



St. Kevin's Catholic Parish

H A M P T O N P A R K



Third Sunday of Lent (Year A) – 8th 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

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.**

Message from Deacon Graeme

Dear friends, After much prayer and reflection, it is with great sadness that because of ill-health I have resigned as deacon at St. Kevin's parish. For over 10 years I have enjoyed serving the parish community and, in that time, I have developed many lasting friendships.

Given my current medical condition, I cannot work fulltime as the Director of Catholic Identity at Padua College and serve the St Kevin's community as a deacon at the same time.

I have sought advice from my wife, Fr Fabian and one of the Auxiliary Bishops of the Archdiocese, Bishop Thin on the matter, and they all support my decision to focus on serving the staff and students at Padua College as a deacon until my health improves. In the meantime, St Kevin's will be able to welcome transitional deacons on their journey to priesthood, or perhaps, even another permanent deacon.

Thank you for your love, support and prayers during my service. You are all guaranteed my prayers. *Deacon Graeme*

Thank you!

Thank you to all who prepared and bought food for the food sale held on 28th February and 1st March. We raised **\$2680** towards the building of our grotto.

Thank you to Anita, Briony, Doreen, Freddy and Bonny, Michelle and Raymond, Ryan, Warren and Philomena for cooking the food.

Altar Servers Training and AGM – Sunday, 8th March at 3pm

We invite all altar servers and their parents to attend the next altar servers training on Sunday, 8th March at 3pm in the Church. Parents are required 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/10udZExXlarly1v30pogLyTUviEneHpCNNtgUWtfzBOI/edit?ts=6995c52c>

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

Sunday, 8th March from 12.30pm to 2pm in St Kevin's School Hall.



Mauritian Food Sale

The Mauritian community invites all parishioners to participate in the Mauritian Food Sale that will take place on the **14th & 15th of March.** There will be a delicious variety of Mauritian cuisine, including savoury and sweet. All proceeds will go towards the fundraising for the grotto. Please bring your family and friends along to support this great cause.

What's On

Tuesday, 10th March: 7pm: RCIA

Wednesday, 11th March: 4.30pm: Reconciliation class

Thursday, 12th March: 10am and 7pm: Lenten Program

Friday, 13th March: 6pm: Holy Hour and Confessions

7pm: Stations of the Cross followed by Mass

ROSTERS for 14th & 15th March

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, Ferdinand, Gilbert, Marilyn, Priscilla

Last Weekend's Collection

Envelopes: \$4799.90

Unpledged: \$2511.10

Presbytery: \$2200.25

Thank you!

This Sunday we Pray

Thanksgiving

Francis Family

Trudy D'Souza

Aaron Lippert

Ronan Fernandez

Serena Starr

Clara D'Moss

Martin Family

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:

Pedro Mau Ribus Da Silva

Marcelino Alvares Pereira

Eugene Woodfall

Chris Antony

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, 9th March: St Frances of Rome

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Fernando Marques, Maria Carlota, Oscar L. Pereira Araujo, Vera and Leslie Francis, Ruth, Roland, Ruth Peterson, Doug Nunes, Walter Lockwood, Alester Rouse, Davis Thomas, Souls in purgatory, Stella Collins, Lester Johnstone, John Terry, Eleanor Lippert, Edith Gonsalvez, Bernie Gonsalvez, Maria D'Costa, Pamela Gonsalvez, Kris Clarke, Daylinda Solde, Jovani Solde, Robert McGrath, Isagani Beredo, Aproniano Beredo, Avantika D'Souza, Maria Luisa Lay, Leonardo O. Moniz Araujo, Evelyn Stevens, Norman Dubier, Victor Algama, Stanley Anthony Craig, M. George, Clive Cavalot

Youth Leadership Team

On Saturday 28th February, a youth event was held in St Kevin's School Hall. It was well attended by youth aged Year 9 to 25 years. Lawrence Kai, a well-known speaker, podcaster and spiritual director animated the sessions. A new leadership team was formed at the Youth event. The new Youth group leaders are Grace Pereira, Lynelle Vaidyanathan, Lukas Rughoo, Nikita Ravi, Raedan Fernandez and Tristan Britto. The team will be commissioned at the 11am mass on Sunday 15th March.

