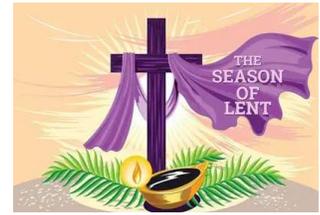




St. Kevin's Catholic Parish

H A M P T O N P A R K



Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year A) – 22nd March 2026

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

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.**

Thank You!

The Mauritian community would like to thank every parishioner and visitor who helped make last weekend's food sale a great success. Together we raised a total of **\$6,500** to put towards the building of the grotto. A special thank you to those who contributed through cash donations, prepared food and everyone who assisted in selling.

Save the date – 16th May 2026

Karaoke Saturday – Presented by the South African community and friends Raffles, prizes, Food on sale

Bring your vocals, dancing shoes, good vibes and plenty of gold coin for a night of musical fun and live entertainment. Tickets on sale after Easter. Stay tuned...

Palms Wanted!

Do you have a palm tree? Do you know someone who does?

We require a large quantity of palms for Palm Sunday. Please contact the Parish Office on 97992108 if you would like to donate palms.

Special Collection – 29th March

During the Lenten season, we remember those who are in need in our community. As part of our ongoing commitment to support our parishioners and as part of our Special Needs account appeal, we will take up a third collection at all the masses next weekend – 28th and 29th March. If you would like to donate by EFT, the bank details are as follows:

St Kevin's Special Needs A/c

BSB 083 347

Account No.:897567262

Palm Sunday walk – Saturday, 28th March at 4.30pm

The 5pm vigil mass on Saturday, 28th March will be preceded by the Parish Palm Sunday Walk. The Walk will commence at **4.30pm at the park opposite McDonald's Hallam Road.** The procession will conclude in Church with the 5pm vigil mass.

Please note that for all other Palm Sunday masses (Saturday 7pm, Sunday 9am, 11am and 6pm) the blessing of palms will take place in St Kevin's School Hall before each mass.

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

Sunday, 22nd March: 12.30pm to 2.30pm: Passion Play Practice

Monday, 23rd March: 5pm: Junior Legion of Mary

Wednesday, 25th March: 4.30pm: Reconciliation class

Thursday, 26th March: 10am and 7pm: Lenten Program

Friday, 27th March: 6pm: Holy Hour and Confessions

7pm: Stations of the Cross followed by Mass

ROSTERS for 28th & 29th March

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

CHURCH CLEANERS

Team 1: Sophia, Fred, Miriam, Veronique, Cyril

COUNTERS

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

Last Weekend's Collection

Envelopes: \$5381.50

Unpledged: \$2617.90

Presbytery: \$2550.25

This Sunday we Pray

Thanksgiving

Andre Michaud

Josselyne Rosemond

Shane and Susanne Paternott

Joanna Dogra

Zaccai Perera

Aatreya Perera

For those who are sick:

Fallon

Sunil

Sandra Wills

Anna

Elcira Baez

Greg Jacobs

Angus Jacobs

Dominique

Jason Large

John Vasquez

For those who have died recently:

Mario Mizzi

Henry Jesson

Harold Jaquin

Eva Marie

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:

Monday, 23rd March: St Turibius de Mogrovejo

Wednesday, 25th March: The Annunciation of the Lord

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Fernando Marques, Maria Carlota, Estelita Caya Evangelista, Maria Luisa Lay, Leonardo O. Moniz, Walter Lockwood, Departed members of the Fernandez family, Noela Lebrasse, Antanas Laugalis, Connie Taylor, Cyril Rosario, Anne Nipps, Nazario Coutinho, Philip Coutinho, R.L. D'Souza, Stanley D'Souza, Angela Coutinho, Arokya Mary Salome, Zenobia Symss, Zusima Pansoy, Mateo Pansoy, Diosdado Pansoy, Flordelina Pansoy, Renecito Pansoy, Romulo Pansoy, Ma. Vilma Dumoran, Jonathan Ray Pansoy, Ma. Gloria Pastorpili, Euprisino Pastorpili, Godilla Pastorpili, Antonio Pastorpili, Mario Pastorpili, Nestor Pastorpili, William Thurairatnam, Anselm Pereira

Holy Thursday and Good Friday Collections

Holy Thursday – **2nd April** – A collection will be taken up at mass to add to the Caritas appeal. Please return your Caritas boxes and envelopes during the Holy Thursday collection.

The annual collection for the support of the church in the Holy Land will take place on Good Friday, **3rd April**. This collection promotes the missionary work of the Church in the Holy Land by providing welfare assistance to local Christians in areas such as health, education, employment, housing. Parishes, and orphanages. It is also used to maintain over 70 churches and shrines associated with the life of Jesus. Due to the ongoing war, the Church and people of the Holy Land are still struggling with reduced income due to fewer pilgrims and lower church attendance around the world.

Melbourne Synod 2026

Where does the word "Synod" come from?

The word Synod comes from the Greek syn-hodos, meaning "walking together on the road." This reminds us that the Christian life is never meant to be lived alone. Faith is a shared journey, where we support one another, listen to one another, & together how best to follow Christ.



