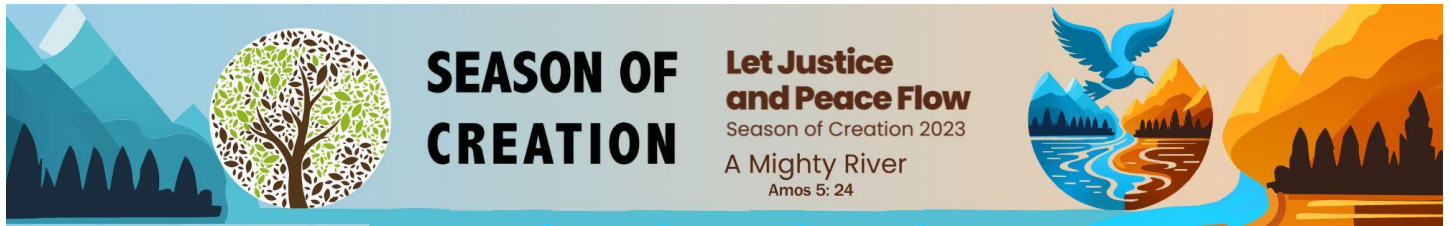




St Therese's & Our Lady of the Nativity Essendon & West Essendon Parishes



**23 & 24 September 2023 – Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
World Day of Migrants and Refugees**



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: 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

Brothers and sisters, we are to seek the Lord and call while God is still near. In hope and trust we present our needs.

For Pope Francis and the universal Church. May they become a source of life and mercy for all who seek human flourishing and safety.

For leaders in government and society at all levels. May they serve the Common Good and give people the freedom to choose whether to stay or migrate.

For those who face poverty, conflict, discrimination or lack of opportunities in their home countries. May paths of hope be opened, to allow for true life and dignity.

For those who seek to return from migration or exile. May they be supported to rebuild and experience the care of neighbours.

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

We pray for those who are ill, especially: Ernie McCarthy, Chris Morriss, Fr Stuart Sellar and John Stein.

We pray for those who have died recently especially: Valmai Fitzell, Barry Murphy, Anne Atto, Giacomo Vella, Kim Campbell and Shirley Phelan: And for those whom we remember at this time, especially: Dawn Ward, Phillip Sullivan, Celine Pereira, Domenic Tenuta, Sam Lagozzino, Kath Kennelly, William Callaghan, Anna Natoli and Anthony Guiney.

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

WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES A message from Pope Francis. *Dear brothers and sisters! The migratory flows of our times are the expression of a complex and varied phenomenon that, to be properly understood, requires a careful analysis of every aspect of its different stages, from departure to arrival, including the possibility of return... I have chosen to devote the Message for the 109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees to the freedom that should always mark the decision to leave one's native land. ... The synodal path that we have undertaken as a Church leads us to see in those who are most vulnerable – among whom are many migrants and refugees – special companions on our way, to be loved and cared for as brothers and sisters. Only by walking together will we be able to go far and reach the common goal of our journey. Read the full message on our [website](#) or there are some printed copies on entrance tables.*

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

FUNERALS NEXT WEEK We have three funerals at St Therese's church in the coming week. Our sympathies and prayers are with the families of Anne Atto, Giacomo Vella and Shirley Phelan. Check the parish dates on page four for service times.

ST THERESE'S CENTENARY BOOK The Centenary book is now available for purchase online with pickup from the parish or St Therese's school office in October. Order online at: <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. To avoid disappointment, contact the office to reserve your copy.



Book of Remembrance



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE FOR NOVEMBER MASSES Both churches will have a printed Book of Remembrance on display throughout November. Anyone wishing to add NEW names to the books can use the sheets located on church entrance tables. New submissions must be clearly printed. You can also use the online forms (one for each parish) located on the St Therese's website here: <https://www.stthereses.org.au/book-of-remembrance-2021/> making sure to use the link for the appropriate parish. The online form will be active until 5pm on Tuesday 24 October when we will close submissions to arrange them for the printed books.

We have finished entering all the handwritten names from the OLN Book of Remembrance into a digital file. Some names have been hard to decipher, and they are highlighted on the sheets in the OLN foyer. If you recognise these names, please add them to the new sheets.

REMEMBRANCE MASS Our annual Mass of Remembrance will be held on Wednesday 1 November at 7:00pm for All Saints Day and All Souls Day.