Working Bee – Saturday, 14th 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, 14th March from 8am. Please contact Brian D'Souza via the Parish Office 03 97992108.

PPC Update

St Kevin's Parish Pastoral Council met on Thursday, 12th February. The following items were discussed: a) Memorial/Thanksgiving Plaques – New Grotto b) Building update: Plans have been approved by the Archdiocese and submitted to the council. Work will focus first on the grotto, with the new building to follow at a later date. c) Traffic Management Plan: Parish will review traffic management plan in conjunction with the school before building of the Grotto commences. d) Proposed Parish Pilgrimage to Penola in August/September.

Melbourne Synod 2026

On the third Sunday of Lent, Archbishop Peter A Comensoli will formally convoke a Synod for the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The synod calls the Melbourne Church to journey together in communion, participation and mission, echoing Pope Francis' vision of a 'listening Church' (Evangelii Gaudium, §31). Informed by Vatican II's teaching, the Church is 'a people made one with the unity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit' (Lumen Gentium, §4).

There are three themes about which the church of Melbourne is being invited to discern:

- young discipleship
- missionary leadership
- formation and participation.

The synod assembly will be held across the weekend of 4–6 December 2026.

Over these next months, a range of opportunities will be available for Melbourne Catholics to be part of the consultation process toward the synod. In the meantime, further information can be accessed at

<https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>

In the synodal Church 'the whole community, in the free and rich diversity of its members, is called together to pray, listen, analyse, dialogue, discern and offer advice on taking pastoral decisions (ITC 68) for mission' (Final Document, §87).

Feast Day – St Patrick – 17th March

St. Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints. He was born in Roman Britain and when he was fourteen or so, he was captured by Irish pirates during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. At the time, Ireland was a land of Druids and pagans but Patrick turned to God and wrote his memoir, *The Confession*. In *The Confession*, he wrote:

"The love of God and his fear grew in me more and more, as did the faith, and my soul was roused, so that, in a single day, I have said as many as a hundred prayers and in the night, nearly the same. I prayed in the woods and on the mountain, even before dawn. I felt no hurt from the snow or ice or rain."

Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britain and was reunited with his family.

A few years after returning home, Patrick saw a vision he described in his memoir:

"I saw a man coming, as it were from Ireland. His name was Victoricus, and he carried many letters, and he gave me one of them. I read the heading: 'The Voice of the Irish.' As I began the letter, I imagined in that moment that I heard the voice of those very people who were near the wood of Foclut, which is beside the western sea-and they cried out, as with one voice: 'We appeal to you, holy servant boy, to come and walk among us.'"

The vision prompted his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained by St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, whom he had studied under for years, and was later ordained a bishop and sent to take the Gospel to Ireland. Patrick arrived in Slane, Ireland on March 25, 433. There are several legends about what happened next, with the most prominent claiming he met the chieftain of one of the druid tribes, who tried to kill him. After an intervention from God, Patrick was able to convert the chieftain and preach the Gospel throughout Ireland. There, he converted many people -eventually thousands - and he began building churches across the country.

He often used shamrocks to explain the Holy Trinity and entire kingdoms were eventually converted to Christianity after hearing Patrick's message.

Patrick preached and converted all of Ireland for 40 years. He worked many miracles and wrote of his love for God in *Confessions*. After years of living in poverty, traveling and enduring much suffering he died March 17, 461. He died at Saul, where he had built the first Irish church. He is believed to be buried in Down Cathedral, Downpatrick. His grave was marked in 1990 with a granite stone.

Writings of St. Patrick

Confessio: *The Confession of St. Patrick*

Epistola ad Coroticum: *Letter To Coroticus*

De abusioibus saeculi

De Tribus habitaculis

Collectio Hibernensis Canonum: *Irish Collection of Canon law*

St Patrick's Breastplate

Christ be with me, Christ within me
Christ behind me, Christ before me
Christ beside me, Christ to win me
Christ to comfort me and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger
Christ in hearts of all that love me
Christ in mouth of friend or stranger.

