

St Therese's Parish Essendon



1st & 2nd August

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Yr A



First Reading [Is 55:1-3](#) A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Hasten and eat. Thus says the Lord: Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy?

Listen, listen to me and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me;
listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

Gospel [Mt 14:13-21](#) A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

They all ate and were satisfied.

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick.

When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered, 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me,' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves he handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining, twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

Dear friends at St Therese's,

Thanks again for your continued communication and support. I am pleased to know you are able to connect online with our [Parish virtual Masses](http://www.stthereses.org.au) on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and our weekend Mass. www.stthereses.org.au

Thanks also for your continued involvement and support in so many ways in parish life here in our community at Essendon.

Warmest wishes, in this very strange and uncertain time. Stay well and safe.

John Hannon PP

Dear friends, with faith in the love of Christ, we bring our prayers before the Lord.

We pray for all in the current coronavirus crisis, for the anxious, the fearful, the afflicted, the elderly, those compromised by ill health and treatment and the young. May they recover well, as we live in hope that the peak will soon pass so that life can resume to normal in our families, our communities, our society and our wide and wonderful world as a global village. May we come together to overcome that challenges that Covid has placed before us. **Lord, hear us**

Lord, hear our prayer

We pray especially for the residents and staff at aged care facilities in Melbourne and Mitchell Shire and for their anxious families. May they be safe and healthy and may they find comfort and care throughout this very difficult and frightening time.

Lord, hear us

Lord, hear our prayer

We pray that our world leaders that they can continue to work together keeping us updated with coronavirus and that the medical scientists are closer to having a vaccine that will help save many lives.

Lord, hear us

Lord, hear our prayer

We pray for our world: may we bring good food to those who are undernourished, especially those in areas affected by famine and crop failure.

Lord, hear us

Lord, hear our prayer

We pray for our young people: may they not lose their deep sense of what is right and just but continue to grow in their awareness of the many needs of the world.

Lord, hear us

Lord, hear our prayer

We pray for our own special intentions:

Lord, hear us

Lord hear our prayer

We pray for those who are ill, especially Jorge Arenivar, Jacinta Hyland, Marty O'Donnell, Lolita Fajardo, Marg Kovacs, Isabella Campo, Tess Bogden and Marg Sutherland.

For those who have died recently: Vincent O'Neil

For those whom we remember at this time, especially Gilda Frasca, Barbara Warner, Joe Sorbello, Patricia Johanna Shannon, Leonard Reddoch, Giovanni Italiano, Ena Farnbach, Domenico Lizio, Angela Farsaci, Johann O'Dwyer, Joan Elliot, Elsie Augier and John Potvick **Lord, hear us**

Lord, hear our prayer

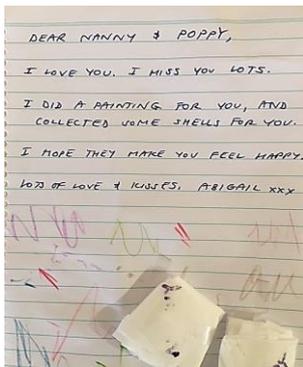
*Loving God, you provide for all your people. Hear our prayers and strengthen our faith as we are nourished by you through your word and the Eucharist. We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen***

PARISH LIFE IN ISO

This week we hear from two members of our Parish Leadership Team, Kevin McCartney and Anthony Scicluna, who share with us some of their experiences of life in ISO.



'Like most people, the whole Covid19 event has turned our lives upside down for the last six months,' says Kevin McCartney. In February Kevin's wife Noreen developed a problem with her back and within a week was admitted to Epworth Hospital where she stayed until April after significant spinal surgery. In the meantime Covid19 started to spread into our country and eventually into our community. Hospital visiting hours were limited and Noreen became isolated towards the end of her treatment. During this time, the couple should have celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary, Noreen's birthday and the birth of two new grandsons Charles and Frederick.



Letter from granddaughter Abigail

'Because we are both in our 70s, and with Noreen's immune system compromised, we were quite fearful of contracting the virus. Tasks like buying food and accessing health services became quite problematic. It was pretty difficult dealing with Noreen's recovery under the shadow of Covid. There was a continual fear of what would we do if one of us got sick. I guess it was

the same for many people, especially those who are older, but it took a while to shake off to a level that we accept the new 'norm' with less anxiety.'

Kevin says one of the hardest aspects of the pandemic is not being with their children and grandchildren, especially since the arrival of Charlie and Freddie. 'While we can all call, Facebook and Zoom, the inability to cuddle the little ones leaves a huge hole in our lives. The reality of isolation for people is driven home.'

'On a more positive note, I have become quite a Mrs Doubtfire with domestic skills I haven't used for nearly 70 years. While my repertoire in the kitchen is limited, we have managed to enjoy some good food, supplemented by a couple of 'Lite & Easy' meals each week. So there you go, nothing is impossible!'

Kevin also continues to look after the garden and has just



Babies Charlie (L) & Freddie (R)
Dads Felix (L) & Brad (R)
(holding their nephews)

embarked on the restoration of a bird house and feeder, which is visited each day by the local lorikeets and rosellas.

'When this is over, we hope to spend as much time as possible with our family. As you get older, you probably need to take every opportunity to share the lives you are part of as a priority, they are rich and important opportunities. We are also looking forward to the simple things like going to Café Palms, Poynton's Nursery and playing golf. However, one day at a time at the moment seems to work!'



