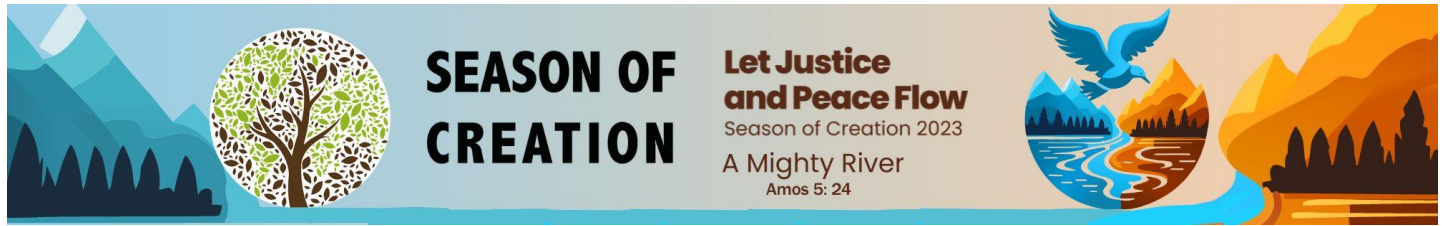




St Therese's & Our Lady of the Nativity Essendon & West Essendon Parishes



16 & 17 September 2023 – Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



First Reading: Sirach 27:30 – 28:7 A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus
Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High and overlook the offence.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 102:1-4. 9-12. R. v.8 (R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

Gospel Acclamation: John 13:34 Alleluia, alleluia! I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven.

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time," he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

INTERCESSIONS

Sisters and brothers, mindful of God's mercy, we turn to the Lord in prayer.

That the Church will continue the work of Christ in welcoming outcasts and sinners

As Pope Francis asks us; we pray that people living on the margins of society may they not be overlooked by institutions, and never considered of lesser importance.

That those affected by the deadly earthquake in Morocco and flood in Libya will receive the help they urgently need and prayerful support from all of us.

That in this Season of Creation, as followers of Christ on our shared synodal journey, let us live, work and pray that our common home will teem with life once again.

We pray for Ellie, Hendrix, Isaiah, Gabriel and Ayla who are this weekend welcomed into our parish and will next weekend be initiated into our church at the Sacrament of Baptism. That they lead a life of faith and love for all.

We pray for those who have died recently especially: Valmai Fitzell and Barry Murphy; And for those whom we remember at this time, especially: Pat Torr, John Manser, Merna Moloney, Dawn Ward, Annette Kenny, Bruno Martino, Francesco D'Amico and Ezidia Paes.

Loving God, you are generous and compassionate in forgiveness. Help us to be forgiving people as we strive to follow your Word. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



CARITAS AUSTRALIA'S EMERGENCY APPEALS – MOROCCO & LIBYA

In Libya heavy storms from Cyclone Daniel caused two dams to burst, sweeping entire neighbourhoods from the city of Derna into the sea. Over 5,300 people have been confirmed dead with over 10,000 people are missing. Thousands of people have been killed after a catastrophic 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck the Kingdom of Morocco's High Atlas Mountain range. Over 2,900 people have been confirmed dead while thousands of people have been injured.

Communities in both countries need shelter, food, water and medical assistance. Please support Caritas Australia's emergency appeals. Donate at www.caritas.org.au

WHICH PRIEST WHERE? Fr John will be saying all Masses St Therese's this weekend. Fr Tony Feeney will say both Masses at OLN. Next weekend we'll have Fr Tony at 6:00pm and 10:30am Masses at St Therese's while Fr John will say both Masses at OLN as well as the 9:00am Mass at St Therese's.

ANOINTING MASS Next Thursday 21 September there will be a Mass of Anointing at our usual 10:00am morning service. Following this Mass, the Senior Friendship Group will host a morning tea in PACE. All are warmly invited to attend.

