



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



**6 & 7 May 2023 - Fifth Sunday of Easter Year A
St Therese's Centenary Year 1922 - 2022**



First Reading: Acts 6:1-7 A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They elected seven men filled with the Spirit and wisdom.

About this time, when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenists made a complaint against the Hebrews: in the daily distribution their own widows were being overlooked. So the Twelve called a full meeting of the disciples and addressed them, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food; you, brothers, must select from among yourselves seven men of good reputation, filled with the Spirit and with wisdom; we will hand over this duty to them, and continue to devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word.' The whole assembly approved of this proposal and elected Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

The word of the Lord continued to spread: the number of disciples in Jerusalem was greatly increased, and a large group of priests made their submission to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Gospel: Jn 14:1-12 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I am the way, the truth, and the life.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God still, and trust in me. There are many rooms in my Father's house; if there were not, I should have told you. I am now going to prepare a place for you, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am you may be too. You know the way to the place where I am going.'

Thomas said, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through me. If you know me, you know my Father too. From this moment you know him and have seen him.'

Philip said, 'Lord, let us see the Father and then we shall be satisfied.' 'Have I been with you all this time, Philip,' said Jesus to him 'and you still do not know me? 'To have seen me is to have seen the Father, so how can you say, "Let us see the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I say to you I do not speak as from myself: it is the Father, living in me, who is doing this work. You must believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; believe it on the evidence of this work, if for no other reason. 'I tell you most solemnly, whoever believes in me will perform the same works as I do myself, he will perform even greater works, because I am going to the Father.'

INTERCESSIONS

Brothers and sisters, with faith in Christ, we turn to God with our prayers.

For our Pope, bishops, priests and all religious clergy: that God may be glorified in the Church

That Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

We pray for all who suffer exhaustion or loneliness in caring for a loved one: may they feel the comfort of God's presence.

We pray for ourselves: that by our love for one another, everyone may know that we are Christ's disciples

We pray for those who are ill, especially: Shirley Callum and Kerri Geary.

We pray for those who have died recently especially: Sr Judith Christy, Kevin Oakman and Vlado Bacak; and for those whom we remember at this time, especially: Maria Mambrino, Joseph Said, Antonio Modica, Armando Catania, Mario Campo, Marianna Nardo, Anna Maria Minniti, Vince Catterall and Pina Sita.

Wise and loving God, during these Easter days you bring new life into the world through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Accept our prayers and sustain our deeds and words by your Spirit. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

AMEN

HUGE THANKS to all the parishioners who attended the working bee at OLN last Saturday. The lawn is mowed, the edges are neat and a huge amount of rubbish has been removed from the presbytery house and yard. The house is all packed up and ready to be emptied. It was an enormous undertaking and many hands made light(ish) work. **THANK YOU**

MASS COUNT Our collectors will be conducting our Parish Mass 'count' throughout May. This annual count taken in May is important for our Archdiocese pastoral planning activities and allows for comparisons to be made across the years. This year, the four weekends of 6-7 May, 13-14 May, 20-21 May and 27-28 May have been selected for the count.

WHICH PRIEST WHERE? This weekend Fr John is saying all Masses at St Therese's while Fr Tony will say both Masses at OLN. Please bear with us, we'll do our best to publish who will be celebrating Masses at each church when it is possible but sometimes the schedule hasn't been decided when the bulletin is published.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED On Thursday 11 May the parish office will close all day while Fr John and our admin team attend a Parish Administration Forum run by the Melbourne Archdiocese. The office will be open for the rest of the week for normal operating hours.

PROJECT COMPASSION Caritas Australia have asked that we return all monies to them in the next two weeks - which means getting any remaining donations back to the parish ASAP. If you are holding on to Project Compassion envelopes or money boxes please return them in the next week. You can drop them into the parish office during opening hours or into the collection plates. Thanks for your generosity.

YOUTH MASS AND THE FINALE OF ST THERESE'S CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS The St Therese's Centenary Planning Committee have TWO (please forgive misprint last week which advertised only one) upcoming Masses which are planned to round out the celebrations of the St Therese's Parish Centenary year. A Youth Mass will be held on Sunday 18 June at 10:30am and then on Sunday 2 July at 10:30am the final milestone in the 12 months of celebrations will be the Centenary Concluding Mass. More information to come.

