



29 & 30 August – Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A



**First Reading** *Jer 20: 7-9* A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me. You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.

I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

**Gospel** *Mt 16: 21-27* A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? 'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.



## A Coronavirus Prayer

Loving God, Your desire is for our wholeness and wellbeing.

We hold in tenderness and prayer the collective suffering of our world at this time.

We grieve precious lives lost and vulnerable lives threatened.

We ache for ourselves and our neighbours, standing before an uncertain future.

We pray: May love, not fear, go viral.

Inspire our leaders to discern and choose wisely, aligned with the common good.

Help us to practice social distancing and reveal to us new and creative ways to come together in spirit and in solidarity.

Call us to profound trust in your faithful presence,

You, the God who does not abandon.

*Sister Christine Koelhoffer IHM*

*Thirsting for God, let us draw near in prayer with our needs and the needs of the world. That the Church will never grow weary of self-sacrifice and concern for the poor.*

For our political leaders, legislators, and those in public office. May they enhance laws that welcome, protect, and promote the most vulnerable in our community.

**Lord, hear us Lord hear our prayer**

We pray for our persecuted sisters and brothers in every part of the world: that they may persevere in faith and courage and receive the support that they desperately need. **Lord, hear us - Lord hear our prayer**

We pray for our farmers. That they are blessed with a good season to enable them to produce food for our table. **Lord, hear us Lord hear our prayer**

For the staff and residents of aged care facilities, that they will draw strength from the loving support of the whole community. **Lord, hear us - Lord, hear our prayer**

For those on the frontline of work against Covid. May they and their families remain safe and inspired as they continue their efforts. **Lord, hear us - Lord, hear our prayer**

For migrants, refugees, and international students. That we may work with them, attentive to their needs and promoting their innate dignity as children of God.

**Lord, hear us - Lord, hear our prayer**

For those who minister to migrants, refugees, and international students. That they may find strength and courage in the words of the Lord, who says, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me". **Lord, hear us - Lord, hear our prayer**

We pray for our own special intentions: **Lord, hear us - Lord, hear our prayer**

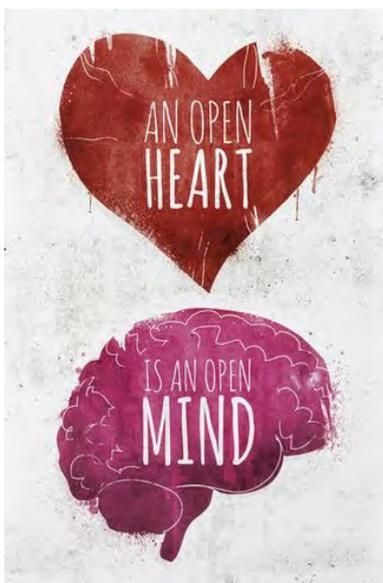
**We pray for those who are ill**, especially Jorge Arenivar, Jacinta Hyland, Marty O'Donnell, Lolita Fajardo, Marg Kovacs, Jane Phelan, Joan Kennedy

**For those who have died recently**, Leigh Wallmeyer, Patricia McMahon, Albert Ng, Isabella Campo, Dominico Germano, Marie Dawes

**And those whom we remember at this time** especially Morris Quinlan, Guido Chierici, Anne Maree Whiting, Sr Margaret Dwyer, Frank Martin, Phyllis Greaney, Jo Hannah, Vincent Ashby, Lucy Alexander, John Joseph Sweeney, Giovanni Cerrone

**Lord, hear us - Lord hear our prayer**

*Transforming God, your ways lie open to those who model themselves on Christ your son. Hear these prayers and help us to follow the path of discipleship and self-sacrifice. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



## **Give Us Hearts**

God of love and compassion: may we always recognize your spirit:

~ in the refugee family, seeking safety from violence;

~ in the migrant worker, bringing food to our tables;

~ in the asylum-seekers, seeking justice for their families;

~ in the unaccompanied child, traveling in a dangerous world.

Give us hearts that break open whenever our brothers and sisters turn to us.

Give us hearts that no longer turn deaf to their voices in times of need;

Give us eyes to recognize a moment for grace instead of a threat.

Give us voices that fail to remain silent but which decide instead to advocate prophetically.

Give us hands that reach out in welcome, but also in work, for a world of justice until all homelands are safe and secure.

Bless us, O Lord

*Fr. Dan Hartnett S.J.*



## REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKER GROUP ANNUAL APPEAL

On this Social Justice Sunday, we draw your attention to our Annual Appeal to support parish outreach work among refugees and asylum seekers.

