

St Patrick's

MURRUMBEENA

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St Kevin's

ORMOND

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COMBINED PARISH OFFICE: 6 Dalny Rd, Murrumbeena, VIC 3163 Ph: 9568 7365 - Office Hours Tues to Fri 10am-4pm

St Patrick's and St Kevin's Parishes are committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Welcome to the Combined Parishes of St Patrick's and St Kevin's

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time —Year C — 27 February 2022

REFLECTION

In today's readings we hear Jesus speaking in Galilee as well as a Jewish sage named Sirach writing in Jerusalem more than a century earlier. The two of them touch upon a single truth: The words that come out of us make known the hidden thoughts within us. Speech reveals the secrets of the heart.

Sirach teaches that speaking is "the test of men" and their character. One who is upright will utter words that are truthful and encouraging to others. But one whose heart is cluttered with "refuse" will be exposed, since the "fruit" of his mouth speaks volumes about the "tree" that produces it. Sirach also compares the testing of our words to clay fired in a kiln—if properly prepared, a useful vessel emerges; but if the clay is not fully dried, it will break apart in the extreme heat.

In a similar way, Jesus insists that a person speaks "out of the abundance of the heart." He too compares our speech, whether good or bad, to what grows on a tree: "For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit."

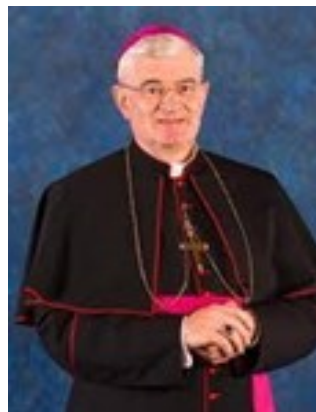
Both readings urge us to make wholesome speech a habit. After all, much about who we are is brought to light through what we say. But there's an additional step: The Lord is asking us to look inward, to examine our hearts and fill them with the "good treasure" that God desires.

Why do purity of heart and speech matter so much? Because, as Jesus declares elsewhere: "by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned" ([Matthew 12:37](#)). They matter because they help to decide our final judgment, and this is where the Second Reading comes in. Paul reminds us that God will destroy death forever, and if we are to share in this victory and live forever with the Lord, then we must take all steps necessary to give our hearts and lips to what is good.

Scott Hahn

CONGRATULATIONS Bishop Peter Elliott on completing 49 years of Priestly ministry!

**May God Bless you abundantly with better health and strength for many more years to come.
We thank you, Bishop, for the support you have given and continue to give our parishes!**



**QR Code Check-ins for places of worship ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED.
Facemasks are not mandatory, but recommended if people are still feeling anxious, vulnerable or who experience other health challenges.**

Pope calls for day of prayer, fasting for peace in Ukraine

As the threat of war loomed over the world, Pope Francis called on people to pray and fast for peace in Ukraine on Ash Wednesday, March 2. Source: CNS.

Before concluding his general audience yesterday, the Pope called on believers and non-believers to combat the “diabolical insistence, the diabolical senselessness of violence” with prayer and fasting.

“I invite everyone to make March 2, Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting for peace,” he said. “I encourage believers in a special way to devote themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day. May the Queen of Peace protect the world from the folly of war.”

In his appeal, the Pope said he, like many around the world, felt “anguish and concern” after Russian President Vladimir Putin recognised the independence of the eastern Ukrainian regions of Donetsk and Luhansk.

The Pope said that due to the “alarming” developments in the region, “once again, the peace of all is threatened by partisan interests”.

“I would like to appeal to those with political responsibilities to do a serious examination of conscience before God, who is the God of peace and not of war, who is the father of all and not only of some, who wants us to be brothers and sisters and not enemies,” he said.

He also urged world leaders to “refrain from any action that would cause even more suffering to the people, destabilising the coexistence between nations and discrediting international law”.