Light into the City

The transformation of St Patrick's Cathedral and its surrounds on Melbourne's Eastern Hill has begun, with Archbishop Peter A Comensoli launching Light into the City as part of the annual Patrick Oration. The ambitious new project will reimagine the Cathedral precinct as a welcoming place of faith, culture, service and civic life for future generations. Visit <https://lightintothecity.org.au/> to learn more about Light into the City, and how it will strengthen the Church's mission to serve with mercy, hope and joy. *Source: Melbourne Catholic*

Project Compassion 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 posters in the foyer. Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

Feast Day – The Annunciation of the Lord – 25th March

As early as the middle of the 6th century in the East, and the 7th century in Rome, there is evidence of this Feast celebrated on 25 March. Since this feast is connected with the Lord Jesus and to His entry into history, the revised liturgical calendar gave this feast the title of the “Annunciation of the Lord”, over the more popular Annunciation of Mary. The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord is a Christmas feast even though it is not celebrated during the Christmas Season. Nine months before we celebrate the Lord’s birth, we celebrate His incarnation in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin’s name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, “Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.” But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end.” But Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?” And the angel said to her in reply, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God.” Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her. (Lk. 1:26-39)

God enters through the back door

The Annunciation is the Feast celebrating the Lord’s incarnation in Mary’s womb, initiating a new history. It is interesting to notice that God does not send the angel to the Temple in Jerusalem, but to Galilee, a despised region, considered a haven for unbelieving pagans. Nazareth is a city that is never mentioned in the Old Testament.

Mary is troubled

On hearing the Angel’s message, Mary reflects, she enters into dialogue with herself and with the angel, asking what his message meant and how it would happen. Mary does not allow herself to be overcome by her emotions. She appears as a courageous woman, who remains in control of herself even though she is faced with something unheard of. In the end, she evaluates and makes a decision in God’s light.

The action of the Holy Spirit

It is the Spirit who clothes Mary, making her fit for her mission. He does it here and He will do it again in the Upper Room. Mary is the woman clothed with the Spirit, thanks to whom and in whom everything becomes possible.

Mary’s Yes

Mary’s “Let it be done to me” transforms the humble house of “her” being into God’s House, becoming a Tabernacle of the Most High Jesus. All it took was her “Let it be done to me”, a sign of her willingness, knowing she could trust in the action of the Holy Spirit. And God entered into history, accepting to “make” history in the lives of those who have said and who would say over and over again, “Let it be done to me”.

Mary’s characteristics

Mary’s first characteristic is her faith. She believes and entrusts herself to God, certain that nothing is impossible for Him. God is not afraid of our moments of confusion, of reflection, of trying to understand. God does not force our freedom, but teaches us how to be free so that each one of us can say our own “Let it be done to me”.

The second characteristic is that she accepted God’s time and pace—His time requires our time, it requires that we live more profoundly. God asks for our “yes”, but He also asks that we assume go at His “pace” and “time” which is not simply the ticking of the clock. God’s time is the right time, the fullness of time, the opportune moment, the moment of grace.

Prayer

Today is disclosed the myst’ry before the ages;
and the Son of God shall become the Son of Man,
that by his adoption of the lowest he may grant us the highest.
Of old Adam failed to become a God
as he desired,
so God became Man
that Adam might become as God.
Wherefore, let creation rejoice,
and nature exchange greetings,
for the archangel did stand reverently before the Virgin
and offered her joy instead of sorrow.
Wherefore, O our God,
who by thy compassion became man,
glory be to thee.

Source: Vatican News

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year A)

First Reading - Ezekiel 37:12-14

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this – it is the Lord who speaks.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 129(130)

With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.

Second Reading - Romans 8:8-11

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;
whoever believes in me will not die for ever.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel - John 11:1-45

There was a man named Lazarus who lived in the village of Bethany with the two sisters, Mary and Martha, and he was ill. It was the same Mary, the sister of the sick man Lazarus, who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair. The sisters sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message, Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.' The disciples said, 'Rabbi, it is not long since the Jews wanted to stone you; are you going back again?' Jesus replied:

'Are there not twelve hours in the day?

A man can walk in the daytime without stumbling because he has the light of this world to see by; but if he walks at night he stumbles, because there is no light to guide him.'

He said that and then added, 'Our friend Lazarus is resting, I am going to wake him.' The disciples said to him, 'Lord, if he is able to rest he is sure to get better.' The phrase Jesus

used referred to the death of Lazarus, but they thought that by 'rest' he meant 'sleep', so Jesus put it plainly, 'Lazarus is dead; and for your sake I am glad I was not there because now you will believe. But let us go to him.' Then Thomas – known as the Twin – said to the other disciples, 'Let us go too, and die with him.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life.

If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.'

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in a low voice, 'The Master is here and wants to see you.' Hearing this, Mary got up quickly and went to him. Jesus had not yet come into the village; he was still at the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were in the house sympathising with Mary saw her get up so quickly and go out, they followed her, thinking that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

Mary went to Jesus, and as soon as she saw him she threw herself at his feet, saying, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' At the sight of her tears, and those of the Jews who followed her, Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer.

I knew indeed that you always hear me,

but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me, so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.