



St. Kevin's Catholic Parish

HAMPTON PARK



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) – 13th September 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: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/hamptonpark>

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.

First Friday – 6.30pm Rosary

7pm Sacred Heart devotion followed by Mass

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 (except on Monday)** 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!

Thank you to all who have baked and supported the bake sale held on 5th and 6th September. The funds raised through the bake sale and raffle will be used to refurbish the two statues of Our Lady, which will be placed in the new grotto. Through your generosity, we raised **\$2341** from the bake sale and **\$2480** from the sale of raffle tickets.

Raffle Results

1st Prize: Statue of Our Lady from Fatima: **Nigel Hookens**

2nd Prize: 10-inch decorated fruit cake: **Jerome Fernando**

3rd Prize: 12 Marian themed cupcakes: **Vincent Ambrose**

Mauritian Food Sale – 12th and 13th of September

The Mauritian community will be organising a food sale on Saturday 12th & Sunday 13th September to raise funds for the building of the grotto with a variety of savoury & sweet food available. We will also be preparing fresh crepes for sale after the Sunday mass at 9am & 11am. *Thank you for your support.*

Altar Servers Training – Sunday, 13th September at 3pm

Plant Sale – 26th and 27th September

There will be a plant sale on 26th and 27th September, anyone with a green thumb would like to prep some pots and contribute it for the sale, that would be appreciated. Plants to be dropped off in the week of the sale.

Safeguarding Sunday 2026

The Catholic Church in Australia marks Safeguarding Sunday (formerly Child Protection Sunday) on the second Sunday of September each year – at the conclusion of National Child Protection Week. On Safeguarding Sunday, we pray for those who have been abused, their families and supporters. We recognise and apologise for the harm done by anyone in Church settings and acknowledge the vulnerability of some within our parishes and communities. We recommit to practices that support survivors and make the Catholic Church and its ministries the safest possible place for children and people at risk. Rebuilding trust and confidence in the Church requires constant work and vigilance. This year the theme is **Love Protects** and the readings show us that real love is not passive goodwill. Rather it actively shields the vulnerable, tells the truth, and never lets silence stand in for safety. **At St Kevin's, we would like to remind you to send a copy of your Working with Children check to the Parish Office. Please also complete the Archdiocese Safeguarding essentials training** <https://melbournecatholic.org/safeguarding/safeguarding-training-and-upcoming-events/safeguarding-training-modules>

What's On

Monday, 14th September: 7.30pm: Didasko Talk: Thomas Aquinas on the Eucharist and Corpus Christi

Tuesday, 15th September: RCIA Topic: The Parable of the Sower

Wednesday, 16th September: 9.15am: Two Hearts Devotion
4.30pm: Parish First Holy Communion class

ROSTERS for 19th & 20th September

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

CHURCH CLEANERS

Team 1: Sophia, Fred, Veronique, Cyril

COUNTERS

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

Last Weekend's Collection

Envelopes: \$4951.00

Unpledged: \$2330.95

Presbytery: \$2390.00

This Sunday we Pray

Thanksgiving

Lukas

Raedan Fernandez

Serena Starr

Maria Karunakaran

Prosper Family

Cordeiro and Menezes family

Harald, Masoud, Jared, Charles, Li, Ingrid,

Wang, Anna and families

William Francis and family

Adam, Cassie and family

Vanessa Sayers

Darryl and GERALYN Collins

Elwin D'Moss and family

Christopher Faoa-Harris

Ayah Lui-Faoa

Doreen Palalagi

Xavier Faoa-Palalagi

Bella Faoa

Nikita Ravi

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for September For the care of water.

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

Daily Rosary on Zoom at 6:00 PM

Join our Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98851874202?pwd=MmUntGHnK3bD3AyjeUCa9XmqEOJ69T.1>

Meeting ID: 988 5187 4202

Passcode: 032337

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 this weekend

Monday, 14th September: The Exaltation of the Cross

Tuesday, 15th September: Our Lady of Sorrows

Wednesday, 16th September: St Cornelius and St Cyprian

Thursday, 17th September: St Robert Bellarmine, St Hildegard of Bingen

Saturday, 19th September: St Januarius

For those who are sick:

Thia Mouton, Stany Menezes, Carmine Menezes, Anna, Sylvio Maingard, Emileja Silas, Nijole Uskiene, Eugenja Zelviene, Mario De Leon, Audrey Puri, Adam Murray, Pedro Pastorpi, Angela Hunter, Amber Elke Faska, Liam Roach, Rosario Giaquinta, Sandra Wills

For those who have died recently:

Matthew Clement Waring, Julian Perera, Gorgonio Usaraga, Rajendra Kandasamy

For those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Max Mortimer, Leslie MacDonald, Richard D'Souza, Lilian Mary Hookens, Vernon and Doris Mannays, Clement and Barbara Passagne, Deceased members of Prosper, Godere, Oliva and Brabant families, Souls in purgatory, Patricia Lebon, Meena Cordeiro, Praveen D'Silva, Basil Rudolph Abraham, Pam and Maxi Gonsalvez, Papa Gony, Gerald Caszo, Rosario D'Souza, Mary Veigus, Arthur and Norma Collins, Joe and Mercy Noronho, Bernardine Rosario (1st anniversary), Ranjit Emmanuel Biswas

Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office will be closed on **Thursday, 17th September** as staff will be attending an Archdiocese event. During the school holidays, the Parish Office will be open only on **Tuesday, 22nd September** and **Tuesday, 29th September**. Phone calls and emails will be monitored.

