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E-mail: templestowe@cam.org.au
Website: cam.org.au/templestowe

Facebook: St Kevin's Parish

Parish Office Hours: Tue to Thu: 9am to 4pm

Parish Priest: Fr Gerry McKernan

Pastoral Worker: Mrs Rebecca Sandwell



ST KEVIN'S PARISH

Mgr Greg Bennet said:

"You have renewed the church building, now is the time to renew yourselves and your faith."

Fourth Sunday of Advent

23rd/24th December, 2017

Entrance Antiphon

Drop down dew from above,
you heavens,
and let the clouds rain down the
Just One;
let the earth be opened and bring
forth a Saviour.

Responsorial Psalm

For ever I will sing the goodness of
the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.

Alleluia!

Response to Prayers of the Faithful

Come and remain with us,
Lord Jesus.

Communion Antiphon

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and
bear a son;
and his name will be called
Emmanuel.



A TIME OF WONDER

Third Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel: Promise of Davidic kingdom,
something we have been given, - a time of
waiting in hope, a time of wonder ... this
mystery we have been caught up in Romans:
affirmation from Paul that you live the Gospel ...
live the in-between time ... wonder.

Luke: Presents Mary as the model of how to live
the in-between times – response of Faith:
presented with Gift of God, three responses – 1.
Disturbed, 2. Questions, 3. Yes (Most of us,
unable to say Yes or No, say: "Yo".)

Christmas Services at St Kevin's

Christmas Eve Masses will be celebrated at
6.00pm (beginning with carols at 5.30pm) and
9.00pm (beginning with carols at 8.30pm).
There will be 1 Mass on Christmas Day at 9.00am.

Advent Wreath and Small Crib on Youtube

If you would like to show your children, other
family or visitors our Advent Wreath operating and
the small crib telling the Christmas story then go to
Youtube and type in *St Kevin's Advent Wreath* or *St
Kevin's Templestowe Nativity Scene* (unfortunately
these were filmed before the renovations).

SPIRITUAL LIFE OF THE PARISH

Adoration –

Each weekday before Mass @ 8.30am and 7.15-8.15pm on Wednesday evenings

Masses this week -

Saturday: 5.30pm (Vigil)

Sunday: 8.30am & 10.00am

Tuesday: No Mass

Thursday: 9.15am Mass in the Chapel

Friday: 9.15am Mass in the Chapel

Meditation Mindfulness –

Will resume on Wednesday, 3rd January, 2018 @ 9.30am in the Parish Chapel

Reconciliation – First Saturday of the month @ 10.00am (or by appointment)

Visitation - For communion at home, visiting, transportation or meals, please contact the parish house on 9850 5983.

Advent Thoughts

And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.
Antoine de Saint-Exupery, "The Little Prince"

Our Parish Advisory Board (PAB) is looking for 2 new members. The PAB meet the first Tuesday evening each month from 7.30pm. If you'd like to be apart of our wonderful Parish from behind the scenes, please let Fr Gerry or the office know 9850 5983.

Thank You

For your cards, gifts and best wishes on the occasion of my birthday last week. You are all very special people. Fr Gerry

LAST WEEK'S GIVING

Envelopes	\$ 895.00
Direct Debit/Credit Card	\$ <u>780.00</u>
Total	\$ <u>1,675.00 (1)</u>
Priests' Living Costs	\$ 1,025.00

Number of Envelopes 49

(1) Weekly Pledged amount \$3,020.65

PLANNED GIVING: For envelopes, please contact the office.

SUPPORTING MINISTRIES

Baptisms:

Last weekend of the month - *Presentations and Welcome. Baptism Meeting* on the third Wednesday of every month. First Sundays of the month - *Sacrament of Baptism*

Weddings:

By appointment only

Funerals:

For bereavement support, please contact the Parish House on 9850 5983

Parish Tennis Club:

Social and Competition. Please ring Paul 9846 2083

www.stkevinstcemplestowe.org.au/

Parish Social Justice:

As a Parish we speak out and act for justice. Contact Paola c/o 9850 5983.

New in our Parish Library! Janet Parsons' new teenage book "The Way" launched last Sunday in our Gathering Space. Have a read and you may well want to purchase a copy from Janet herself!

Are you planning on coming to Christmas Eve Mass at 9.00pm?

Why not stay for a while afterwards and celebrate together with our parish community. Drinks will be provided, however could everyone please bring a plate to share (Fr Gerry loves Christmas Cake). This is a wonderful opportunity to meet new friends and catch-up with old ones.

Advent Thoughts

Often when we look at children our gaze softens – something about their innocence and openness to all that is happening around them.

I think of what softens my gaze ...

LITURGY ROSTER

Christmas Day – 25th December 2017

1st Reading: Isaiah 52: 7-10

2nd Reading: Paul to Titus 3: 4-7

Gospel: Luke 2: 15-20

Advent Thoughts
Your vision will become clear only when you can look into your own heart. We look outside, dreams: who looks inside, awakens.
Carl Jung

Time	Commentator	Lector	Communion
9.00 am	Paul Polidano	Bernard Charnley	Betty Natoli Raffaella Dinelli

<u>We pray for Better Health:</u> Michele (Michael) De Luca, Marianne Condon, Brian O’Connell, Matt Seymour, Peter McCluskey, Rosemary Kiecke, John & Maeve Reardon and Fr Tim O’Toole CP.	<u>Anniversaries:</u> Alan Behrendorff <u>Recently Deceased:</u> Ken McKenzie and Tom Materazzo (Carmel Shiel’s father)
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Emerging Church – Returning to Essentials

Hospitality is the practice that keeps the Church from becoming a club, a membership society –
Diana Butler Bass [1]

Practical, practice-based Christianity has been avoided, denied, minimised, ignored, delayed, and sidelined for too many centuries, by too many Christians who were never told Christianity was anything more than a belonging or belief system.

