

Sacred Heart Parish Prayer

Lord, may we the parishioners of Sacred Heart strive to be people of the gospel and prayer. Imprint in our hearts a deep desire for your Word and a love of the Eucharist. Motivate us to be an engaging, welcoming, and supportive community. Help us to be a people of compassion and justice for all.

MASS TIMES

Weekdays 9:15am Tues -Sat
** not in January

Weekend Mass Times
6pm Saturday Vigil
9.30am Sunday

Confessions

Saturday mornings 8:45am
and 9:45am (after Mass)
Or upon request

Adoration:

9:45am-10:45am Fri & Sat
(church open 8:15-11:30am)

Baptisms

Last Sunday of the month.
Please contact our office

First Sacraments

Please contact the parish
office or see our website
<https://shkew.org.au>

**PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN
HOME WITH YOU**



**Make an online
donation**

Parish music licence no. A-739406

NOTICES

ROSARY GROUP: A warm welcome to everyone after Mass on Friday mornings to pray the Rosary.

Please note there is no weekday 9:15am Mass Christmas Eve (Tuesday)

The Parish Office is closed December 25 – January 7 (open Jan 2 briefly). There are no weekday Masses in January unfortunately.

Summer School of Evangelisation - 6 Jan - 12 Jan – Week long retreat for young adults Ages 17 - 35 hosted by the Disciples of Jesus Community in Glenmore. <https://ssemelbourne.org.au/>
Fr Trevor highly recommends these retreats!

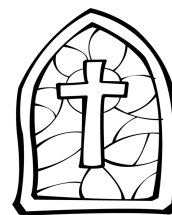
Christmas Concert 7.30pm FRIDAY 27th December in Sacred Heart Church. Traditional Carols, Choir Motets (Invitation Choir) & Noëls for Organ (Fr Nicholas Dillon). Donation of \$15.00 pp at the door to support Sacred Music at the International Clergy Conference. Rome 13–17 Jan 2025
See www.ccc-2025.com

Christmas Masses

- 24 Dec Family Mass – 5:30PM
(Carols from 5PM)

- 24 Dec – 8:00PM Christmas Eve Mass

- 25 Dec 9:30AM Christmas Day Mass



“It is better to give alms than to store up gold. For almsgiving saves from death and purges away every sin. Those who regularly give alms will enjoy a full life ...” Tobit 12:8b-9

1st Collection— For the running of and upkeep of our parish.

BSB: 083 347 Account #: 682 606 383 Reference: Full name

2nd Collection— For Fr Trevor & Priests of the Archdiocese

BSB: 083 347 Account #: 663 832 561 Reference: Full name

A big thanks for your generous contributions to our parish. Donations last week totalled **\$3,827.11** which just about meets our weekly running costs of about 4K per week. Thank you for helping us keep this beautiful church and parish up and running.

Sacred Heart Catholic Parish, Kew

4th Sunday of Advent, 22nd of December 2024



Parish Administrator: Rev Dr Trevor Tibbertsma

Parish Secretary: Niccolo Alvendia

Parish Office, 116 Cotham Road, Kew

P.O. Box 3211, Cotham L.P.O. Kew 3101

**** Office Closed December 24 – January 7 (open Jan 2)****

Telephone 9853 6701

Email: sacred.heart.parish.kew@gmail.com Website: www.shkew.org.au

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

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

From Fr Trevor

Christmas is upon us! It seems so close yet this Sunday we are still waiting for the advent of the solemn festival Tuesday evening. We wouldn't want any false starts! Did you know that the Church celebrates Christmas all the way up until the feast of the Lord's Baptism on Sunday January 12? Catholics have always loved a feast, and what better reason than the wondrous Incarnation of God the Son! We also have periods when we are called to fast and exercise more self-restraint, such as Fridays in Lent, and Advent. As the good book says, "To everything there is a season ... a time to mourn, and a time to dance" (Ecclesiastes 3:1a, 4b). So when the shops pack it all down on boxing day (actually St Stephen's day traditionally), and when your neighbours make comments at us leaving our tree up, remind them who you are. We're Catholic, and the joy of Christmas is so great that it will extend all the way to mid-January.

