



St Therese's & Our Lady of the Nativity

Essendon & West Essendon Parishes



15 & 16 July 2023 – 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time



First Reading: Is 55:10-11 A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The rain makes the earth fruitful.

Thus says the Lord: 'As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.'

Responsorial Psalm: The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; all who come to him will live for ever. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mt 13:1-23 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

A sower went out to sow.

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Then the disciples went up to him and asked, 'Why do you talk to them in parables?' 'Because' he replied 'the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven are revealed to you, but they are not revealed to them. For anyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. The reason I talk to them in parables is that they look without seeing and listen without hearing or understanding. So in their case this prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled:

You will listen and listen again, but not understand, see and see again, but not perceive. For the heart of this nation has grown coarse, their ears are dull of hearing, and they have shut their eyes, for fear they should see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their heart, and be converted and be healed by me.

'But happy are your eyes because they see, your ears because they hear! I tell you solemnly, many prophets and holy men longed to see what you see, and never saw it; to hear what you hear, and never heard it.

'You, therefore, are to hear the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom without understanding, the evil one comes and carries off what was sown in his heart: this is the man who received the seed on the edge of the path. The one who received it on patches of rock is the man who hears the word and welcomes it at once with joy. But he has no root in him, he does not last; let some trial come, or some persecution on account of the word, and he falls away at once. The one who received the seed in thorns is the man who hears the word, but the worries of this world and the lure of riches choke the word and so he produces nothing. And the one who received the seed in rich soil is the man who hears the word and understands it; he is the one who yields a harvest and produces now a hundredfold, now sixty, now thirty.'

INTERCESSIONS

Dear friends, let us bring our intentions before the Lord, who we trust in love.

That, like Christ the sower, our Holy Father, Pope Francis, will continue to reveal God's word to all people.

May the Holy Spirit allow us to see that all people are our neighbours. May we reflect God's unconditional love to all those we meet.

We pray for peace for families and communities caught up in violence and conflict throughout the world. We pray for the peacemakers working to end wars.

We pray for the students from Our Lady of the Nativity school who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the coming weeks. May they be guided by the Spirit as they continue to grow in faith and in life.

We pray for those who are ill, especially: Maree Cowell and Joanne Jones.

We pray for those who have died recently especially: Sergio De Santos, Lou Cassar, Paola Franzo and John Conlan. And for those whom we remember at this time, especially: Jim Ruth, Kevin Oakman, Vito & Natala Gandolfo, Micheline Matrenza, Lorna Callaghan, Pasqualina Italiano, Christopher Montalti, Giuseppe Santo Zoi, Salvatore Ganci and Domenico Figliuzzi.

Loving God, hear our prayers and help us to live prayerful lives as we rejoice in the mystery of Christ present to us. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

WELCOME OLN CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES This weekend we welcome our OLN Year 6 students who present themselves as candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation at OLN Masses. We join as a parish in our commitment to supporting them as they prepare to receive the Sacrament on Sunday 30 July.

WHICH PRIEST WHERE? This weekend Fr John will say both Masses at OLN to welcome our Confirmation families as well as saying the 9:00am Mass at St Therese's. Fr Tony will say the 6:00pm and 10:30am Masses at St Therese's. Next weekend Fr John will say all Masses at St Therese's and Fr Tony will say all Masses at OLN.

NEXT WEEK EVENTS Don't forget the Senior Friendship Group's Winter Warmer gathering next Thursday in PACE after 10:00am Mass. And if you missed it last time, you can attend an evening session of the Voice Referendum Information Session in PACE on Wednesday evening at 7:30pm.

MEN'S CHOIR UPCOMING PERFORMANCE AND REHEARSALS Our Men's Choir will next perform at 10:30am Mass on Sunday, 30 July 2023. Before then practices are being held 7:00pm to 9:00pm Tuesday 18 July and Thursday 25 July For those interested in joining the Men's Choir, please ring Mick O'Brien on 0403 105 301.

ST JOHN BOSCO RELICS All parishioners are invited to spend some time in personal prayer and a celebration of the Eucharist in honour of St John Bosco's relics being at the Don Bosco Retreat Centre on Tuesday 18th July 2023. (465 Lysterfield Rd, Lysterfield.) Personal prayer is welcome from 6pm and Mass will be celebrated at 7pm. The relic statue of St John Bosco, better known as Don Bosco, is touring Australia as part of the celebrations of the centenary of the arrival of the Salesians in Australia.

ST THERESE'S GARDENING GROUP PRUNING DAY Will be next Saturday 22 July from 9:00am. There are many roses to prune as well as some other maintenance of the garden – even in winter the jobs keep coming! If you have time and a pair of secateurs you are very welcome to join in; there are plenty of experienced pruners to give advice. PACE will be available for some refreshments.

WORKING BEE: OLN CLEANOUT AND CLEAN UP We are in the final stages of the clean out of the OLN presbytery and will have a local charity collecting furniture and goods over the coming weeks. There are a few handyperson jobs need doing in the house as well as a general clean-up of the garden. The next working bee is scheduled for Saturday 5 August from 9:00am. If you have some maintenance/repair skills and some time to spare could you please contact the parish office so we can discuss the jobs that need attention?

PIN OAK REMOVAL AT ST THERESE'S We have been granted a permit to remove the Pin Oak in the St Therese's Memorial Garden, conditional on us planting another (advanced) tree which will grow to the same size as the oak. Arborists will be onsite on Friday 21 July from early morning to remove the tree and prune many of the other mature trees in the St Therese's grounds. Some areas of the grounds will be out of bounds during the arborist's work to make sure everyone stays safe. The replacement tree will be planted well away from any structures to avoid another situation where we have a tree damaging parish property.

