

# St Therese's Parish Essendon

7 August and 8 August 2021  
Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B  
Saint Mary Of The Cross



**First Reading** 1 Kgs 17:7-16 A reading from the first book of Kings

*The jar of meal shall not be spent according to the word of the Lord spoken through Elias.*

And then the word of the Lord came to Elijah, 'Up and go to Zarephath, a Sidonian town, and stay there. I have ordered a widow there to give you food.' So he went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks. Addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please,' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

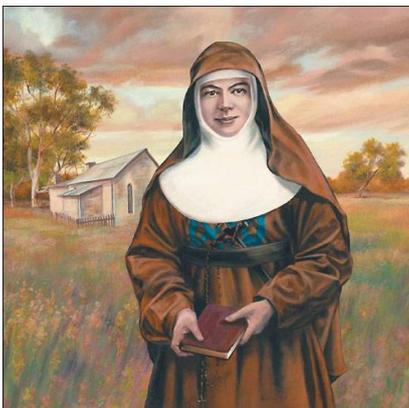
"Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

**Gospel** Mt 6:25-34 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and what you are to wear. Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothing! Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you, however much you worry, add one single cubit to your span of life? And why worry about clothing? Think of the flowers growing in the fields;

they never have to work or spin: yet I assure you that not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of these. Now if that is how God clothes the wild flowers growing in the field which are there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you have so little faith? So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat? What are we to drink? What are we to wear?" It is the gentiles who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on God's saving justice, and all these other things will be given you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.



**MARY MACKILLOP** This Gospel does not say we should not worry about what others eat or drink or have to wear. In fact we will be judged on whether we gave 'the Least' food, shelter, companionship in illness or in prison (Mt 25).

In the mid-late 19th century, a young woman was very concerned with the plight of the poor and the marginalised in the colonies which later became the Commonwealth of Australia. Amongst the most obvious necessities of life for these 'least' was schooling of the young, as education is a proven path out of poverty.

So, this woman, whose most famous saying was 'never see a need without trying to do something about it', set about remedying that situation. Mary McKillop established the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart principally to educate the poor.

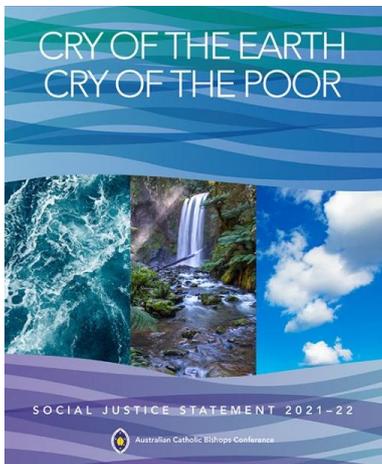
She suffered excommunication for revealing sexual abuse of youngsters by a paedophile priest. That was reversed five months later, but this all took its toll on her fragile health.

We could pause for a moment to pray that we may join St Mary of the Cross in Heaven, together with all the Josephite sisters who set their hearts on the Father's kingdom and His saving justice.

Fr Michael Tate

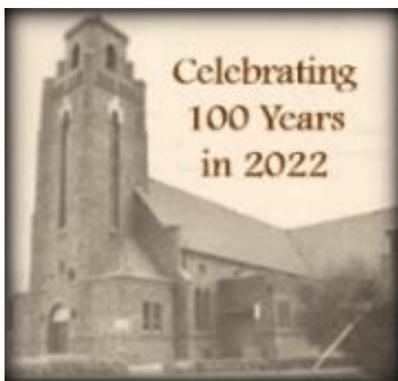


**ANNUAL OPENING THE DOORS FOUNDATION APPEAL** At Masses this weekend we were to hold our annual appeal for Opening the Doors Foundation. Based at the Aboriginal Catholic Ministry Centre, this Foundation has been operating for 20 years and addresses the severe educational disadvantage that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children face to this day. Through listening to the community, the Foundation supports families to cover the extra costs of schooling that cannot be funded from other Government or educational sources, paying for items such as uniforms, school camps and books. In 2021, Opening the Doors has supported, 820 students from more than 200 schools. Envelopes will be available when we return to Masses or you can donate through the website [www.openingthedoors.org.au](http://www.openingthedoors.org.au).