Source: <https://www.catholic.org/saints>

Third Sunday of Lent (Year A)

First Reading - Exodus 17:3-7

Tormented by thirst, the people complained against Moses. 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt?' they said. 'Was it so that I should die of thirst, my children too, and my cattle?'

Moses appealed to the Lord. 'How am I to deal with this people?' he said. 'A little more and they will stone me!' the Lord said to Moses, 'Take with you some of the elders of Israel and move on to the forefront of the people; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the river, and go. I shall be standing before you there on the rock, at Horeb. You must strike the rock, and water will flow from it for the people to drink.' This is what Moses did, in the sight of the elders of Israel. The place was named Massah and Meribah because of the grumbling of the sons of Israel and because they put the Lord to the test by saying, 'Is the Lord with us, or not?'

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 94(95):1-2,6-9

Psalm 94(95):1-2,6-9

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;

hail the rock who saves us.

Let us come before him, giving thanks,

with songs let us hail the Lord.

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come in; let us bow and bend low;

let us kneel before the God who made us:

for he is our God and we

the people who belong to his pasture,

the flock that is led by his hand.

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

O that today you would listen to his voice!

'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,

as on that day at Massah in the desert

when your fathers put me to the test;

when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading - Romans 5:1-2,5-8

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God, since it is by faith and through Jesus that we have entered this state of grace in which we can boast about looking forward to God's glory. And this hope is not deceptive, because the love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Lord, you are truly the Saviour of the world;

give me living water, that I may never thirst again.

Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

Gospel - John 4:5-42

Jesus came to the Samaritan town called Sychar, near the land that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob's well is there and Jesus, tired by the journey, sat straight down by the well. It was

about the sixth hour. When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, 'What? You are a Jew and you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?' – Jews, in fact, do not associate with Samaritans. Jesus replied: 'If you only knew what God is offering and who it is that is saying to you: Give me a drink, you would have been the one to ask, and he would have given you living water.'

'You have no bucket, sir,' she answered 'and the well is deep: how could you get this living water? Are you a greater man than our father Jacob who gave us this well and drank from it himself with his sons and his cattle?' Jesus replied: 'Whoever drinks this water will get thirsty again; but anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never be thirsty again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring inside him, welling up to eternal life.' 'Sir,' said the woman 'give me some of that water, so that I may never get thirsty and never have to come here again to draw water.' 'Go and call your husband' said Jesus to her 'and come back here.' The woman answered, 'I have no husband.' He said to her, 'You are right to say, "I have no husband"; for although you have had five, the one you have now is not your husband. You spoke the truth there.' 'I see you are a prophet, sir' said the woman. 'Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, while you say that Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship.' Jesus said: 'Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know: for salvation comes from the Jews. But the hour will come – in fact it is here already – when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth: that is the kind of worshipper the Father wants. God is spirit, and those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah – that is, Christ – is coming; and when he comes he will tell us everything.' 'I who am speaking to you,' said Jesus 'I am he.' At this point his disciples returned, and were surprised to find him speaking to a woman, though none of them asked, 'What do you want from her?' or, 'Why are you talking to her?' The woman put down her water jar and hurried back to the town to tell the people. 'Come and see a man who has told me everything I ever did; I wonder if he is the Christ?' This brought people out of the town and they started walking towards him. Meanwhile, the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, do have something to eat; but he said, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples asked one another, 'Has someone been bringing him food?' But Jesus said: 'My food is to do the will of the one who sent me, and to complete his work. Have you not got a saying: Four months and then the harvest? Well, I tell you: Look around you, look at the fields; already they are white, ready for harvest! Already the reaper is being paid his wages, already he is bringing in the grain for eternal life, and thus sower and reaper rejoice together. For here the proverb holds good: one sows, another reaps; I sent you to reap a harvest you had not worked for. Others worked for it; and you have come into the rewards of their trouble.' Many Samaritans of that town had believed in him on the strength of the woman's testimony when she said, 'He told me all I have ever done', so, when the Samaritans came up to him, they begged him to stay with them. He stayed for two days, and when he spoke to them many more came to believe; and they said to the woman, 'Now we no longer believe because of what you told us; we have heard him ourselves and we know that he really is the saviour of the world.'