

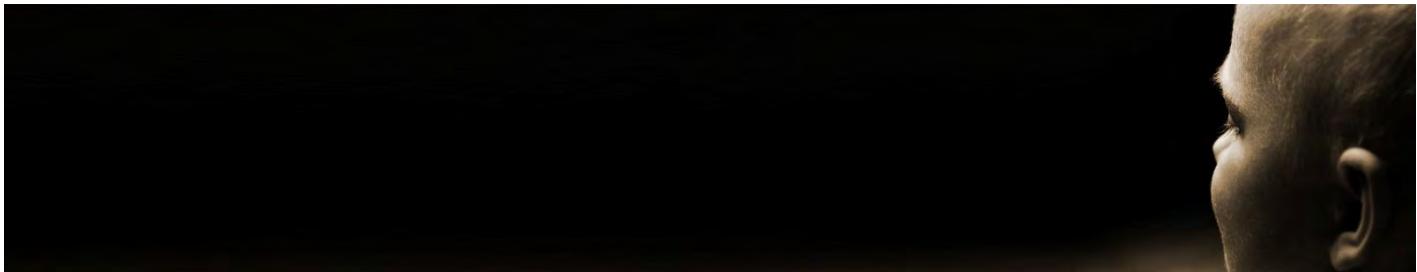
St Therese's Parish Essendon



4 and 5 September 2021

Season of Creation

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B



First Reading Is 35:4-7 A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

Gospel Mk 7:31-37 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

A BLESSING PRAYER FOR FATHER'S DAY

God of Kindness and Compassion,
we are your children and you are Father to us all.
We give honour and thanks to those who reflect your fatherly example:
those who are dads and grandads;
step-dads, foster dads, godfathers and fathers-in-law;
those who are coaches, leaders and mentors;
and those who are elders and wisdom-men of our communities.
We look to these men for strength of body and strength of character.
We look to them to pass on skills and pass on stories.
We look to them to protect and provide.
We look to them for care and compassion.
We look to them to be co-creators and stewards of the world.
For all those who embrace their role as father, we give thanks.
For those who struggle with being fathers, give them strength.
For those who are distanced from their children, give them comfort.
For those who have passed from this world, give them peace.
Bless these men that we call father.
Bless them in their strength and in their weakness.
Bless them in their joy and in their sorrow.
Bless them in their work and in their play.
And bless them, Father, for being fathers.

by Greg Sunter

God raises up those who are humble. Let us bring our needs before the God of mercy.

We pray that people will see signs of God love in the way we care for one another. Lord, hear us.

Water - God gave water as a sign of refreshment and the baptismal sign of new life in Jesus. That our Church promote the UN resolution that clean water be recognised as a human right. Lord hear us

We pray for God to lead us all to search and plan. That believers appreciate the inquisitive minds of scientists who expand human knowledge. Lord, hear us.

Lord, please take care of our dads and help us to let them know how much we love and appreciate them. Lord, hear us.

We pray for all the Dad's that have passed away and may we have joy with our memories. 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: Margot Mulgrew,

And for those whom we remember at this time, especially: John Van Grondelle, Annie O'Sullivan, Margaret Cooper, Morris Quinlan, Boyd Keogh, Peter Dent, George Whitty

Lord, hear us.

Loving God, you ask the poor and the lonely to come into your kingdom. Hear our prayers and open our ears so we can hear your voice in those around us.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

AMEN



SEASON OF CREATION SEPTEMBER 1 – OCTOBER 4
2021: "A home for all" This year's logo for the Season of Creation is Abraham's tent, symbolizing "A home for all". Abraham and Sarah opened their tent as a home for three strangers, who turned out to be God's angels (Genesis 18). By creating a home for all, their act of radical hospitality became a source of great blessing. Abraham's tent is a symbol of our ecumenical call to practice creation care as an act of radical hospitality, safeguarding a place for all creatures, human and more human, in our common home, the household (oikos) of

God. The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration of prayer and action for our common home. Together, the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray, protect, and advocate for God's creation. During the 2021 Season of Creation, from 1 September through 4 October, hundreds of thousands of Christians will be uniting around the theme, "A home for all? Renewing the Oikos of God."