Although our parish volunteers are unable to visit families during the COVID19 pandemic they are still getting many requests for extra assistance. Our wonderful volunteers are still managing to offer support; a phone call, a chat, some help with a pharmacy bill, baby needs, winter clothes etc. As one mother said recently, 'It means the world to us to have the support of the parish.'

Among refugee families increasing mental health issues are a growing concern. During this time of isolation at least one family member has needed extra mental health support. Other adults, some who have been waiting for up to seven years for a permanent visa, have reached out for extra counselling support.

With your help and through this annual appeal our parish volunteers assist families in many ways, both pastorally and materially throughout the year. Thank you

**Due to Stage 4 Restrictions** the best way to donate is to pay directly into St Therese's Church account using the reference code RAASG.

### Bank details

Name of Account: St Therese's Church

BSB: 083 347

Account number: 67640 1701

For your deposit reference please use: **RAASG**

You can also place (cash or cheque) donations in an envelope and drop into to the parish office drop box.

If you need a receipt please email [essendon@cam.org.au](mailto:essendon@cam.org.au) a screen shot of your internet banking acknowledgement along with your name and address.



**SOCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 30 AUGUST** The annual Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) Social Justice Statement is this year titled: To Live Life to the Full: Mental health in Australia today.

The COVID-19 pandemic is impacting the mental health of many members of our communities. In fact, most of us will experience a mental health problem at some point over the course of our lives. Understanding mental health helps us to be aware of those who need our support. Our parishes, organisations and communities can be places of acceptance care and healing.

The ACBC welcomes the deinstitutionalisation of mental health care in Australia. However, without adequately funded community mental health services, there is a gap in the system through which people continue to fall. Social determinants including poverty, living conditions, and personal security are significant contributors to mental ill-health. This year's social justice statement highlights the experience of First Nations people and communities, asylum seekers and refugees, people who are homeless and those who are in prison.

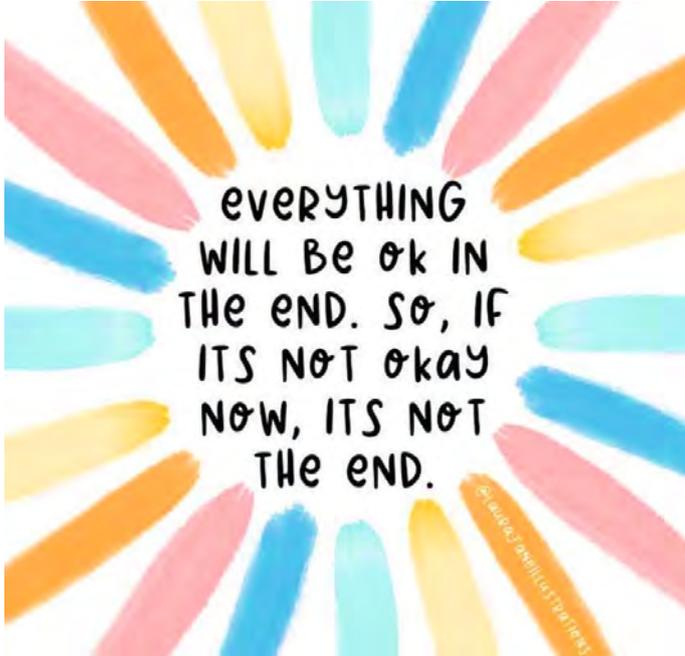
The Bishops observe that "our society tends to draw away from, or to push away, those who confront us with our frailties and limitations" which is "completely at odds with the story of Jesus" who "takes on the frailty of the human condition" and "draws near to those who are sick or who have disabilities, those who are marginalized or despised". People living with mental ill-health are part of the Body of Christ – 'us' and not 'them' – and share equally in Jesus' promise of the fullness of life (Jn 10:10).

The ACBC invite us all to reject stigmatisation, to work for the transformation of social determinants of mental ill-health, and to call for policies and service provision that meets the needs of the poorest and most marginalised members of our community.

To read the Bishops full statement [visit their website here](#)

# PARISH LIFE IN ISO

*In times of difficulty and distress many of us find comfort in prayer and uplifting spiritual writings. In the modern era we are bombarded with inspirational, emotional or humorous messages via email and social media. Here is a collection of some of our favourites.*



*"There is nothing like staying at home for real comfort" Jane Austen*

*"In the rush to return to normal, use this time to consider which parts of normal are worth rushing back to." Dave Hollis*

*"Happiness can be found even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light." Albus Dumbledore, Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban.*

When do we usually find out who the kids will have for teachers next year? I hope its not me again.