VOICE REFERENDUM INFORMATION SESSION On the first Sunday in June after the St Therese's 10:30am Mass our AWE Group will host a discussion/workshop in PACE facilitated by Dr Heather Wearne who is a Volunteer Educator on the Voice Referendum. Over the course of 1 hour, and in a very relaxed and informal way, Dr Wearne will share a brief background on the Statement From the Heart; its importance, its place in a long history of First Nations Peoples; the call for Constitutional recognition and the reasons for it. She will cover why it matters so much to First Nations Peoples; the necessity for inclusion in the constitution where there has been none. And she will cover the Referendum: how it will work and why it matters: to give voice to all Australians on a matter of national, historical and social importance. Parishioners from both parishes are encouraged to attend. When: Sunday 4 June 2023 at 11:30am in PACE Function room. Includes a morning tea in PACE

EMAIL ISSUES We are still having some difficulties with emails, especially intermittent problems with sending emails - which are being returned unsend after many hours, sometimes after many days. We have also recently experienced a big influx of malicious emails. We apologise if any inconvenience is caused while the IT department work through the issues.

LITURGICAL GUIDELINES: MASKS AND OTHER COVID SAFE MEASURES For many months since the lifting of restrictions we have practiced measures of hygiene that are no longer required under Liturgical Guidelines of our Archdiocese. Moving cautiously, we now move to the following guidelines: Celebrants and Eucharistic Ministers are no longer required to wear masks to distribute Holy Communion. Sanitising of hands is not required but is strongly encouraged. Although distribution of Communion via wine is allowed, we will not be offering wine as Communion because the shared chalice poses too much of a health risk in terms of spread of disease. You can read the [Archdiocese Guidelines here](#).



ALL VOLUNTEERS, STAFF AND CLERGY in the Archdiocese of Melbourne must hold a current Working With Children Check and that Check must list each parish in which they volunteer/work. Please add St Therese's and/or OLN to your own WWCC check here: <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 visit: [Click link here](#)

SAFETY ESSENTIALS IN-PERSON TRAINING Thank you to all volunteers who have so far undertaken the online Safeguarding Essentials Training Certification. We understand that online is difficult for some of our volunteers and will therefore be holding in-person training sessions in PACE. The second session will be on Tuesday 16 May at 10:30am.

KIDS AT MASS This Saturday! All children are invited to attend St Therese's Parish 'Kids at Mass' on the first Saturday of each month at 6.00pm Mass. Our next session will Saturday 6th May at 6:00pm mass. Please come and join us!

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS GROUP Weekly reflection on the Sunday Gospel. Sessions at 10:30am (directly after morning Mass) in PACE Meeting room. Literature is provided, all are welcome.

TINY Ts PLAYGROUP CHANGE OF DAY Tiny Ts will run weekly in PACE on Wednesday mornings commencing at 9:30am. There are a couple of weeks where previous bookings mean the group won't meet this term. Check bulletin dates.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION & DISCUSSION WITH FR TONY FEENEY Fridays at 8:00PM pm via Zoom ([Click here for link](#)) Meeting ID: 750 3236 9165 Passcode: 28266

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND LECTORS ROSTER Going forward the roster will be printed in the bulletin each week for the following weekend. If you'd like to join either roster, please let the parish office know.

ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 13 & 14 MAY

CHURCH / MASS	LECTORS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
OLN 5:00pm	Michael Balia	Tatiana Polizzi
OLN 10:00am	Mark Donahoo	Andrew Scaramozzino
ST THERESE'S 6.00pm	John O'Connor	Tony Proctor & Trish Giacomini
ST THERESE'S 9.00am	Mary Dowling / Margaret Kerr	Tony Belcastro & David Gloury
ST THERESE'S 10.30am	Ryan & Anna English / Lucy Angelico	Rosa Pierorazio & Sr Marg Moore

1st Reading: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 **2nd Reading:** 1 Pt 3:15-18 **Gospel:** Jn 14:15-21



SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

OLN AND ST THERESE'S GOSPEL REFLECTIONS GROUP

Parishioners and other interested people are invited to attend our weekly Gospel reflections session in the PACE Meeting Room.

The group is convened by OLN and St Therese's parishioners and is a great way to meet and engage with people who share a passion for scripture.