"Let the heavens be glad and let Earth rejoice" Ps. 96.11

THIS WEEKEND WE CELEBRATE PLANET EARTH SUNDAY: We worship with our planet home Earth refers to the fragile green blue planet, that piece of stardust in the solar system we now call home. Earth is also the domain that is filled with God's glory, the living presence of God that appeared on Sinai, in the tabernacle and now permeates Earth itself (Isa. 6.3). That same glory is revealed in the Word made flesh from Earth and born on planet Earth (John 1.14).

As we join in our liturgy, and journey through the week, consider; what does Creation mean for us? What does caring for Creation look like for us?

God, our Creator, as we reflect on the mystery of our fragile planet, we celebrate the wonders of Earth as our home. Help us to discern how we have polluted our

planet and to empathise with the groaning of creation beneath us. Teach us to sense the presence of God pulsing through Earth as a living green blue sanctuary and teach us to love Earth as our home. Amen.

'If a mistaken understanding of our own principles has at times led us to justify mistreating nature ... , we believers should acknowledge that by so doing we were not faithful to the treasures of wisdom.'

Pope Francis Laudato Si' #200

THE ARCHBISHOP'S

FATHER's DAY

COLLECTION FOR RETIRED & SICK PRIESTS

Please Give Generously

an initiative of the Archdiocese of Sydney

Father's Day appeal can be made through the Priests Retirement Foundation website

www.cam.org.au/foundation Donations can be made by via debit, credit card or Paypal where the donor's details are loaded and receipts can be issued.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - ENGLISH TEACHERS, YOUTH WORKERS & YOUTH MINISTERS. The Cagliero Project is an initiative of the Australia-Pacific Province of the Salesians of Don Bosco, providing overseas volunteer experiences for Australians who wish to work with disadvantaged young people. We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers for January 2022 departure. Our volunteer placements run for 6-12 months and are centered around working with young people in educational settings. We are currently recruiting for volunteers in our Australian communities however when it is possible and safe to do so we will recommence sending volunteers to Cambodia, Samoa, Timor Leste and the Solomon Islands. We aim to utilise the skills and talents of our volunteers to provide the best possible contribution to the host community. Our aim is not to walk in solidarity with young people and for volunteer and host to have a mutual learning experience. Cagliero volunteers commit themselves to working in the 'Salesian way'. This means that young people are the central focus in all work. The Salesian way also means approaching life in a joyful way with a loving heart! For more information, or to send us an inquiry, follow this link: <http://cagliero.org.au/>

HUMANITARIAN CRISES UNFOLDING IN AFGHANISTAN, HAITI AND LEBANON As the situations in Afghanistan and Lebanon deteriorate, you can help to support families caught up in the crises. In Afghanistan, people have been forced from their homes, with half of the population in urgent need of food, water, shelter and protection. A tropical storm that hit Haiti three days after a 7.2 magnitude earthquake has complicated efforts to provide help to the Caribbean nation. In Lebanon, the country is running out of power, water, fuel, medicine and food. Even hospitals are facing massive fuel shortages and will soon have to turn off the lights. Please donate to Caritas Australia so that we are able to respond to crises like these and others across the world. Donations: visit [Caritas Haiti](#) Appeal or [Caritas Lebanon](#) Appeal or [Caritas Afghanistan](#) Appeal or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.



PLANNING FOR OUR PARISH 100TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2022

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?**'

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.

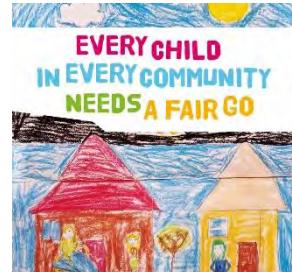
If you are interested in joining the Centenary Planning Team, and / or submitting any ideas you have regarding the Centenary you can contact the Parish Office, or the Parish Leadership Team, to register your interest by either telephone or email. Contact details are in the Parish Bulletin or Parish Website.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

NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK

5 - 11 September 2021



NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION WEEK 5-11 SEPTEMBER 2021 To treat all of Australia's children fairly, we need to make sure every family and community has what kids need to thrive and be healthy. The 2021 theme for National Child Protection Week is all about the importance of the 'bigger picture' in addressing child abuse and neglect. Children can thrive and be healthy when they have what they need to develop well. But not every family has these resources. This is why we need to support every child, family and community according to their needs. This will create a healthier, fairer Australia for all children. A lot of great research is helping us understand more and more about what children need to thrive. Child Protection Week 2021 will be an opportunity to translate this knowledge into action. All skillsets, all people, and all communities are assets in this important endeavour. Let's make sure our neighbourhoods have strong foundations for families and children – jobs, safe places, libraries, parks, playgrounds, schools, child care, affordable housing, health services, social activities, clubs, friendly neighbours, businesses and more. Napcan are running a series of Webinars during NCPW visit their website <https://www.napcan.org.au/ncpw-webinars-2021/> for more information.



SENSE OF THE FAITHFUL NEWSLETTER NO 8

A group of parishes from Melbourne and beyond are sponsoring the Sense of the Faithful website to facilitate discussions between parishes in Australia on the key issues facing the Church, and articulate and promote via a consultative process a shared view across parishes, to the extent to which such a shared view exists. Sense of the Faithful invites all involved in the life of the Church, in their parish or in other ways, to join in a conversation to contribute to effective change.

We have added to the website [here](#) the details of each of the members of our Sense of the Faithful editorial committee.

Our main addition to the Sense of the Faithful website, as a conversation opener, is [Fifth Plenary Council of Australia: A Call for Agenda Development](#). The document aims to respond to the PC Agenda's call for 'concrete proposals to create a more missionary, Christ-centred Church in Australia'. Our team effort uses only two questions from the list of six questions for each topic listed in the official PC Agenda. Our purpose is to illustrate what we think is needed to help the PC achieve real results. We hope others will take up the task of developing 'concrete proposals' for these and the remaining questions.

We are asking the PC Secretariat to circulate our paper to the PC Members.

We would welcome your response via the website to the document in terms of the suggestions we have made. We would also like to hear of other proposals that you want to highlight for consideration by the Plenary Council.

Other additions to the website are:

On the resources webpage, under the 'Plenary Council 2020' heading, we would like to add two items: [My hope for the Plenary Council](#) By Bishop Vincent Long and [Professor Gabrielle McMullen's response](#) to Bishop Vincent's 2021 Helder Camara Lecture.

On the 'Cry of the Earth' webpage we added the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) [Social Justice Statement 2021-22: Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor](#).

On the 'Key Issues' webpage we have added a link to the Flashes of Insight conversation on synodality and how it relates to the Plenary Council, available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XxrwOnYBk8g>

On the webpage 'Role of Women', we have added an [article by PC Member, Dr Nimmi Candappa](#).

Finally, included in this newsletter is a link to a five-page extract from the 2020 book of Pope Francis: ['Let Us Dream: the Path to a Better Future'](#) (Simon & Schuster, London). In this discussion of synodality, Francis outlines how he sees the process of agreement can emerge from opposing positions held by synod participants. We hope to explain further soon how this process could and should apply to how the Plenary Council is conducted.



24 May 2021

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

On the occasion of the sixth anniversary of [Laudato Si'](#), the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development invites you to **join the ecumenical family in celebrating the Season of Creation**, the annual celebration that takes place from September 1, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, to October 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. As Pope Francis wrote last year: "We are particularly happy that the Season of Creation is becoming a truly ecumenical initiative. Let us continue to grow in the awareness that we all live in a common home as members of a single family."

United around this year's theme "**A home for all? Renewing the oikos of God**", the global Christian family will participate in initiatives of **prayer, sustainability, and advocacy** to care for our common home. This year's symbol **Abraham's tent** expresses our ecumenical call of radical hospitality, safeguarding a place for all creatures, human and non human, in the household (oikos) of God.

Last year, the Holy Father Pope Francis officially [invited](#) the faithful to participate in this annual Season to: "renew their faith in the God of creation and join in prayer and work for the care of our common home." This year, I humbly request your assistance in promoting this important moment in your local parishes and communities. Promotional materials such as this "[Ecumenical invitation to join the Season](#)" can be found on the [Season of Creation website](#). We also encourage bishops and ecclesial bodies to make **statements** to raise awareness about the Season of Creation, helping the faithful to realize that "living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience" (*Laudato si' 217*).