FUNERALS NEXT WEEK Our condolences to Cathy Whelan and her family on the loss of her father Barry Murphy. A Funeral Mass for Barry will be held at St Therese's on Wednesday 20 September at 11:00am. Condolences also to the family of Valmai (Val) Fizzell, a long-time parishioner of Our Lady of the Nativity who passed away on 7 September. A funeral service will be held for Val on Friday 22 September at 11:30am at OLN. Our prayers are with both families.

ST THERESE'S CENTENARY BOOK The Centenary book is now available for purchase online and will be available to collect from the parish of school office in October. Order now to avoid disappointment by going online to: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1117882> If you're unable to go online, there will be a limited number of books available to purchase from the parish but you will need to let the office know ASAP so that we can place an order.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS IN SEPTEMBER The parish office is open Tuesday to Friday until Friday 22 September. Our usual office hours will resume on Monday 25 September. The office will be closed for the Grand Final public holiday.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE FOR OLN We have nearly finished entering all the handwritten names from the OLN Book of Remembrance into a file which can be updated and printed each year. Some names have been hard to decipher, so we will be highlighting names we can't make out and displaying them in the OLN foyer from next week. The sheets to add new names to the book will also be in the foyer from next week so names can be re-entered onto those sheets. Books will be published and placed in our churches on 1 November and will remain in the churches for all of November.

ST THERESE'S MEMORIAL GARDEN We respectfully request that visitors to the Memorial Garden do not add any plants, nor leave anything other than fresh cut flowers in the provided vessels. The parish is responsible for all planting and maintenance. Any plants added to the gardens will be removed as will any other ornaments or mementos.

BUILDING A WELCOMING COMMUNITY The Parish Leadership Team has convened a 'Special Interest Group' to explore ways we can make our parishes more welcoming and engaging. If you are interested in joining the 'Special Interest Group', please leave your details with the Parish Office. Their first meeting will be held on Thursday 21 September at 7:30pm in PACE.

ENVELOPES FOR ST THERESE'S PARISH SUPPORT PROGRAMME The envelopes which were not collected in June have been moved to the parish office. To collect, please visit during office opening hours.

ST MONICA'S PRAYER GROUP Want to grow in your faith and spirituality? Make some new friends and enjoy fellowship? Share in the Word of God? Praise and Worship in song? Enjoy some delicious cake? Come, join us every Thursday from 7.30-9.00pm in Symons Centre, St. Monica's.

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.

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 MINISTRY AT AGED CARE We are still asking for volunteers to assist with the weekly service at Ralene Boyle Village as the centre has now asked us to conduct two services beginning at 1:15pm on Tuesdays. We also have volunteers who regularly visit Arcadia Aged Care and Trevi Court Aged Care. Anyone willing and able to volunteer at any of the aged care facilities would be most warmly welcomed to our team. Volunteers need to have at least three COVID vax and a police check. The parish will assist with payment of special rates for Police Checks so please contact the office. We are also seeking ministers to take Communion to parishioners who still live in their own homes but can no longer get to Mass.

ALL VOLUNTEERS, STAFF AND CLERGY in the Archdiocese of Melbourne must hold a current Working With Children Check and 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 visit: [Click link here](#)

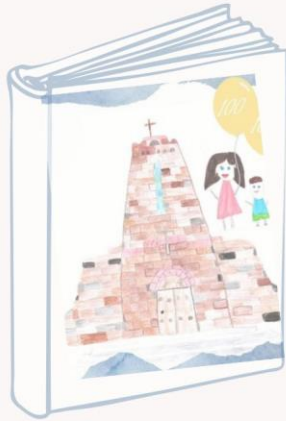
CODE OF CONDUCT All parish volunteers, clergy and employees must abide by the terms of the Child Safety Code of Conduct. You can read and record your acceptance here: <https://forms.gle/5XmgSURVIUYJodnt6>

PARISH SUBSCRIBERS LISTS Visit the link and you can subscribe to the weekly Parish newsletter and the monthly Gospel Reflections: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/subscription?id=0012w0000LOj4wAAD&req=subscribe>

ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 24 & 25 September 2023		
CHURCH / MASS	LECTORS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
OLN 5:00pm	Michael Balia	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 Hased-Dunne
1st Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9 2nd Reading: Philippians 1:20-24. 27 Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16		
Online resource for weekly readings and reflections: https://sundayreadingsathomeyeara.weebly.com/st4t3b3g.html		

ST THERESE'S ESSENDON

Our Centenary Book is available to purchase...