Mr Putin’s recognition of the two breakaway regions’ independence was seen by Western leaders as a violation of international law protecting Ukraine’s territorial integrity and as a move that could pave the way for a Russian invasion of eastern Ukraine.

In the wake of his actions, the United States, the United Kingdom, the European Union and Australia announced sanctions against several Russian banks and institutions.

Pope Francis

Is there
more to
life than this

Alpha

**You are invited! St. Patrick’s and St. Kevin’s Alpha.
Less than two weeks to go!
Are you coming?**

Our inaugural Alpha program commences online via Zoom on **Thursday, 10 March at 7.30pm** with a “Come and See” session.

What is Alpha? It’s an opportunity to take some time out from the fever of modern life and explore more about life, faith and meaning. It’s also a wonderful opportunity to connect with new people.

Even if you have never considered something like this before, we encourage you to give it a try. To register, email murumbena@cam.org.au or for more information text/call Maria on 0438 088 681.



**Project Compassion Sunday
26 & 27 February 2022**



Please take home a Project Compassion box and a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and **For All Future Generations**.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction. Project Compassion 2022 reminds us that the good that we do today will extend and impact the lives of generations to come to build better future for all.

As St Pope John Paul II said,
“The future starts today, not tomorrow.”

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**. You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your Parish, by visiting lent.caritas.org.au, or by calling 1800 024 413.



CONGRATULATIONS to the children who are receiving the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend.



Alexandra Young

Daithi Harding

Sophie Corrigan

Harry Corrigan

PATCARE

Patcare is an emergency short term service in the areas of visitation to the sick and housebound, providing limited transport and also providing food according to the needs of the parishioner. Currently, we have 8 enthusiastic volunteers and if you feel you may be interested, your service would be much appreciated. The roster allows for flexibility and not too great a demand on your time. Please contact the main or emergency coordinator if you are interested in helping others especially at this difficult period of Covid.

Main Coordinator: Maria Fernandez 0405 327 041
Emergency Coordinator (Feb-April): Cathie Nankervis 0409 140 332.

Distribution of Parish Newsletters

Each Volunteer has been allocated a housebound or former parishioner in Aged Care to distribute the parish Newsletter. If an aged care facility is in lockdown, it can be left with staff at front door. **Note:** Details re addresses/ location of newsletter on noticeboards at both churches. Thank you!

Communion Ministry Roster—Feb-May 2022

Please check the St Patrick's and St Kevin's Notice Boards for the Communion Volunteers roster. Each volunteer who has been trained is assigned a parishioner in aged care or is housebound. It is the responsibility of each volunteer to contact the parishioner, to keep a record in their record folder of when communion was given and then to notify the coordinators. Thank you to those volunteers who have offered to visit Arcare and Claremont Terrace for a communion service. Thank you to Melissa and Dean for offering to sing at the latter. A new training session for about 8 volunteers will be offered when Fr Siby returns from India.

Emergency Coordinator for both Parishes

Jane Biasuzo 0411 283 200;
St Kevin's (April-May) Main Coordinator:
Yasmin Miranda 0433 336 483

We pray for those whose death anniversaries occur at this time:

Matthew Poore
(Brother of Stephen Poore and Jane Lama)
on the 1st Anniversary of his death.



"Loving husband, brother, devoted father and grandfather who is dearly missed!"

and for

Margaret Williamson (Mother to Anne Hanley and Leonie Broman)
on the 2nd Anniversary of her death.



"Forever missing having a cuppa with our mum after 2 years of not being with us. Margaret was a long time parishioner of St Kevin's, a mother of 14 children and a devoted grandmother."

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM, MAY THEIR SOULS REST IN PEACE, AMEN.

Let's also pray for the Sick:

Thomas (Fr Siby's Dad), Rosemary McGeoch, Dena Hooper (Joan Hooper's daughter-in-law) and Yasmin Slater (Joan Hooper's grand-daughter), Margaret McGill, Maria Sheila P Mangubat, Joan & Les Egan, Yvonne Maher, Gabrielle (Patrick Leech's sister), Terry Nicholls (Arcare), Frank Jackson, Han Kwee, Jack Mack, Michael Chew, Kurt Siegermeier, Coleen Perris, Rodney Gardner, Arnold Briones (Brother-in-law of Mercy Patwaran)

MASS SCHEDULE

ASH WEDNESDAY, 1st March 2022: Mass & distribution of Ashes at St Patrick's will be in the morning only at 9.15.