*"Tough times never last, but tough people do."*  
- Robert H. Schuller

## NOT EVERYTHING IS CANCELLED

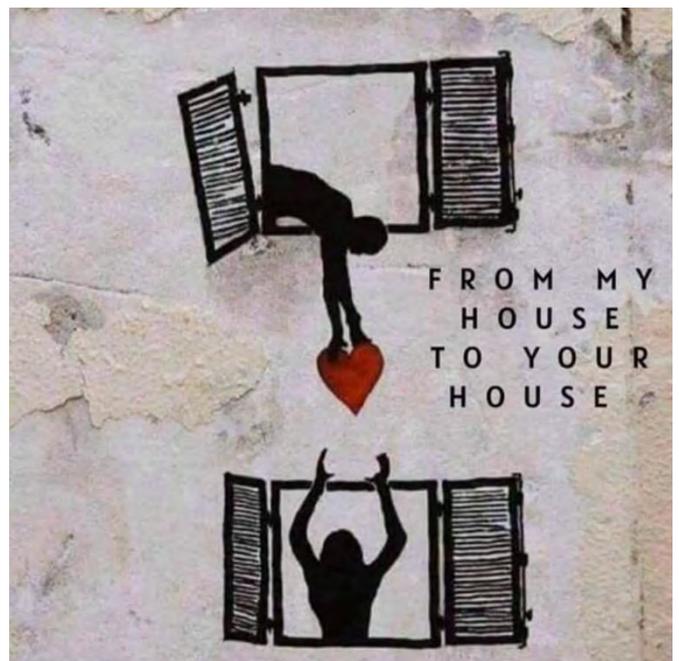
sunshine is not cancelled  
spring is not cancelled  
love is not cancelled  
relationships are not cancelled  
reading is not cancelled  
naps are not cancelled  
devotion is not cancelled  
music is not cancelled  
dancing is not cancelled  
imagination is not cancelled  
kindness is not cancelled  
conversations are not cancelled  
**hope** is not cancelled



#keeplookingup  
SimpleStencils.com

*"For what are we born if not to aid one another." Ernest Hemingway*

*"We are in the midst of a highly teachable moment. There's no doubt that this period will be referred to for the rest of our lifetimes. We have a chance to go deep, and to go broad. Globally, we're in this together. Depth is being forced on us by great suffering, which as I like to say, always leads to great love." Fr Richard Rohr OFM*



**Stories, reflections, recipes, ideas, videos or photos to share? We'd love to hear what you've been up to in ISO. Email [jac.radcliffe@cam.org.au](mailto:jac.radcliffe@cam.org.au) to contribute to Parish Life in ISO**

## MESSAGE FROM FR JOHN TO OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Dear friends at St Therese's School,

As parish priest here in Essendon, with lockdown going on and on, with Stage 4 restrictions, I thought I'd send a greeting from my hermitage here in semi-seclusion, where at least I can still get out for a walk to, and along the Maribyrnong River. The sun is shining today, and springtime is almost here, with the coronavirus daily numbers declining, so we are slowly moving forward in the right direction, masks, physical distancing and all!

It has been a very strange experience for me as a priest for 42 years, now recording Masses in the church for weekends and weekdays, solo, for nearly an incredible 6 months now, but it's the simplest and most effective way to go, given the circumstances. At least it is a means of communicating and connecting with the parish community, through the parish website, in some way. We are learning to do things differently in all sorts of ways, not that it's easy to make the adjustments required.

And that brings me to the whole school situation, where teachers, students, parents, carers and support staff have had to make great changes to their regular daily routine. I can only express admiration and appreciation for what I can see as the conscientious commitment, concern and care demonstrated for our students and each other in general, by all involved in doing our best to continue the process of learning and engaging with each other, albeit virtually, at a distance, from home.

There is no doubt that the added stresses are there to deal with, in not being able to engage face to face physically with each other and our teachers and helpers. The challenges of change, innovation and adaptation are real, but there is some benefit too in using these new methods of learning. Also appreciated are the demands placed on parents, with the need to balance home life, on-line learning supervision and working from home as well. The frustrations are real, but I'd like to acknowledge with admiration, the way in which you have taken up the challenges with such willingness and enthusiasm.

