. Perpetua was known for having prophetic gifts. In her diary, *The Passion of Saints Perpetua and Felicity*, she recorded several powerful, prophetic visions and dreams in prison that foretold her martyrdom and entry into Heaven. These visions offer profound spiritual guidance and demonstrate God's Spirit at work in her suffering. In one vision, she saw a ladder rising to Heaven. At its foot was a dragon that prevented anyone from climbing the ladder. St. Perpetua climbed the ladder by treading on the dragon's head, symbolizing victory over evil. In another vision, she met Christ as a shepherd, who gave her milk, signifying divine sustenance and acceptance into Paradise. St. Perpetua's visions were considered authoritative and influenced some of St. Augustine's writings and sermons.

What can we learn about Roman law in the story of Sts. Perpetua and Felicity?

In the story of Sts. Perpetua and Felicity, we learn about a Roman law prohibiting the execution of pregnant women based on the principle of preserving the unborn baby. For Romans, the concern regarding pregnant women was less about the mother's rights and more about the unborn child. However, this protection of the unborn referred to the child's legal status as a viable future Roman citizen, not necessarily the baby's right to life. Rome sanctioned the death of unwanted or deformed newborn infants, and pagan families had the power of life and death over a newborn child. Laws were introduced to prevent infanticide in the fourth century when Emperor Constantine legalized Christianity.

**Source:** <https://missions.ewtn.com/dailysaint/sts-perpetua-and-felicity/>

## Second Sunday of Lent (Year A)

### **First Reading - Genesis 12:1-4**

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing.

'I will bless those who bless you:  
I will curse those who slight you.  
All the tribes of the earth  
shall bless themselves by you.'

So Abram went as the Lord told him.

### **Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 32(33):4-5,18-20,22**

***Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.***

The word of the Lord is faithful  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right  
and fills the earth with his love.

***Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.***

The Lord looks on those who revere him,  
on those who hope in his love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.

***Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.***

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.  
The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.

***Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.***

### **Second Reading - 2 Timothy 1:8-10**

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have

done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!  
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

### **Gospel - Matthew 17:1-9**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured: his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order, 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'