**CRY OF THE EARTH, CRY OF THE POOR** The Bishops' Social Justice Statement 2021-22: Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor, affirms that "we human beings need a change of heart, mind, and behaviour". It draws from Scripture, from the theological tradition, from Catholic Social Teaching, and from the wisdom of the world, including the insights of the First Nations. The Social Justice Statement 2021-22 provides theological foundations to ground and inspire efforts to care for creation while responding to the needs of the disadvantaged and excluded. The Statement reflects on creation in and through the Trinity; the sacramentality of all created things; the wonder and beauty available to the contemplative eye; and the need for conversion and change of life. In the Statement, the Bishops invite the whole Catholic community to join them in taking up Pope Francis' invitation to a seven-year journey towards total ecological sustainability, guided by seven Laudato Si' Goals. These Goals are: response to the cry of the earth; response to the cry of the poor; ecological economics; sustainable

lifestyles; ecological spirituality; ecological education; and community engagement and participatory action. The Statement especially encourages Catholic families, communities and organisations to: listen to the First Nations; reflect on the theological foundations offered in Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor; and plan their next steps towards the Laudato Si' Goals. You can read the statement at <https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Social-Justice-Statement-2021-22.pdf>



**PLANNING FOR 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST THERESE'S PARISH IN 2022**

*A Message from our Parish Leadership Team*

Next year, in 2022, we celebrate the Centenary of our parish. Fr John and the Parish Leadership Team have commenced planning for the Centenary, recognising the significant time and effort put into the 90th anniversary celebrations in 2012, when Fr Bill wanted to capture the history and stories from many of the elderly parishioners at the time.

Amongst the highlights of the 2012 celebrations was the publication of the Commemorative Book, entitled 'With Confidence and Love', capturing the history, mood and spirit of the parish over the 90 years to 2012. As we approach 2022, especially given the impact of COVID19 over the last

18 months, we (as a leadership team) find ourselves challenged to identify appropriate opportunities to celebrate this significant milestone! To answer the question, 'how do we as parishioners want to mark and celebrate this special occasion?'

Clearly, we want to build on the history captured up to 2012, add the significant aspects of the last 10 years, but also reflect the spirit of what we have, what has been built here over the last 100 years, as a parish community! Perhaps 100 years is about celebrating what we have today, with a vision of what we want to take forward for the generations to come! We are yet to consider what this might look like.

In recent weeks we (as a leadership team) have been advertising the Centenary in the Parish Bulletin, seeking people interested in participating on the Centenary Planning Team, and / or any ideas parishioners may have for celebrating the anniversary. So far, we have had 1 volunteer and no ideas or suggestions – which is perhaps understandable given the difficult times we are in! So, we are feeling a bit unloved at this stage.

We think 2022 should be celebrated appropriately within the Parish, whatever we decide together, to recognise what we have and what it means! So, we ask you to please consider joining the Centenary Planning Team, and / or submitting any ideas you have regarding the Centenary.

If you are interested, you can contact the Parish Office, or the Parish Leadership Team, to register your interest by either telephone or email. Contact details are in the Parish Bulletin or Parish Website. Anyone is welcome, young or old, and we are sure you will find it a very rewarding experience.