ENVELOPES FOR PARISH SUPPORT PROGRAMMES OLN Parish Support envelopes will be available for collection from OLN church foyer beginning the weekend of 7 & 8 October. For St Therese's PSP envelopes: those that were not collected in June have been moved to the parish office which is open 9:00am until 3:00pm Monday to Friday.

VOLUNTEERING

LITURGICAL MINISTRY AT OLN The roster for lectors and for Eucharistic ministers at OLN urgently needs the support of new volunteers to assist those already involved. Anyone willing and able to assist in reading at Masses or distributing Eucharist, please contact the parish office ASAP. Training will be provided.

COLLECTORS AT ST THERESE'S Volunteers are also needed for collecting duties at St Therese's. Please get in touch if you are able to assist.

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>

SPIRITUALITY

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

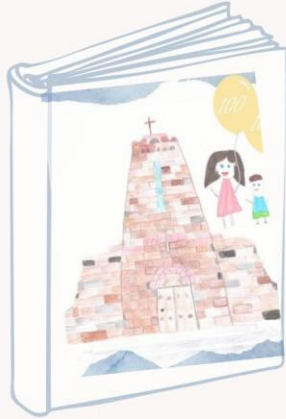
PARISH SUBSCRIBER LISTS Visit the link and you can subscribe to the weekly Parish newsletter and the monthly Gospel Reflections: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/subscription?id=0012w00000LOj4wAAD&req=subscribe>

ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 30 SEPTEMBER & 1 OCTOBER 2023

CHURCH / MASS	LECTORS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
OLN 5:00pm	Jon Fleming	Tatiana Polizzi
OLN 10:00am	Paula O'Byrne	Andrew Scaramozzino
ST THERESE'S 6.00pm	Eve Korytkowski	Gina Bell & Maggie Catterall
ST THERESE'S 9.00am	Mary Dowling & Margaret Kerr	Carmen Merrigan & Rosina Tempini
ST THERESE'S 10.30am	Silvia Campo & George Jungwirt	Maria Giampiccolo
1st Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28 2nd Reading: Philippians 2:1-11 Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32		
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 **Order your copy Now!!!**
Collection from School or Parish Office*
Be Quick! Limited Copies Available

*Make your selection for your preferred collection point when ordering

Creator of all,

From your communion of love life sprung forth like a mighty river and the whole cosmos came into being. On this Earth of overflowing love, the Word was made flesh and went forth with the life-giving waters proclaiming peace and justice for all creation.

You called human beings to till and keep your garden. You placed us into right relationship with each creature, but we failed to listen to the cries of the Earth and the cries of the most vulnerable. We broke with the flowing communion of love and sinned against you by not safeguarding the conditions for life.

We lament the loss of our fellow species and their habitats, we grieve the loss of human cultures, along with the lives and livelihoods that have been displaced or perished, and we ache at the sight of an economy of death, war and violence that we have inflicted on ourselves and on the Earth.

Open our ears to your creative, reconciling and sustaining Word that calls to us through the book of Scripture and the book of creation. Bless us once again with your life-giving waters so that the Creator Spirit may let justice and peace flow in our hearts and overflow into all creation.

Open our hearts to receive the living waters of God's justice and peace, and to share it with our suffering brothers and sisters, all creatures around us, and all creation.

Bless us to walk together with all people of good will so that the many streams of the living waters of God's justice and peace may become a mighty river all over the Earth.

In the name of the One who came to proclaim good news to all creation, Jesus Christ. *Amen*

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.

FREE TO CHOOSE WHETHER TO MIGRATE OR TO STAY

109TH WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES



SUNDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2023

A publication of the Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office



PARISH DATES

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 Requiem Mass for Anne Atto at St Therese's	10:30am
Tuesday 26 September	Rosary and Requiem Mass for Giacomo Vella at St Therese's	11:15am
Wednesday 27 September	Feast of St Vincent de Paul Requiem Mass for Shirley Phelan at St Therese's	11:00am
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 family	
Wednesday 4 October	Feast of St Francis of Assisi - Season of Creation Ends School Mass at OLN Funeral of Kim Campbell (nee Williamson) at St Therese's	9:00am 11:00am
Thursday 5 October	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	10:30am
Saturday 7 October	Kids at Mass in PACE Function Room 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	
Wednesday 1 November	November Month of Remembrance Begins Books of Remembrance are on display in our churches All Saints and All Souls Day Mass	7:00pm
Thursday 2 November	Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	10:30am
Friday 3 November	St Therese's school Mass for All Saints/All Souls	10:00am
Saturday 4 November	Kids at Mass cancelled for Melbourne Cup long weekend	

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.