



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



**25 & 26 February 2023 – First Sunday of Lent Year A  
St Therese's Centenary Year 1922 - 2022**

**First Reading** Gen 2:7-9; 3:1-7 A reading from the book of Genesis

*Creation of our first parents, and sin.*

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.

The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden.

The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

**Gospel** Mt 4:1-11 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*Jesus fasted for forty days and nights.*

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'

The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

## **INTERCESSIONS**

*Brothers and sisters, in the presence of God's mercy, let us bring our prayers before the Lord.*

That the Holy Church will support all people seeking repentance and forgiveness.

That nations will care for those who face the wilderness of poverty and homelessness.

That the people of Turkey and Syria will continue to receive international assistance as they struggle with the devastating aftermath of the recent earthquake.

We pray for Amelia, Andre, Jordan, Marco and Andre 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 all who are trying to rise from the ashes in their lives. May our support for Project Compassion remind us that now is the time to turn to the Lord with all our hearts and embrace the needs of God's whole family.

We pray for those who are ill.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Marie Kirwan, Che Yue Pong, Bruce Sun You Lew, Diana Lane, Bernard Laffey, Nicolina Scartoria, Joseph and Roslyn Devlin and Nora Miles and for those whom we remember at this time, especially Fay Slattery, Marie Hassed, Charlie De Lorenzo, Val Bourke, Anne Balia, Marco De Angelis and Domenico Ascone.

*Loving Father, you shower us with mercy and compassion. Hear our prayers and help us to resist temptation and enter into your forgiveness and mercy during this Lenten season. We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN*

**SATURDAY VIGIL MASS AT OLN** In order that Fr John can spend time at both parishes and say as many Masses as possible between our two churches; from the first weekend in March (Sunday 5 March) the 5:30pm Mass at OLN will move to the earlier time of 5:00pm. This will mean that Fr John will be able to preside at 5:00pm at OLN and 6:00pm at St Therese's on most weekends. We thank the sacristans at both parishes who make it possible for Fr John to move swiftly between the churches. Your support in opening up, setting up and closing up the churches after Masses and services is essential and very much appreciated.

**TEMPORARY PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE** Please note that the parish office will only be contactable via phone and email for three days from Tuesday 28 February while our team work offsite. The office will be staffed on Monday 27 February and will reopen as usual on Friday 3 March.



**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. After Easter this meeting will become a weekly Gospel Reflections group.

**Thursday evening:** 7:30pm in PACE Function Room, St Therese's led by Liturgy and Music Ministry team.

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

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAYS IN LENT** Parishioner-led Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday in Lent at 3:00pm at St Therese's church. If any OLN parishioners are interested in leading Stations please let the office know.



### PROJECT COMPASSION: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 25 & 26 FEBRUARY

Laxmi, 16, lives in in Jajarkot, a remote district in Nepal where almost half of the population live below the poverty line. Tragedy struck when Laxmi was 10 years old and her father passed away. Her father worked hard to pay for his children's education and after losing him Laxmi was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty.

With the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club at her school where she was encouraged to resume her education. Through the child's club, Laxmi developed the skills and confidence to become a leader, advocating for clean water taps at her school.

Laxmi is now excelling in her studies and working towards her dream of becoming a civil engineer. She continues to be involved in the child's club, serving as an advisor and mentoring the next generation of young leaders at her old school.

#### PLEASE DONATE TO PROJECT COMPASSION 2023.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations.**

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion), or by calling 1800 024 413.



## 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 parishioners who are housebound or are residents in assisted living/aged care.

**WEDDING HELPERS NEEDED** Assist in opening up and setting up for weddings. Usually volunteers will only be rostered 4 or 5 times a year.

**SAFEGUARDING** Safeguarding is EVERYONE'S responsibility. A culture of safety within the Church ensures that children and young people can actively and fully participate in the life of the Church and realise their potential in a faith community.

**ALL VOLUNTEERS** in the Archdiocese of Melbourne must hold a current Working With Children Check and that Check must list each parish in which they volunteer. <https://service.vic.gov.au/services/working-with-children>. All volunteers, staff and clergy must also complete the CAM Safeguarding Essentials Training Certification. For safeguarding training: [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 8:00PM (new time) via Zoom ([Click here for link](#)) Meeting ID: 750 3236 9165 Passcode: 282664

**PIETY STALL AT OLN** Since the piety stall is no longer an ongoing concern, most of the contents of the stall will be made available (free of charge) to any interested OLN parishioners. Please help yourself to anything that is meaningful or useful to you. We will be emptying the display cases and removing them from the foyer to create a more open and welcoming gathering space. The first group to gather in the foyer will be the Lenten reflection group this Sunday after 10:00am Mass.

**STATUE OF OUR LADY** The statue of Our Lady will be relocated to the De Lorenzo household on Monday 27 February.

**PARISH SCHOOLS: ENROLMENT FOR PREP 2024** See below for information regarding enrolments for the 2024 school year at our parish schools. Each school has a different enrolment process and requirements. Please read carefully and direct any queries to the school you are interested in.