This Sunday we begin Mass with the marvellous opening prayer traditionally prayed at noon, the *Angelus*. "Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection." In the Gospel, we reflect on the beautiful visitation of the Blessed Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. Their exchange strikes us, "Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord?" How did she know that the child in Mary's Immaculate womb was the Lord, her Lord? She was "filled with the Holy Spirit," as we are too thanks to the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation & the spiritual life of prayer.

The new Parish Priest for Sacred Heart has been announced and arrives February 14! (How Romantic!) Fr Michael Kong is a few years older than me and has a bit more parish experience! I'm sure you'll warm to one another very quickly, and that he'll serve this community well. Fr Michael has just completed a postgraduate degree in Rome and will most likely have a second part time role in the Archdiocese as I have had this year. He also appears to have an *Instagram* (@papadonpreach)! Only one more Sunday for me here unfortunately (29th Dec), although I'll be in and out early next year to move things and to help get Fr Michael up to speed! I've asked Niccolo to put me at the top of the supply list should Father Michael ever be on leave or unwell.

Liturgy of the Word

First reading

Micah 5:1-4

The Lord says this:

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 79:2-3

R. Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
Shine forth from your cherubim throne.
O lord, rouse up your might,
O lord, come to our help. **R.**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
Look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
The vine your right hand has planted. **R.**

May your hand be on the man you have chosen,
the man you have given your strength.
And we shall never forsake you again:
Give us life that we may call upon your name. **R.**

Second reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world:

*You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation,
prepared a body for me.
You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin;
then I said,
just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book,
'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.'*

Notice that he says first: *You did not want* what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and *you took no pleasure* in them; and then he says: *Here I am! I am coming to obey your will.* He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

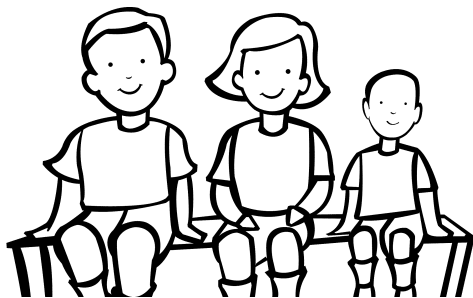
I am the servant of the Lord:
may his will for me be done.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

Seeking Out Volunteers for Children's Liturgy Sunday Mass (monthly roster) Please See Niccolo or Contact the Parish



The Archbishop's Campaign

We are pleased to share the success of the inaugural Archbishop's Campaign and sincerely thank you for your generosity and support. Together, parishes across the Archdiocese raised **\$811,178** including **\$1,580** contributed by Sacred Heart Parish, Kew. These funds will support vital mission areas

such as the Priests Retirement Foundation, the John Pierce Centre, Melbourne Overseas Mission, Corpus Christi College, Catholic Theological College and the Archbishop's Evangelisation Initiatives. Thank you for being part of this important campaign and for living out your faith with action.

Please Remember in Prayer

Unwell: Margaret Hogan, Denise de Gruchy, Elizabeth Rossiter

Recently Deceased: Iolanda Di Giovambattista
Anniversaries:

Mass Intentions:

24th Holy Souls

25th Holy Souls

26th Holy Souls

27th Holy Souls

28th Holy Souls

6pm Vigil: All Parishioners

29th Holy Souls

Upcoming Feasts & Solemnities:

25th (Wed) **Christmas Day** (Solemnity)

26th (Thurs) St Stephen

27th (Fri) St John the Evangelist

28th (Sat) The Holy Innocents

Christmas Concert

Traditional Carols, Choir Motets (Invitation Choir)
& Noëls for Organ (Fr Nicholas Dillon)
7.30pm FRIDAY 27th December 2024
Sacred Heart Church

Donation of \$15.00 pp at the door
Funds go to support Sacred Music at the
International Clergy Conference
Rome 13 – 17 January 2025
See www.ccc-2025.com