ENVELOPES FOR ST THERESE'S PARISH SUPPORT PROGRAMME There are still many PSP envelopes awaiting collection from the tables at the back of St Therese's church. They are organised by STREET NAME. Could parishioners who use the weekly envelopes please collect their 2023/2024 envelopes as they are dated from July. If you have a PO Box as your address in our parish database, your envelopes will be filed under P.O. Boxes. Thanks everyone!

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.

PARISH SUBSCRIBERS LISTS You can have both the Parish newsletter (delivered weekly) and the Gospel Reflection sheets (delivered monthly) send straight to your inbox via our new subscriber system. Visit this link and you can add your name to the subscriber list for either or both publications. You can unsubscribe whenever you like and your information is secure: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/subscription?id=0012w00000LOj4wAAD&req=subscribe>

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

VOLUNTEERS **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](#)

CODE OF CONDUCT All parish volunteers, clergy and employees must abide by the terms of the Child Safety Code of Conduct. You can read and record your acceptance of the CoC here: <https://forms.gle/5XmgSURViUYJodnt6>

ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 22 & 23 JULY 2023

CHURCH / MASS	LECTORS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
OLN 5:00pm	Paul Whiting	Georgina Kucera
OLN 10:00am	Adrian Commadeur	Michael Portelli
ST THERESE'S 6.00pm	Tric Joseph & Tony Proctor	Joe Fittipaldi & Trish Giacomini
ST THERESE'S 9.00am	Bruce White & Christine Nelson	Marg Tormey & Mick O'Brien
ST THERESE'S 10.30am	Jim Maderazo & Lanelle Eid	Marita Hassed-Dunne & Miriam Gandolfo
1st Reading: Wisdom 12:13.16-19 2nd Reading: Romans 8:26-27 Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43		
Online resource for weekly readings and reflections: https://sundayreadingsathomeyeara.weebly.com/st4t3b3g.html		

Senior Friendship Group Winter Warmer

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS
OF OUR PARISHES ARE
INVITED TO ATTEND

The Annual Winter Warmer
Thursday 20 July
at 10:30am

in
PACE FUNCTION ROOM
Delicious homemade soup
to warm the body and soul

All welcome

VOICE REFERENDUM INFORMATION SESSION

Wednesday 19 July
7:30pm in PACE

*For those who missed the previous talk,
the we are offering another chance to
hear Dr Heather Wearne speak about
the Voice Referendum.*

*She is a lively and engaging speaker and
the feedback from the last discussion
was very positive.*

Come along and be informed.

All welcome

Opening the Doors Foundation Appeal

You Can Still Donate

Envelopes are available or go online to
donate at:

<https://www.openingthedoors.org.au/>



Your donation will support the next
generation of Aboriginal leaders, thinkers and
change agents to achieve their dreams

PARISH GARDENING GROUP PRUNING DAY

Saturday 22 July

9:00am

St Therese's

It's the season for
PRUNING!

Join the gardening group
at St Therese's for a
morning of pruning and
tidying up of the gardens

BYO gardening tools

All welcome, especially
green thumbs!



PARISH DATES

Weekend 15 & 16 July	OLN students present as candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation	All OLN Masses
Monday 17 July	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Nguyen family Requiem Mass for Sergio De Santos SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE	10:30am 7:00pm
Tuesday 18 July	Mass at Trevi Court Requiem Mass for Lou Cassar (at OLN)	11:00am 1:00pm
Wednesday 19 July	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Presentation by Dr Heather Wearne (Volunteer Educator on the Voice Referendum) in PACE Function Room	9:30am 7:30pm
Thursday 20 July	Grandparents Mass at OLN SFG Winter Warmer morning tea in PACE (Soup)	9:00am 10:30am
Saturday 22 July	Pruning the roses at St Therese's	9:00am
Sunday 23 July	World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly	
Monday 24 July	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Rosario family	
Tuesday 25 July	Fr John on leave Liturgy of the Word replaces morning Mass	10:00am
Wednesday 26 July	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE	9:30am
Thursday 27 July	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	10:30am
Sunday 30 July	Men's Choir singing at 10:30am Mass - St Therese's Fr Kevin Burke saying Mass at OLN OLN Students Sacrament of Confirmation Mass OLN Students Sacrament of Confirmation Mass	10:30am 10:00am 1:00pm 3:00pm
Monday 31 July	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Grima family	
Tuesday 1 August	Liturgy of the Word replaces morning Mass	10:00am
Wednesday 2 August	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE	9:30am
Thursday 3 August	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	10:30am
Weekend 5 & 6 August	Catholic Care appeal	All Masses
Saturday 5 August	OLN Presbytery Working Bee Kids at Mass in PACE Function Room	9:00am 6:00pm
Monday 7 August	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Dang family	
Tuesday 8 August	Liturgy of the Word replaces morning Mass	10:00am
Wednesday 9 August	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE SVDP Regional Meeting in PACE	9:30am 7:30pm
Thursday 10 August	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room SFG Committee Meeting	10:30am 10:30am
Monday 14 August	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Whiting family	
Tuesday 15 August	Feast of the Assumption Mass	10:00am
Wednesday 16 August	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE	9:30am
Thursday 17 August	SFG morning tea in PACE	10:30am
Friday 18 August	Whole school Mass (St Therese's) for Feast of the Assumption	10:00am

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

To subscribe to our newsletter go to:

<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/subscription?id=0012w00000LOj4wAAD&req=subscribe>

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.