## INTERCESSIONS

7 & 8 August 2021

*With steadfast hearts let us turn to the Lord, trusting in God's mercy and power.*

We pray for the Pope: may he lead us to an ever-greater love and appreciation of the goodness within the people around us. **Lord, hear us.**

We pray for our governments here and around the world: may they work with a greater sense of co-operation for the common good of us all. **Lord, hear us.**

May Saint Mary McKillop be constant in bringing hope and encouragement to those who are disheartened, lonely, or needy. **Lord, hear us.**

We pray those who are in hardship as a result of Covid: may they receive the support they need to get on their feet once more. **Lord, hear us**

We pray for our students and teachers: with the help of St Mary McKillop, may they navigate themselves through the challenges to reach a successful end to this year. **Lord, hear us.**

We pray for those who are ill. Callum O'Dwyer **Lord, hear us.**

We pray for our own special needs. **Lord, hear us.**

We pray for those who have died recently: Eugenio Croce, Clara Brescacin,

And for those whom we remember at this time, especially: Joan Sapiano, Ralph Trainor, Johannah O'Dwyer, Elsie Augier, Carmelo Salpietro, Eunice Wilson, Mark Sherlock **Lord, hear us.**

*Loving God, with the promise of eternal life you invite us to the table you have prepared. Hear our prayers that we who taste the bread of heaven will work for the coming of your kingdom. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen*

**WATCH MASS AT ST THERESE'S ONLINE** Fr John is regularly recording Saturday evening Mass and (during the periodic lockdowns in Victoria) weekday Masses.. [You can watch this week's Masses on our website here.](#) To view our archive of recorded Masses you can visit our [YouTube Channel.](#)

PARISH DIARY		
Date	Event	Time
Sunday 8 August	Feast Day Saint Mary Of The Cross Annual Appeal – Opening the Doors Foundation	All Masses All Masses
Wednesday 11 August	SVDP Essendon Regional Conference online	7:30pm
Monday 16 August	SVDP- Essendon Conference in PACE Function room (TBD)	7:00pm
Saturday 21 August	Refugee Week: Refugee & Asylum Seeker Collection	
Sunday 22 August	Refugee Week: Refugee & Asylum Seeker Collection RE Programme (Eucharist) Session 1 in PACE (TBD)	All Masses 9:30am
Sunday 29 August	RE Programme (Eucharist) Session 2 in PACE (TBD)	9:30am

## 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)  
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**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 – 3:00pm  
**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:** [info@stessendon.catholic.edu.au](mailto:info@stessendon.catholic.edu.au)  
**St Vincent de Paul helpline:** 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10:00am–3:00pm  
**Tiny T's Playgroup:** [stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com](mailto:stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com)

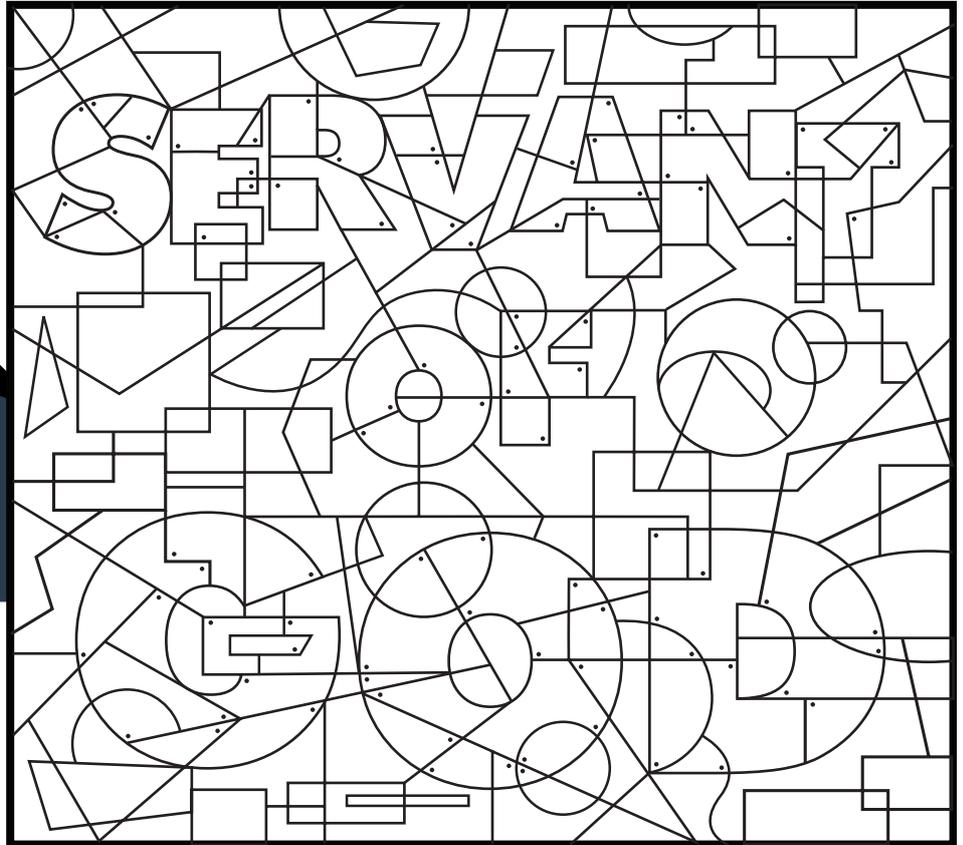
**Weekday Mass** 10.00am Tuesday Liturgy of the Word and Mass Wednesday to Friday 10.00am