Perhaps the most difficult situation is with those who are older and infirm, especially in aged care, who can't get out at all, and where isolation is limiting their physical contact with their families. And, as we know, the risk to health as we age, increases significantly, so the precautions are necessary for the good of all, difficult as it may seem.

With this in mind, I have to say how impressed I was, when I viewed the [recent video of our young people from St Therese's School](#) sending messages, with greetings and words of encouragement, concern and care to those older members of our community, at home, in aged care, and not only in our parish community, but also beyond. This wonderful initiative has really been a great way of involving and engaging, and has had a very positive and affirming response from those who have tuned in. There is no doubt that those receiving the messages are given a lift in their spirits, to know that they are remembered, in our thoughts, good wishes and prayers.

Thanks to our principal, Michael Di Nuzzo, the leadership team, and all of our staff, for the way in which all have faced up to the challenges of ongoing on-line education and adapting to doing things in new ways. In particular, I commend David Rulli and helpers, for their support, with the project of connecting with our seniors. There is also a further video of [Year 5 students reflecting on 'Faith'](#), a further means of communicating a message of hope and the spiritual dimension of the mission we are called to as Christians, on our journey of faith at whatever stage of life we are, young or old. Well done to those who contributed their thoughts on this topic too.

All reflects credit on our students and school community overall, demonstrating the spirit of good will and thoughtfulness of so many. We can be reassured that we are in a great place here, there for one another and doing what we can to work our way through this daunting and anxious time, where the common good of all is our primary concern.

Of course, there remains the question of where we go from here with our parish sacramental program, and I quite understand the concerns of parents and candidates, particularly in Years 4 and 6, who look forward to the important celebrations of faith with First Eucharist and Confirmation, as key moments in our growth in faith in our Catholic tradition, following the way of Jesus and living his message.

Frustrating as it may be, there is just no certainty at all about possible dates or determining ways in which this can be done, even in smaller numbers, until the gradual transition to opening up again for public worship in our churches. Naturally, we hope this will be possible later in the year, for Term 4 some time, but we just have to wait patiently and see what might be do-able.

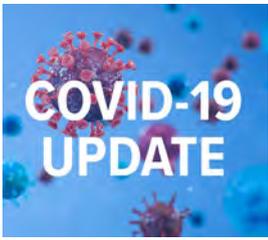
We are in unprecedented times, and this scenario must come to an end eventually, hopefully sooner than later, but no promises can be made about much at all, at the moment. Whatever might be said about a coronavirus vaccine in the future, the requirements of experimentation, testing, evaluation and implementation all take time, and there's no magic solution meanwhile, apart from observing the required precautions.

Hoping we all keep safe and in good health, patient, positive and in good spirits.

Warmest wishes to you all.



John Hannon



## STAGE 4 RESTRICTIONS AT ST THERESE'S

**Our church** remains closed. **WEDDINGS** are not permitted unless an application is made to the DHHS for an exemption on compassionate grounds. **FUNERALS** are limited to 10 mourners plus the minimum number required to conduct the funeral. **BAPTISMS** are postponed, unless there is a grave pastoral need.

**VISITATIONS** to homes are not permitted unless for grave reasons. Only Clergy (Fr John) may visit. Holy Communion is not to be given to anyone in their homes or care facilities, except as Viaticum for the dying.

**Mass online is celebrated** Wednesday to Friday along with our weekend Mass.

### PACE REMAINS CLOSED

**PARISH OFFICE OPERATES REMOTELY** You can call us weekdays 9am until 3pm or send us an email. For those needing to speak to Fr John, appointments can be made over the phone or via email. Onsite meetings are not permitted.

**EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS** contact number for Fr John: 0490 956 610

For the full details of Stage 4 restrictions you should visit the [DHHS website](#).

**THE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE** provides regular pastoral updates on the COVID-19 situation on the CAM website: [www.cam.org.au](http://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.

**PARISH GIVING DURING COVID19** If you usually support the parish with envelopes at Masses and would like to continue your payments, you can deposit your PSP donations directly to the parish accounts. Note there are separate accounts for church and clergy.