Caritas Australia: Nepal Floods Appeal

Communities in northern Nepal are facing a humanitarian crisis after devastating flash floods swept through the Rasuwa District on 26 August.

Caritas Australia is working with Caritas Nepal and local partners to provide lifesaving assistance, including emergency shelter, food, safe drinking water, healthcare and protection support for affected families. Together, we can provide urgent relief and hope to families rebuilding their lives in Nepal. To donate to the Caritas Australia Nepal Floods Appeal, visit www.caritas.org.au/nepal

Bottle and Can collection fundraising update

Thank you for your ongoing support of our bottle and can collection fundraising initiative to raise funds for the building of our new grotto. In July we raised \$346.30 and in August we raised \$347.90 plus a donation of \$510.00 from the Knights of the Southern Cross in July. The total for this year is **\$3,748.90**. Thank you to the Knights of the Southern Cross for their commitment to this appeal.

March for the Babies

Come and show your support and march for the babies at **1.00pm** on **Saturday, 10th October** - Treasury Gardens, Cnr. Spring St and Wellington Pde, Melbourne. Wear pink and blue for the Babies!

www.marchforthebabies.com This is the 17th annual March for the Babies, and every year since 2009, thousands of Victorians have gathered peacefully with grief and hope to remember the ever-increasing number of babies killed by abortion in this state since the Government legalized abortion-till-birth on October 10, 2008.

The Exaltation of the Cross – Feast Day – 14th September

On 13 September 335, the Church of the Holy Sepulcher (also called the Church of the Resurrection) was dedicated. The following day, the cross that Empress Helena had discovered on 14 September 320, was venerated in a solemn ceremony. In 614, the Persian King, Chosroes II, waged war on the Romans. After conquering Jerusalem, he confiscated many treasures, among which was the Cross of Jesus. The Byzantine emperor Heraclius initiated peace negotiations, but was rejected. He then waged war and won near Nineveh, asking for the restitution of the Cross, which then returned to Jerusalem. Today, the cruelty of the Cross is not what is exalted, but the Love that God manifested to humanity by accepting death on the Cross: *“Who, though in the form of God, emptied himself, taking the form of a slave. This is the glory of the Cross of Jesus!”* (Pope Francis)

Jesus said to Nicodemus: *‘No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.’ For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him (Jn 3:13-17).*

Stop turning in on ourselves

“Being Christian”, Pope Benedict XVI wrote, *“is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event”.* The Gospel the liturgy offers us on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross suggests that God wants to enter into a relationship of love with everyone. This is offered in His Son, Jesus, lifted up on the Cross.

Lifting up our gaze to God expresses a very important truth: we are invited to enter back into relationship with Him. We need to stop turning in on ourselves, uselessly nurturing a sense of guilt and forgetting that *“in whatever our hearts condemn, God is greater than our hearts” (1 Jn 3:20)*. Let us lift up our eyes toward the stars (remember Abraham and the promise of many descendants), knowing how to cast every worry onto God.

Wonder and gratitude

Lifting up our gaze should not enkindle fear, but gratitude, because that elevation is the measure of the love with which God loves His children, in His Son. It is the Mercy of God, therefore, which, as is the case with Nicodemus, illuminates the darkness of our lives and allows us to continue on our journey.

There is no neutrality regarding the Cross

We cannot remain neutral regarding the Cross of Jesus. Either we are with Him or we are against Him. A choice is made before every action, for the actions of a Christian are none other than the testimony of how *“God has loved us so much that he gave His only Son, Jesus”*.

Prayers

Most High glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart.

Grant me an upright faith, secure hope and perfect charity.

Fill me with understanding and knowledge that I may fulfill your command. Amen.

(prayer of Saint Francis before the Crucifix of San Damiano)

We adore you, Lord Jesus Christ, here, and in all your churches throughout the whole world, and we bless you, for by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.

(Saint Francis of Assisi)

First Reading – Sirach 27:30 - 28:7

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,
and both are found with the sinner.
He who exacts vengeance will experience the
vengeance of the Lord,
who keeps strict account of sin.
Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.
If a man nurses anger against another,
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?
Showing no pity for a man like himself,
can he then plead for his own sins?
Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;
who will forgive him his sins?
Remember the last things, and stop hating,
remember dissolution and death, and live by the
commandments.
Remember the commandments, and do not bear your
neighbour ill-will;
remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook
the offence.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm Ps 102:1-4, 9-12

***The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and
rich in compassion.***

My soul, give thanks to the Lord,
all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

***The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and
rich in compassion.***

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion

***The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and
rich in compassion.***

His wrath will come to an end;
he will not be angry for ever.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults.

***The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and
rich in compassion.***

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.

The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and

rich in compassion.

Second Reading - Romans 14:7-9

The life and death of each of us has its influence on
others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we
die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the
Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life,
it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of
the living.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!

Gospel - Matthew 18:21-35

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I
forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven
times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but
seventy-seven times.

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a
king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants.
When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who
owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of
paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold,
together with his wife and children and all his
possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw
himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he
said, "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's
master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and
cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he
happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one
hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and
began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me," he said.
His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him,
saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other
would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into
prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants
were deeply distressed when they saw what had
happened, and they went to their master and reported
the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him.
"You wicked servant," he said, "I cancelled all that debt
of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound,
then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity
on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to
the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is
how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you
each forgive your brother from your heart.'