Kevin's Birdhouse Project



Anthony and Wendy Scicluna's fourth child was born in March just as Melbourne moved into ISO.

'When the first round of lockdown was announced, we welcomed our newest edition Luke Patrick into the Scicluna household. Wow our own little 'Coronial' baby!' Having a baby during the lockdown has had its

challenges for the family with virtual health nurse visits and no visitors in hospital other than Dad which was difficult for the couple's other children Grace, Daniel and Jude. 'Needless to say Luke's homecoming was momentous because he had three siblings that were jumping out of their skin to meet him!'

A upside for Anthony is time at home with his young family. 'Working from home has given me the opportunity to spend more time with the family, help out where possible with our new addition and for countless walks and bike rides.'

The lockdown has meant home school for Grace who is in grade one at St Therese's. Anthony commends the efforts of our parish school in the setting up and implementation of remote learning. 'This has been a great opportunity to share in her education in a way that would not usually be possible. St Therese's did a fantastic job getting the learning at home program together in such a quick time frame.'



Baby Luke

Kinder for Daniel has gone on as usual through all of ISO and Anthony says the four year olds have done remarkably well in adapting to the 'new normal'.

'These times come with their challenges but our ability to adapt is remarkable also. One example is when the kids were role playing and I asked what they were playing and to my amusement they answered 'home schooling!'



Under Stage 3 restrictions people may leave their home for the following reasons: **Shopping for food** or other essential items, **care giving, exercise** or for **work or study**, only if you cannot work or study from home. All people must wear a face covering whenever they leave their home, unless an exception applies.

Our church is closed to the public except for weddings and funerals. **Weekday and weekend Mass** will stay online. **Funerals** are limited to 10 mourners plus people required to conduct the funeral. **Weddings** are limited to 5 people (the couple, two witnesses and the celebrant). All attendees and organisers **MUST** wear masks. **Baptisms** have been postponed. **PACE remains closed**.

PARISH OFFICE OPEN BY APPOINTMENT The parish office remains contactable each weekday from 9am until 3pm via phone and email. For those who need to meet with Fr John, appointments can be made over the phone or via email.

THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE provides regular pastoral updates on the COVID-19 situation on the CAM website: www.cam.org.au

ASSISTING ISOLATED PARISHIONERS If you know of a parishioner, or if you are a parishioner who could use our help, please contact the office confidentially.



MENTAL HEALTH AND COVID19 It's normal to have ups and downs, and it is important to talk about how you're feeling with family and friends who are likely experiencing similar feelings. If you want to talk to someone else, but aren't sure where to start, there are lots of great online and phone chat support services available:

Head to Health: [click here for Head to Health](#)

Lifeline: [click here for Lifeline's COVID-19 Support](#) or phone 1300 651 251

Beyond Blue: [click here for Beyond Blue](#) or phone 1300 22 4636

Kids Helpline: [click here for Kids Helpline](#) or phone 1800 551 800

Catholic Care: Stay connected www.ccam.org.au Tel: 9287 5555

Avemaria College Applications for Year 7 in 2022 close on Friday 9 October 2020. To book an online tour or to find out more visit www.avemaria.vic.edu.au

UPCOMING APPEALS Next weekend is the annual CatholicCare appeal and the following weekend is the Opening the Doors appeal.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest: John Hannon john.hannon@cam.org.au

Baptism – Pastoral Outreach: Leanne Torr leanne.torr@cam.org.au

Business Manager: Kathy Gilmour essendon@cam.org.au

Function Manager: Jac Radcliffe jac.radcliffe@cam.org.au

Bookkeeper: Irene Fritsche irene.fritsche@cam.org.au

Parish Leadership Team: essendon.plt@cam.org.au

Child Safety Officer: Olivia Metcalf essendon.safeguarding@cam.org.au

Office opening hours - Monday to Friday 9.00am – 3.30pm

Office Telephone: 9401 6330 – after hours Fr John: 0490 956 610

Office email: essendon@cam.org.au Website: www.stthereses.org.au

School email: principal@stessendon.catholic.edu.au

St Vincent de Paul helpline: 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10am–3pm

Tiny T's Playgroup: stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com

PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR CHILD SAFETY OFFICER

essendon.safeguarding@cam.org.au

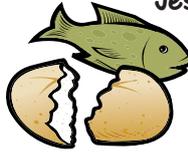


Everyone had plenty to eat



18th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Jesus fed the crowd of more than 5,000 people because they were hungry and needed food. In each loaf write down something else that people need and are "hungry" for.



Jesus asked his disciples to help feed the hungry people. Likewise, Jesus wants us to share what we have with people in need. Draw a picture of yourself sharing with others.



LOAVES AND FISH

How many words can you make from the letters in LOAVES AND FISH?

Two columns of horizontal lines for writing words.

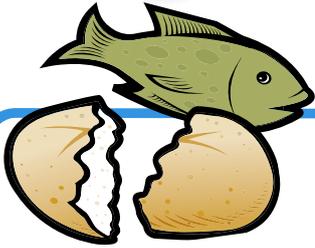
Gospel

Mt 14:13-21

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Everyone had plenty to eat



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Jesus managed to feed thousands of people with just five loaves of bread and two fish.
Can you find two of the fish which are the same?