#### **Contributions to the church account:**

Name: St Therese's Church

BSB: 083 347

Account number: 67640 1701

#### **Contributions towards supporting the clergy:**

Account Name: St Therese's Church

BSB: 083 347

A/C number: 67616 4988

**Any deposit should be referenced with your FIRST INITIAL and SURNAME so that we know that the money is a PSP payment attributed to you.**

### PARISH CONTACTS

**Parish Priest:** John Hannon [john.hannon@cam.org.au](mailto:john.hannon@cam.org.au)

**Baptism – Pastoral Outreach:** Leanne Torr [leanne.torr@cam.org.au](mailto:leanne.torr@cam.org.au)

**Business Manager:** Kathy Gilmour [kathy.gilmour@cam.org.au](mailto:kathy.gilmour@cam.org.au)

**Function Manager:** Jac Radcliffe [jac.radcliffe@cam.org.au](mailto:jac.radcliffe@cam.org.au)

**Bookkeeper:** Irene Fritsche [irene.fritsche@cam.org.au](mailto:irene.fritsche@cam.org.au)

**Parish Leadership Team:** [essendon.plt@cam.org.au](mailto:essendon.plt@cam.org.au)

**Child Safety Officer:** Olivia Metcalf [essendon.safeguarding@cam.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:essendon@cam.org.au) Website: [www.stthereses.org.au](http://www.stthereses.org.au)

**School email:** [principal@stessendon.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@stessendon.catholic.edu.au)

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

**Tiny T's Playgroup:** [stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com](mailto:stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com)



# Take up your cross and follow me

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

## Gospel

Mt 16:21-25

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.'

## COMPLETE THE TEXT MAZE

"If you want to be my followers you must take up your cross and follow me."

START **I** F Y O E

Y D W U T

Z N A L W

V T U E R

D F Y M I T X P I A B O K

G O H E B O Y S R U S T U

J L R C A T A O U M H T J

F L O W E R S Y E T Q A W

S D L K O P F G P U E K B

E W S O Y

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N G L L O

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R I E P M

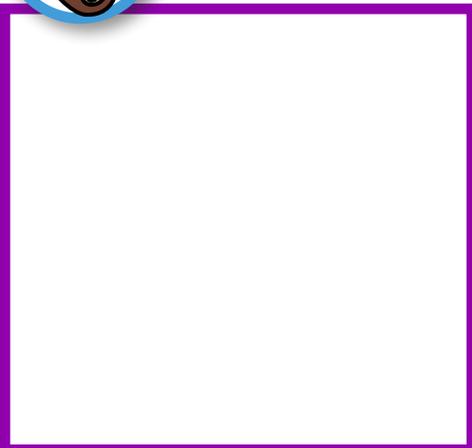
E U W T **E** FINISH

Help Jesus tell his disciples about the coming events in Jerusalem.

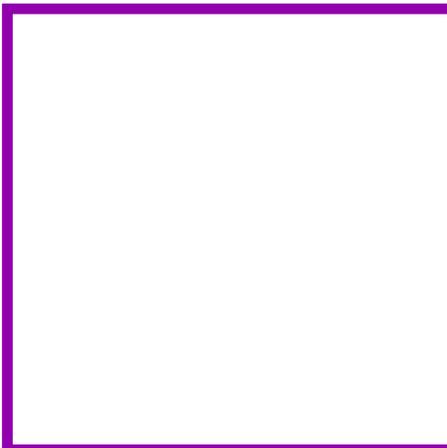


I must go to the city of Jerusalem...

...where people will make me suffer and I will be killed.



Draw Jesus entering the city on the donkey



Draw Jesus suffering on the cross



Write what Jesus tells the disciples next



AVE MARIA COLLEGE  
A Catholic College for Young Women

# ENROL NOW

## for Year 7 in 2022

Applications close on Friday, 9 October 2020

[www.avemaria.vic.edu.au](http://www.avemaria.vic.edu.au)



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College

FAITHFUL  
CONTEMPORARY  
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SINCE 1897



Our next St Columba's College virtual tour will be held on **Wednesday 2 September**.

Join us as we view the modern College facilities and grounds, learn about our innovative and extensive curricular and co-curricular offerings, and meet our College Principal, Ms Rita Grima.

Book your place at [columba.vic.edu.au](http://columba.vic.edu.au)

### KEY DATES FOR YEAR 7 2022:

- **Enrolment application** closing date: **Friday 9 October 2020**
- **Offer** of enrolment mailed out: **Tuesday 1 December 2020**
- Final date to **accept offer**: **Tuesday 15 December 2020**

For more information contact the Registrar, Mrs Josie Zanic, on 9331 9128 or email [registrar@columba.vic.edu](mailto:registrar@columba.vic.edu)

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St Columba's College Essendon



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