Now we know that there is no Methodist or Catholic way of loving.

There is no Orthodox or Presbyterian way of living a simple and nonviolent life.

There is no Lutheran or Evangelical way of showing mercy.

There is no Baptist or Episcopalian way of visiting the imprisoned.

If there is, we are invariably emphasising the accidentals, which distract us from the very “marrow of the Gospel,” as St Francis called it. We have made this mistake for too long.

We cannot keep avoiding what Jesus actually emphasised and mandated.

In this most urgent time, “it is the very love of Christ that now urges us” (2 Corinthians 5: 14).

Quaker pastor Philip Gulley superbly summarises how we must rebuild spirituality from the bottom up in his book, *If the Church Were Christian*. [2]

Here I take the liberty of using my own words to restate his message, which offers a rather excellent description of Emerging Christianity:

1. Jesus is a model for living more than an object of worship.
2. Affirming people’s potential is more important than reminding them of their brokenness.
3. The work of reconciliation should be valued over making judgements.
4. Gracious behaviour is more important than right belief.
5. Inviting questions is more valuable than supplying answers.
6. Encouraging the personal search is more important than group uniformity.
7. Meeting actual needs is more important than maintaining institutions.
8. Peacemaking is more important than power.
9. We should care more about love and less about sex.
10. Life in this world is more important than the afterlife (eternity is God’s work anyway).

If this makes sense to you, you are already inside of Emerging Christianity.

Gateway to Silence:

Rooted and growing in Love
(Richard Rohr’s Daily Meditation)

Advent Thoughts
There are only two ways to live your life. One is as though nothing is a miracle, the other is as though everything is a miracle. *Albert Einstein*

For information on our Parish Schools
please contact:

St Kevin's Primary School

26-44 Herlihy's Road, Lower Templestowe

Phone: 9850 4609 Fax: 9852 0384

E-mail:

principal@sktemplestowelr.catholic.edu.au

Web: www.sktemplestowelr.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Ms Frances Matisi

St Charles Borromeo Primary School,

222 Serpells Road, Templestowe

Phone: 9842 7634 Fax : 03 9841 5427

E-mail:

principal@scbtemplestowe.catholic.edu.au

Web: www.scbtemplestowe.catholic.edu.au

Principal: Mr Greg Thomas

The following is an excerpt from Fr Gerry's diary on his visit to Patupat last year....

"Everywhere we went, we saw signs of gratitude for what St Kevin's has done – water tank, equipment and especially classrooms. These have been built in recent years by Jason, some Aussie tradies and Filipinos. They are so well built that they are the places the community goes to for shelter during a typhoon. So they are doubly grateful! They were very kind to me as this was a very emotionally draining experience. Oh don't let me forget to mention how important are the solar lights which we and the community use after dark. We also saw 20 or so street lights on the road leading to the Patupat community. Kadasig accounts for every peso – one night for example, they needed us to know how much they'd spent on buying pigs, goats, chooks and how many dozens of eggs they had sold and what happens to that money too. Remember that it is Kadasig money that has bought the land upon which lives the Patupat community."

Free Bale of Straw Thank you to the person/people who took the bale of straw away. It had been in the alcove at the bottom of the stairs of the Church for a long time and we now have a clear passageway. So thank you.

The 2nd Collection for December is divided into 2:

- 1) Our sister community at Patupat
- 2) The extraordinary orphanage work and more carried out by Charity Graf and her team at "Gentle Hands".

WHY SUPPORT GENTLE HANDS

Gentle Hands is a child and youth welfare agency meant to be on the front lines of rescue (in coordination with Local Government Units) and rehabilitation of the medical, social, psychological, and educational needs of at-risk children and youth, advocating for the rights of children and working towards improving human community life through the love of Jesus and family centered care.

UNICEF estimates there are 1.8 million abandoned and neglected children in the Philippines. These children are left to the streets and dark places and, without help, face a life of poverty, hunger, sickness, abuse, beatings and assaults with little chance of escape. For many their lives are all too short.

But you can help change a life. We take in so many children that come with sad and horrific stories of neglect, abuse and abandonment. You can help rescue a child.

And with your help we begin to change lives.

Your donation. Your support. Your kindness makes a difference. Your donation, whatever the amount, helps us maintain a safe haven for these children. We provide medical support and life changing treatments and surgeries. We ensure babies and children can grow in a safe and supportive environment knowing they can have a healthy meal, education and, most of all, a chance.

It may seem overwhelming but your donation, no matter the amount, adds up. It's your donation along with many other donations that create a future for these children. A small act can make a big difference.

Advent Thoughts

At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern.

Mother Teresa, "Love: A Fruit Always In Season".