Take a trip down memory lane as you turn the pages of the 100 year history of St Therese's School & Parish

\$20
per copy



Available Early October
Collection from School or Parish Office*
Be Quick! Limited Copies Available

Order your copy
Now!!!

*Make your selection for your preferred collection point when ordering

Laughter and Connection

A program for the young at heart - this workshop series is an exploration of physical comedy, collaboration and finding joy.



Register today for our 7 week workshop

First session FREE!

Would you like to try something new, meet new people, share some laughs and keep your brain fit? Join us for this fun workshop series to get creative whilst enjoying movement, games, exercises, improvisation and laughter. These sessions are suitable for all levels of experience.

When: Wednesday, 20 September - Wednesday 1 November, 2023

Time: 10.00am - 12.00pm

Where: Crown Street Stables, 40 Crown Street, Flemington

Cost: \$51 for 7 weeks for My Aged Care and HACC PYP eligible participants.

The first session of this workshop is free.

How to register:

Please contact Council's Healthy Ageing team on healthyageing@mvcc.vic.gov.au or call 9243 8748



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

PACE Meeting Room
Thursdays 10:30am

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

A great way to meet and engage with people who share a passion for scripture

Look at Sunday's Gospel with a focus on reflections written by His Holiness Pope Francis

Printed materials are provided to participants.

No need to book, just turn up for the session.

Senior Friendship Group Morning Tea

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS OF OUR PARISHES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

Morning Tea in
PACE FUNCTION ROOM
Thursday 21 September
from 10:30am
(following 10:00am Mass)

All welcome

PARISH DATES

Sunday 17 September	Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass	10:30am
Monday 18 September	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Sequeira Family SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE	7:00pm
Tuesday 19 September	Mass at Trevi Court Aged Care	11:00am
Wednesday 20 September	Requiem Mass for Barry Murphy at St Therese's	11:00am
Thursday 21 September	Mass of Anointing Morning tea in PACE hosted by SFG Meeting of Parish Welcoming/Access Group in PACE	10:00am 10:30am 7:30pm
Friday 22 September	Funeral prayers for Val Fitzell at OLN	11:30am
Sunday 24 September	National Day for Migrants and Refugees Parish Baptisms	12:00pm
Monday 25 September	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Bacak family	
Wednesday 27 September	Feast of St Vincent de Paul	
Thursday 28 September	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	10:30am
Friday 29 September	Grand Final Public Holiday parish office closed	
Sunday 1 October	Feast of St Thérèse of Lisieux	
Monday 2 October	Beginning of Term 4 Statue of Our Lady moves to the Moreno	
Wednesday 4 October	Feast of St Francis of Assisi School Mass at OLN Season of Creation Ends	9:00am
Thursday 5 October	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	10:30am
Saturday 7 October	Kids at Mass in PACE St Therese's Centenary Ball	6:00pm
Monday 9 October	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Misquitta family	
Thursday 12 October	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room SFG Committee Meeting SVDP Regional Meeting in PACE	10:30am 10:30am 7:30pm
Friday 13 October	Whole school Mass for feast of St Therese's	10:00am
Sunday 15 October	Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass	10:30am
Monday 16 October	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Xerri family SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE	7:00pm
Thursday 19 October	SFG Morning Tea in PACE	10:30am
Weekend 21 & 22 October	World Mission Sunday appeal	All Masses
Sunday 22 October	Marriage & Family Sunday Parish Baptisms	12:00pm
Monday 23 October	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Asher family	
Thursday 26 October	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	10:30am
Sunday 29 October	Men's Choir singing at Mass	10:30am
Monday 30 October	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Rodrigues family	

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST Fr John Hannon

Office Telephone: 9401 6330 **After Hours:** 0490 956 610 **Office address:** 48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon

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 CHURCH

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

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

OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY CHURCH

31 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

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.