



St Therese's & Our Lady of the Nativity Essendon & West Essendon Parishes



**18 & 19 February 2023 - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
St Therese's Centenary Year 1922 - 2022**



First Reading Lv 19:1-2. 17-18 A reading from the book of Leviticus

You must love your neighbour, as yourself.

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: 'Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: "Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

"You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord."

Gospel Mt 5:38-48 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Love your enemies.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

'You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

INTERCESSIONS

Sisters and brothers, with confident hope we now bring our needs to God.

For the Pope, and for all who lead our faith communities: may they always respond to God's grace to live the Gospel as mirrors of God's goodness.

For peace in our world: may we all respond to God's grace to set aside enmity and violence and strive for a world of reconciliation and compassion.

We pray for those in New Zealand affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. May the Holy Spirit give them strength and may we give them practical support to get back on their feet.

For children throughout the world: may we cherish and protect them so they can grow in the confidence of knowing they are made in God's image and likeness.

We pray for those who are ill

We pray for those who have died recently especially Brigid Brignell, Bruce Sun You Lew, Marie Kirwan, Nicolina Sartorio, Che Yue Pong and for those whom we remember at this time, especially Angelo Natoli, Ruth Forehan, Luigi Martino, Rita O'Brien, Val Bourke and Gabriele Di Sipio.

God our Father, you sent your Son to teach and guide us. Grant us the strength and wisdom we need to live our lives in accordance with your commands. We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN



LENT REFLECTION SESSIONS IN PACE AND OLN CHURCH The weekly sessions will follow the Lenten program 'God is on the journey, too', written by Christopher Monaghan CP. Chris says, 'At every stage of the journey of faith, there is something to learn, invitations for us to grow, and opportunities for our relationships with God and others to be strengthened, healed, and renewed.' There are three programmes in Lent:

Thursday morning: Following 10:00am Mass in PACE Meeting Room, St Therese's, led by OLN parishioner Dolores Carroll. Begins Thursday 23 February. After Easter this meeting will become a weekly Gospel Reflections group.

Thursday evening: 7:30pm in PACE Function Room, St Therese's. Begins Thursday 2 March.

Sunday morning: Following 10:00am Mass at OLN in church foyer, led by OLN parishioner Gerald Mullen. Begins Sunday 26 February.

There is no cost to attend any of the programmes. We do ask that you purchase your own copy of the booklet (\$7.50). Booklets are available at the sessions (please bring correct money) or from the Lincoln Rd office open Monday to Friday 9:00am -3:00pm. Cash and credit cards accepted at the office.

FROM ASHES TO HOPE: Available for sale from the Lincoln Rd office and at all Lent programmes is this small book of daily reflections. Each day includes a scripture reading, a reflection upon it, some questions to aid prayer and discussion, and relevant quotes from Pope Francis. This Lenten practice will lead the reader into a deeper reflection on their daily life. \$4:00 per copy. Cash and credit cards accepted at the office. Cash only at Lent programmes.

REMINDER SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE MORNING TEA IN PACE following 10:00am Mass on Tuesday 21 February. No charge but gold coin donations will be gratefully received.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- GETTING INVOLVED IN OUR PARISHES** In the spirit of a unified Catholic community we are seeking volunteers from both parishes and encourage parishioners to join groups at both St Therese's and OLN. Contact the parish office if you are willing and able. Some areas to volunteer are:
- CALLING ANY TECH SAVVY PARISHIONERS** The St Therese's Music team are looking for volunteers to learn the process of using the data projector and aiding the production of the power point slides.
- GREEN THUMBS AT OLN** The volunteers who are valiantly keeping the gardens in check at OLN are in need of assistance. We're looking to establish a gardening group to help them out.
- SACRISTANS AND MASS HELPERS** Opening up the church and setting up for Masses and funerals.
- EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY TO PRIVATE HOMES AND CARE FACILITIES** Taking Communion to these parishioners who are housebound or are residents in assisted living/aged care we would love to hear from you.
- WEDDING HELPERS NEEDED** Assist in opening up and setting up for weddings. Usually volunteers will only be rostered 4 or 5 times a year.
- REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS** All volunteers in the Archdiocese of Melbourne must hold a current Working With Children Check and that Check and must complete the CAM Safeguarding Essentials Training Certification for Volunteers. WWCC: <https://service.vic.gov.au/services/working-with-children>
- SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR CLERGY AND VOLUNTEERS:** [Click link here](#)

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION & DISCUSSION WITH FR TONY FEENEY Parishioners are warmly invited to join Fr Tony and company in a weekly discussion of the weekend's Gospel and readings. Fridays at 7:00PM pm via Zoom ([Click here for link](#)) Meeting ID: 750 3236 9165 Passcode: 282664

PROJECT COMPASSION Lent begins next Wednesday and the annual Project Compassion appeal will commence. Money boxes and envelopes are available now for collection from church.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE Please note that the parish office will only be contactable via phone and email for three days from Tuesday 28 February. It will reopen as usual on Friday 3 March.