**ENROLMENTS NOW OPEN FOR 2024 OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY SCHOOL**

The staff at OLN school look forward to welcoming you all to see our wonderful parish school in action on the upcoming Open Days. Tours of the school will be held on the days and times below.

When: Monday 6th March 9:30am and 11:45am and  
Tuesday 7th March 9:30am and 11:45am

Enrolment packs will be available at the tour.

If you have any questions about the tours, please contact the Our Lady of the Nativity school office on 9337 4204.



**SCHOOL OPEN DAY AT ST THERESE'S SCHOOL** An opportunity for interested families, both current and prospective, to visit the school and see what happens during a "regular" school day. The Open Day will be on Tuesday 14th March between 9:30 AM and 3:00 PM. Visitors are welcome to enter via the School Office in Edward Street where school tours will be offered throughout the day by St Therese's School leaders.

**ENROLMENT REGISTRATION EVENING** School Leadership and Board members will be available to assist with registering for enrolment, as well as answer any questions you may have about the school. For families new to the St Therese's school community, attendance is advisable, but not a requirement.

When: Tuesday 14th March, 2023

Where: Prep Classrooms (enter school grounds via Florence St gate)

Time: 7:00 PM until 8:00 PM

**REGISTER:** To register your attendance for either or both of these events: [Click here](#)

<b>CALENDAR</b>	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 closes to public contactable by phone and email	Until Friday
	Thursday 2 March	Lenten programme 'God is on the journey too' in PACE	10:30am & 7:30pm
	Friday 3 March	Parish office reopen to the public Stations of the Cross at St Therese's led by parishioners	9:00am 3:00pm
	Weekend 4 & 5 March	Fr Tony Feeney saying Masses at OLN Fr John saying Masses at St Therese's	
	Saturday 4 March	Combined Liturgy & Music meeting in PACE	9:30am
	Sunday 5 March	RE Reconciliation Preparation session 1- PACE Function Room Lenten programme 'God is on the journey too' at OLN church	9:30am 10:45am
	Monday 6 March	OLN School Open Day Tours	9:30am 11:45am
	Tuesday 7 March	OLN School Open Day Tours	9:30am 11:45am
	Wednesday 8 March	SVDP Regional Meeting in PACE	7:30pm
	Thursday 9 March	SFG Committee meeting Lenten programme 'God is on the journey too' in PACE	10:30am 10:30am & 7:30pm

<b>PARISH CONTACTS</b>	<b>PARISH PRIEST</b> Fr John Hannon <b>Office Telephone:</b> 9401 6330 <b>After Hours:</b> 0490 956 610 <b>Office hours:</b> Monday to Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm
	<b>ST THERESE'S PARISH</b> Church and parish office: 48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon <b>Office email:</b> <a href="mailto:essendon@cam.org.au">essendon@cam.org.au</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.stthereses.org.au">www.stthereses.org.au</a> <b>Weekday Masses:</b> Tuesday to Friday 10:00am <b>Weekend Masses:</b> Saturday 6:00pm, Sunday 9:00am, Sunday 10:30am <b>Reconciliation:</b> Saturday 5:45pm <b>School:</b> email <a href="mailto:info@stessendon.catholic.edu.au">info@stessendon.catholic.edu.au</a> phone 9374 6100
	<b>OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY PARISH</b> Church: 33 Fawkner St, Aberfeldie <b>Office email:</b> <a href="mailto:essendonwest@cam.org.au">essendonwest@cam.org.au</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://pol.org.au/essendonwest/Home.aspx">http://pol.org.au/essendonwest/Home.aspx</a> <b>Weekend Masses:</b> Saturday 5:30pm, Sunday 10:00am <b>School:</b> email <a href="mailto:principal@olnaberfeldie.catholic.edu.au">principal@olnaberfeldie.catholic.edu.au</a> phone 9337 4204
	<b>Mass online:</b> <a href="#">click here</a> <b>St Vincent de Paul helpline:</b> 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10:00am-3:00pm
	<i>Our 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.</i>

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## Reverend Father Desmond Magennis

"A PRIEST FOREVER" — JULY 23rd, 1961



Third son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Magennis of 1 Gilbertson Street, Essendon.

Born December 31st, 1933 and baptised at St. Teresa's by Father Peter O'Brien on January 28th, 1934.

Confirmed by Archbishop Simonds at St. Teresa's on October 8th, 1944. (Sponsor: David Whiting).



St. Fidelis' School, Moreland, 1939.

St. Monica's, Moonee Ponds, 1940-41.

St. Teresa's, 1942-44.

St. Joseph's C.B.C., North Melbourne, 1945-50.

State Public Service 1951.

Geelong Teachers' College, 1952.

Entered Corpus Christi College, March 1st, 1953.



Ordained Sub-Deacon December 3rd, 1960 — Deacon March 8th, 1961

Priesthood at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne, July 23rd, 1961

First Benediction in St. Teresa's, Sunday, July 23rd at 4 p.m.  
(Preacher: Father John Spillane)

First Holy Mass in St. Teresa's, Monday, July 24th, at 9.30 a.m.  
(Chaplain: Father C. Cafarella)



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