Weekdays

St Kevin's: Monday to Friday at 9.15 am

St Patrick's: Fr Barry Tobin will celebrate Mass on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 9.15 (Confessions after the Saturday 9.15 am Mass only). **In case of an emergency, please contact Fr Barry on (03) 9555 0460**

Weekends

St Kevin's: Saturday 6.00 pm and Sunday 10.30 am

St Patrick's: Sunday 8.30 am and Sunday 5.00 pm

The Sunday morning Mass at St Patrick's is now at 9am.

Reading Roster for Next Weekend 5th/6th February, 2022

St Kevin's	St Patrick's
Sat 6.00 pm - Vince Aquende	Sun 9.00am - Joan Krutli
Sun 10.30am - Caroline Gojak	Sun 5.00pm - Kirsten Warboys and Maureen Medaris

"CUPPAs" ROSTER—ST PATRICK'S SUNDAY, 6TH MARCH 2022: 9am: Alma Rogers

Entrance Antiphon: The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

First Reading: Sirach 27:4-7

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God!

Psalm: 91:2-3. 13-16. R. See v.2

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Second Reading: 1 Cor 15:54-58

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

The word of the Lord.

R. Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

Communion Antiphon: I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

What's with the Ashes? Helping Children Understand and Celebrate Lent



Many of us have heard this question when we arrive at school, work, or home with the blackened cross on our forehead. The observance of Ash Wednesday is the most popular weekday celebration in the Catholic Church's [liturgical year](#). During the celebration, children and adults process to the altar to receive ashes on their forehead in the shape of a cross. Ash Wednesday is also a day when people discover how many Catholics there are in their community. This can nurture in children a greater sense of religious community. And because receiving the ashes is a sign of humility and contrition, children will also see how many people recognize the need for repentance.

The Ash Wednesday Ritual

Ash Wednesday is always the first Wednesday of the Lenten season and marks the beginning of Lent. The distribution of blessed ashes is typically done before the altar and, depending on the custom of the parish, people will hear the distributor say, "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel" or "Remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return." The atmosphere in the Church is quiet and the observance solemn. People reflect on how quickly human life can pass. All are reminded of the need for repentance.

Ash Wednesday Readings

The readings for Ash Wednesday offer a number of important images that help children understand the meaning of this experience. The first reading calls us to repentance but also emphasizes that God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in kindness (Joel 2:13). In the second reading, Paul reminds us that the world sees the presence of Christ in the way we act. So, be reconciled to God today! (2 Corinthians 5:20—6:1). We are called to be the love and change we wish to see in the world. In the third reading, Jesus reminds us that the sacrifices and prayers called for in Lent are between God and us. It is insincere for us to show off contrite actions to win the praise of others—let others only see how our sacrifices and prayers help us love them.


Sacred Heart Girls' College

Open mornings:
 9.30 - 10.50am

 Thursday 3 March
 Wednesday 16 March
 Thursday 26 May
 Thursday 23 June
 Thursday 21 July
 Thursday 4 August
 Wednesday 17 August
 Thursday 14 September
 Thursday 13 October

REGISTER NOW:
www.shgc.vic.edu.au


St Vincent de Paul Society
 VICTORIA *good works*

The Murrumbeena Conference of St Vincent de Paul Society provide emergency food and assistance to families and people doing it tough in the Ormond and Murrumbeena Areas. **For assistance Ph: 1800 305 330 If you know someone who needs help give them this number.** Also the Conference is looking for Volunteers to ensure this good work continues. If you have some spare time and feel you would like to help in this area please contact us on svdp3163@hotmail.com