



St Therese's & Our Lady of the Nativity

Essendon & West Essendon Parishes

22 & 23 January 2023

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A
St Therese's Centenary Year 1922 – 2022



First Reading Is 8:23 – 9:3 A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations. The people that walked in darkness

has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase, they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian.

Gospel Mt 4:12-23 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled: Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, Galilee of the nations!

The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light; on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death a light has dawned. From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him. He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

Dear friends at Our Lady of the Nativity Parish and St Therese's,

As we move into 2023, it is a time for some new arrangements, given my appointment as parish priest has been extended to co-ordinate pastoral and sacramental care to both communities. This is our first combined parish bulletin, so that if there are forthcoming activities in either place, please make contact with the parish office.

I write to inform you of new arrangements, necessitated by the current shortage of priests, and the need to rationalise parish administration, with the one office at 48A Lincoln Rd, Essendon. All phone calls are now through this office, so that one diary can be kept to co-ordinate activities.

As I mentioned on my first weekend saying Masses at OLN, change is an inevitable part of life in general, and with regard there are many choices available for weekday Masses at present. At present, weekend Mass times overlap at Essendon and West Essendon, so there needs to be a review there.

As parish priest, I plan to alternate between churches each weekend, with the kind assistance of the Columban Missionary Fathers in Strathmore and retired Melbourne diocesan priests, for whose assistance we are most grateful. Columban Father Colin McLean is saying Masses at OLN this weekend. And we thank Lorne for keeping things organised till now at OLN.

Baptisms will be celebrated at midday on the 4th Sunday of the month at St Therese's, with Baptism families attending a welcoming at 10.30am Mass at St Therese's on the third Sunday of the month.

Funerals for both churches will be co-ordinated through the parish office, where Kathy and Jac keep things organised. Irene is bookkeeper, and Leanne makes contact with Baptism families following registration.

Thanks for your understanding and co-operation as we work through how our two parishes will work together.

John Hannon PP

For your information, weekday Masses in our area are as follows:

10.00am from Tuesday to Friday at St Therese's in Essendon,

9.00am from Tuesday to Friday at St John the Baptist Church in Niddrie.

9.15am Mass from Tuesday to Friday at St Martin de Porres in Avondale Heights

10am Mass from Tuesday to Friday at St Vincent's in Strathmore

INTERCESSIONS

Brothers and Sisters, let us bring our intentions before the Lord, who through the Spirit anoints us with joy.

For the sick and suffering: that healing may come through the intercession of Mary, the mother of our Lord.

We pray for Alex, Bella, Olivia and Isabella who will be initiated into our church at the sacrament of Baptism this weekend. That they lead a life of faith and love for all.

We pray for those who are ill, especially Pat O'Dwyer, Callum O'Dwyer and Keith McKenna.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Anne Balia, Martino Frazzia, Joan McKenna, Tony Pantano, Anna Di Francesco and June Bethelsen; and for those whom we remember at this time, especially Frederick Hansen, Frances Cooney, Maria Rumoro, Maurice Corkill, Casimir Lukauskas, Josephine Rabar, John Falzon, Ersilia Jans, Thomas Barresi, Geoffrey Robertson, Angela Casamento, Kevin Moloney, Giovanna Maggiore, Kevin O'Dwyer, Rosario Gibilisco, John Rodrigues and Jack Forehan.

May the petitions of our community be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, so that we may receive what we cannot ask out of confidence in our own merits. Through Christ our Lord. AMEN

GETTING INVOLVED IN OUR PARISHES The new year brings a new focus on reinvigorating parish life. Now is the time to think of getting involved and supporting the groups and ministries of St Therese's and OLN.

SENIOR FRIENDSHIP GROUP The St Therese's Senior Friendship Group will restart monthly morning teas this year, offering their usual hospitality in PACE Function room after morning Mass. The group are seeking the assistance of parishioners who are willing and able to supply a platter of sandwiches no more than two or three times a year. All contributions will be gratefully received! If you are able to volunteer please contact the parish office to give your name and number so that a member of the SFG can get in touch. Our SFG welcomes participation from both parishes.

WEDDING HELPERS NEEDED Our volunteer wedding helpers assist in opening up and setting up for weddings. Usually volunteers will only be rostered 4 or 5 times a year. If you can assist in this happy task, please contact the parish office.



2023 SACRAMENT DATES AND RE PROGRAMME Sacrament dates for 2023 have been set with the first being the Sacrament of First Reconciliation taking place in late March. Applications are now open for our RE Programme and the course going ahead will depend on enrolment numbers. This year we welcome applicants from the Our Lady of the Nativity parish. To register interest please use this [online form](#). To view details of the programme [click here](#). Or you can get details on the St Therese's [website](#): <https://www.stthereses.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-programme/>

PARISH DATES	Weekend 21 & 22 January	Fr Colin McClean saying all Masses at OLN Fr John saying all Masses at St Therese's	
	Sunday 22 January	Parish Baptisms	12:00pm
	Thursday 26 January	Australia Day Public Holiday (parish office closed) Morning Mass at St Therese's Church	10:00am
	Weekend 28 & 29 January	Fr John saying all Masses at OLN Fr Ray Scanlon saying all Masses at St Therese's	
	Monday 30 January	Term 1 Begins	
	Friday 3 February	Whole School Mass - Beginning of School Year (St Therese's)	10:00am
	Weekend 4 & 5 Feb	Fr Colin McClean saying all Masses at OLN Fr John saying Masses at St Therese's	

Office Telephone: 9401 6330 **After Hours:** 0490 956 610

ST THERESE'S PARISH

48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon

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

Weekday Masses: Tuesday to Friday 10:00am

Weekend Masses: Saturday 6:00pm, Sunday 9:00am, Sunday 10:30am

Reconciliation: Saturday 5:45pm

School: email info@stessendon.catholic.edu.au phone 9374 6100

OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY PARISH

33 Fawkner St, Aberfeldie

Office email: essendonwest@cam.org.au **Website:** <http://pol.org.au/essendonwest/Home.aspx>

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 10:00am

School: email principal@olnaberfeldie.catholic.edu.au phone 9337 4204

Mass online: [click here](#)

St Vincent de Paul helpline: 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10:00am-3:00pm

St Therese and Our Lady of the Nativity Parishes are 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 respects to them and to Elders past, present and emerging.