**Weekend Masses:** Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00pm Sunday 9.00am and 10.30am

*St Therese's Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.*

*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country of the land on which our church stands and recognize their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to them and to Elders past, present and emerging.*

**"Never see a need without doing something about it."**



*In 2010, Mary MacKillop was canonised by Pope Benedict XVI to become the first Australian saint. Colour in the shapes that contain a dot to reveal one of the attributes of St Mary MacKillop*

*Mary MacKillop had a great desire to do God's will and help those most in need. Draw a picture of yourself doing something that helps people in your community*



# "Never see a need without doing something about it."

St Mary of the Cross



Feast of St Mary of the Cross

Mary MacKillop had a great desire to do God's will and help those most in need. Who are the people most in need of help in your community? In what ways can you help them?

I can help...

I can help...

I can help...

I can help...

In 1867, Mary MacKillop became the first sister and Mother Superior of a newly established religious order. In the puzzle below, cross out any letter that appears three or more times. Then unscramble the remaining letters to complete the name of that religious order.

A	G	Q	S	X	C	Y	M	E
K	H	N	B	U	K	J	Z	D
V	Y	U	A	T	D	A	X	B
O	L	K	G	W	H	Q	V	M
N	C	M	P	A	V	W	Z	U
B	I	A	Q	C	O	D	Y	C
W	D	U	V	K	N	X	L	Q
G	N	L	E	U	A	V	G	M
U	F	M	B	A	D	R	L	Z
A	W	Q	L	N	T	S	K	U

ANSWER

T \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ S \_ \_  
S \_ \_ \_ SE \_ \_

## Gospel Mt 6:25-34

Jesus said to his disciples:

I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat,

nor about your body and what you are to wear.

Surely life is more than food, and the body more than clothing!

Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap or gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them.

Are you not worth much more than they are?

Can any of you, however much you worry, add one single cubit to your span of life?

And why worry about clothing?

Think of the flowers growing in the fields;

they never have to work or spin: yet I assure you that

not even Solomon in all his royal robes was clothed like one of these.

Now if that is how God clothes the wild flowers growing in the field

which are there today and thrown into the furnace tomorrow, will he not much more look after you, you have so little faith?

So do not worry; do not say, "What are we to eat?"

What are we to drink? What are we to wear?"

It is the gentiles who set their hearts on all these things.

Your heavenly Father knows you need them all.

Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on God's saving justice,

and all these other things will be given you as well.

So do not worry about tomorrow: tomorrow will take care of itself.

Each day has enough trouble of its own.

The scriptural quotations are taken from the Jerusalem Bible, published and copyright 1966, 1967 and 1968 by Darton Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co Inc, and used by permission of the publishers.