STATUE OF OUR LADY The statue of Our Lady will be relocated to the Sequeira family on Monday 20 February.

CALENDAR	Weekend 18 & 19 February	Fr Tony Feeney saying Masses at OLN Fr John saying Masses at St Therese's	
	Sunday 19 February	Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass at St Therese's	10.30am
	Monday 20 February	SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE	7:00pm
	Tuesday 21 February	SFG hosting Shrove Tuesday Pancakes in PACE function room	10.30am
	Wednesday 22 February	Ash Wednesday: St Therese's School Mass Ash Wednesday: afternoon Mass at OLN Ash Wednesday: evening Mass St Therese's Project Compassion Appeal begins	10.00am 5:30pm 7.00pm
	Thursday 23 February	Lenten programme 'God is on the journey too'	10:30am
	Weekend 25 & 26 February	Fr John saying Masses at OLN plus 9am at St Therese's Fr Tony Feeney saying all other Masses at St Therese's	
	Sunday 26 February	Lenten programme 'God is on the journey too' at OLN church Parish Baptisms at St Therese's	10:45am 12.00pm
	Tuesday 28 February	Parish office closed to public contactable by phone and email	
	Wednesday 1 March	Parish office closed to public contactable by phone and email	

PARISH PRIEST Fr John Hannon
Office Telephone: 9401 6330 **After Hours:** 0490 956 610
Office hours: Monday to Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm

ST THERESE'S PARISH
Church and parish office: 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
Church: 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 churches stand and recognize their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and to Elders past, present and emerging.

PARISH CONTACTS

CENTENARY GAZETTE

St Therese's Parish 1922-2022

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THE TERESIAN

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Our Lady Of The Nativity Parish

We had observed for some time the approach to parochial maturity in the Chapel-of-Ease section of St. Teresa's, and had felt that God and the people would be better served in that area with the establishment of a new Parish of Our Lady of the Nativity.

The matter came to a head with a perfectly reasonable request that the extra class-rooms should be built now to complete the parish school up there. We felt that our present commitments would preclude bank borrowing for this work, and that we could rate only low priority in the many demands on the School Provident Fund.

The solution was to establish the new Parish now with a clean sheet at the bank, and let the new Pastor build these class-rooms to the design he preferred and in time for the 1962 school year.

There was question also of a "land-swap" with the Franciscan Missionary of Mary Sisters. They had obtained domestic permission to establish on their property a Dom-

estic Arts and Commercial School for girls. It was felt that the Sisters' land would be the best block for an eventual Parish Church, and a Vida Street frontage on our Parish property might better suit the new school. We considered that if there were going to be a new Parish Priest soon, he might as well be appointed now, and arrange this business also to his own satisfaction.

We had no misgivings that the people of St. Teresa's might consider this "no liabilities" handover somewhat prodigal in view of our present debt contracted on behalf of West Essendon, and our prospective reduced income to meet that debt. We feel we know the St. Teresa's people better than that. There are no "pikers" where the obvious general good of the Church is concerned.

In the circumstance of relatively small intervening distance, we knew that our new south-west border would have to be more than normally contiguous to home. We tried to establish that by the choice of

Parishioners themselves for Sunday Mass. In the event, we have inevitably lost some valued parishioners who are still relatively close neighbours. We can only ask them now to be as loyal to Our Lady's as they were to St. Teresa's.

For the information of Parishioners we publish opposite the map of our present Parish. It's a bit obsolete at the north now but is sufficient for our purpose.

We are personally delighted — and we know our Parishioners are — that Father James Wall is our new neighbouring Parish Priest. His present heavy commitments in the Provident Fund and the Vocations Crusade will gradually taper off now, allowing him to devote the proper time to his new charge. Meanwhile, there is no priest better equipped to attend to the present pressing building needs of West Essendon.

We know also that his own Parishioners are delighted to have Father Wall as their new Pastor. And we congratulate them. He was the man appointed to organise against both the crises threatening

Continued on Page 7

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Friday, 28th July—

Day for Fathers: Especially per-
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Saturday, 29th July—

General Family Communion. —
Three Masses at 7, 8 and 9 a.m.

We confidently hope that every
family will back this Crusade in our
Parish, that a real "Mission" crowd
will throng the Church for the Dia-
logue Holy Hour on Tuesday night,
that every busy mother will be there
for her Mass on Wednesday, that
every father will get home and bring
the boys to their Friday evening
Mass, and that we shall empty all
our Ciboriums on the Saturday
morning.

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OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY PARISH

Continued from Page 4.

our Catholic education system to-
day — the shortage of class-rooms,
and the shortage of religious voca-
tions to staff them.

And knowing him from his stay
at St. Teresa's, his own parishioners
know — as the Bishops know, and
we know — that there is no better
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