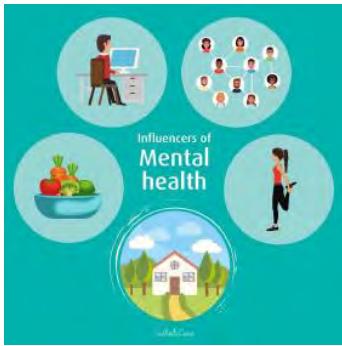
Today, we conclude the Laudato Si' Special Anniversary Year. It was an year of grace with so many initiatives undertaken around the world for the care of our common home. We are so happy that the Laudato Si' Year will lead to the multi-year [Laudato Si' Action Platform](#). I invite you to promote the Laudato Si' Action Platform during the Season of Creation by inviting communities in the seven sectors of families, parishes and dioceses, schools and universities, hospitals and healthcare centres, businesses and farms, groups, movements and organizations, and religious orders, to undertake the proposed seven-year journey of integral ecology, joining in a same approach "integral ecology", "integral health" and processes of peace and fraternity.

This Season of Creation will also be a critical moment for Catholics to lift up the voices of the most vulnerable and advocate on their behalf ahead of two important summits, the UN Summit on Biodiversity (COP 15) in October and the UN Climate Summit in November (COP 26). May I invite you to join advocacy initiatives such as the [Healthy Planet, Healthy People Petition](#) urging for bold action to protect creation in addition to other initiatives calling for new paths forward together.

Respectfully yours in Christ,

Monsignor Bruno-Marie Duffé

Secretary, Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development



LOCKDOWN AND OUR MENTAL HEALTH

Our mental health is influenced by things we do and experience in our day to day life. This includes our environment. Being in lockdown again for an extended period means an awful lot of time spent at home, so take the time to make sure your home is the best it can be for your mental wellbeing.

Eat well, exercise, stay in touch with friends and family.

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, there are lots of great 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



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE 2021 This year we begin the task of collecting new names for our perpetual Book of Remembrance earlier than usual and have now opened up the online submission page. We remain hopeful that we will be back at Masses before 1 November when the Book will be published online and will also be placed in our church. To submit new names to the book, please follow this link: <https://forms.gle/gavGgXY4CtXPXcJ87> which will be active until 5pm on Friday 22 October. PLEASE NOTE: If you have submitted names in previous years there is no need to do it again as all names remain in the Book of Remembrance.

PARISH OFFICE OPEN VIRTUALLY The office remains contactable each weekday from 9am until 3pm via phone and email. The parish office will not be staffed as we follow the government directive to work from home. For those who need to visit speak with Fr John, appointments can be made over the phone or via email. We can also book online meetings via Zoom.

PARISH GIVING DURING COV1D19 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

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

Business Manager: Kathy Gilmour kathy.gilmour@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 – 3:00pm

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

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

School email: 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

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.

Jesus cures a man who cannot hear or speak

Mk 7:31-37

My name is



Finish the story of Jesus healing the deaf man by adding the missing words and pictures.

Jesus travelled to the land of Decapolis.

A crowd of people asked- Jesus to heal a man who was deaf and could not speak properly.



Draw Jesus walking along the road

Draw the deaf man

Jesus touched the man's ears and tongue and said, 'Effatha!', meaning 'Be opened!'.



Colour the picture

The man was very happy because now he could hear and talk! The people praised Jesus.



Draw the people praising Jesus

Jesus cures a man who cannot hear or speak



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Finish the story of Jesus healing the deaf man by adding the missing words and pictures.

Jesus travelled to the land of Decapolis.

Draw Jesus walking along the road

A crowd of people _____ Jesus to heal a man who was _____ and could not speak properly.



Draw the deaf man

Jesus touched the man's _____ and tongue and said, 'Effatha!', meaning '_____ up'.



The man was very happy because now he could hear and talk! The people praised Jesus.



Draw the people celebrating and praising Jesus

Gospel

Mk 7:31-37

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

Jesus did many good things, such as healing people and helping those in need. What are some good things you can do for others?