Weekly Meetings are held after 10:00am Mass on Thursdays for a short session (one hour maximum)

The group look at the coming Sunday's Gospel with a focus on reflections written by His Holiness Pope Francis.

Printed materials are provided to participants.

There is no need to book, just turn up for the session.

Weekly attendance is not required, come along when you can!



KAM THIS SATURDAY!

Primary school-aged children are invited to attend St Therese's Parish 'Kids at Mass' on the first Saturday of each month at 6.00pm Mass. Children not yet at school can be accompanied by their parents.

Listen to Jesus' message in a child-friendly and engaging way

The group leaves the church at the beginning of the First Reading & returns at the Offertory Procession. Activities include children's Gospel, craft activities and group discussions

UPCOMING DATES: 6 May, 3 June, 1 July, 5 August and 2 September

Tiny Ts Playgroup

Tiny Ts Playgroup is run by volunteer parents from OLN and St Therese's Parishes

We welcome all those who care for children from infancy through to school age

Socialise with other families from our parish & school communities

Indoor and outdoor covered play areas

Runs in all weather conditions

Free play with all our toys

Make friends ready for Prep

Share a healthy morning tea



A great place to make new friends!

WHEN: Weekly on Wednesday mornings during school terms

TIME: 9.30am – 10.30am

WHERE: St Therese's PACE Function Room **COST:** Free of charge

Grab a flyer for more details

ST THERESE'S PARISH PACE FUNCTION ROOM



Looking for a venue for an upcoming event?

PACE, the venue for many of our parish gatherings, is available to rent on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:30am until 6:30pm

The function space at PACE is a bright, modern room with access to an outdoor deck area, enclosed yard and undercover outdoor area

Fully-equipped kitchen, WIFI, wall-mounted screen and split system air-conditioning.

<https://www.stthereses.org.au/our-parish/pace-function-and-meeting-rooms/>

See our website for conditions of hire

Discounted hire rates for financial/giving parishioners

PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday 6 May	Kids at Mass in PACE function room	6:00pm
Sunday 7 May	RE Confirmation Preparation session 2 – PACE function room	9:30am
Monday 8 May	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Draim family	
Tuesday 9 May	Requiem Mass for Sr Judith Christy at St Therese’s	11:00pm
Wednesday 10 May	School Mother’s Day stall in PACE (no playgroup) Requiem Mass for Kevin Oakman at St Therese’s Sacrament of Confirmation Faith Night in St Therese’s church SVDP Regional Meeting in PACE	9:00am 12:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm
Thursday 11 May	Parish office closed for staff and clergy training day Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room SFG Committee Meeting	10:30am 10:30am
Weekend 13 & 14 May	St Therese’s students and RE programme present as candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation	All Masses
Sunday 14 May	Mother’s Day RE Confirmation Preparation session 3 – PACE Function Room	9:30am
Monday 15 May	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Notaro family SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE	7:00pm
Tuesday 16 May	Safeguarding Essentials training in PACE function room	10:30am
Wednesday 17 May	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room	9:30am
Thursday 18 May	SFG Morning Tea in PACE function room	10:30am
Friday 19 May	St Therese’s Sacrament of Confirmation Mass St Therese’s Sacrament of Confirmation Mass with RE students	4:00pm 6:00pm
Weekend 20 & 21 May	OLN students present at Mass as candidates for the Sacrament of First Eucharist	All Masses
Sunday 21 May	Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass	10:30am
Monday 22 May	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Lambert family	
Wednesday 24 May	No playgroup today due to booking in PACE	9:30am
Thursday 25 May	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	10:30am
Sunday 28 May	Parish Baptisms	12:00pm
Monday 29 May	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Condillac family	
Wednesday 31 May	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room	9:30am
Thursday 1 June	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	10:30am
Weekend 3 & 4 June	Propagation of the Faith Appeal OLN Students Sacrament of First Eucharist	All Masses OLN Masses
Saturday 3 June	Kids at Mass in PACE Function room	6:00pm
Sunday 4 June	Presentation by Dr Heather Wearne (Volunteer Educator on the Voice Referendum) in PACE Function Room	11:30am
Monday 5 June	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Periera family	
Wednesday 7 June	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Liturgy of the Word with Communion	9:30am 10.00am
Thursday 8 June	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room SFG Committee Meeting	10:30am 10:30am

PARISH CONTACTS

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 5:00pm, 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

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.