



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



**4 & 5 November: Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**First Reading:** Malachi 1:14 – 2:2. 8-10 A reading from the prophet Malachi

*You have strayed from the way, you have caused many to stumble by your teaching.*

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration.

Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

**Responsorial Psalm:** In you, Lord, I have found my peace.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! You have one Father, your Father in heaven; you have one teacher: the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matthew 23:1-12 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

*They do not practise what they preach.*

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi.

'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

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## INTERCESSIONS

*The Lord is kind and full of compassion. Let us place our needs before our faithful God.*

That Church leaders will lead with humility and integrity in their words and in their actions.

That the Holy Father, Pope Francis, as he fulfills his mission, may continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit. [Pope Francis' prayer intention for November 2023.]

That nations will direct their resources to serve the poor and the hungry rather than power or prestige.

That those who are lonely or marginalised will find a place of welcome in our community.

That the millions of refugees and displaced persons throughout the world will find a place of freedom, peace, and safety for themselves and their families.

We pray for those who are ill especially Kaye Nelson and Trish Conway.

We pray for those who have died recently especially: Jack Natale, Ted Calnan, Alfred Muscat, Tom Hall, Sheila Cotter, Dalton Williams, Francesco Trimboli, Marie Spain and Maurice Foster; And for those whom we remember at this time, especially: Ted Vanderlaan, Edwin Crooks, Micheline Matrenza, Theresa Ciantar, Alan Farnbach, Bernie O'Brien and Deirdre O'Gorman.

*Loving Father, your Son teaches us to live humbly and truthfully. Send us your Spirit that we might have the courage to live as your children. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen*

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**WHICH PRIEST WHERE? THIS WEEKEND** Fr John will say all Masses at St Therese's and Fr Tony will be at OLN. Next weekend we'll have Fr John at OLN plus the 9:00am Mass at St Therese's while Fr Tony is at St Therese's for Saturday 6:00pm and Sunday 10:30am Masses.

**FUNERALS NEXT WEEK** There will be two funerals at St Therese's next week. We offer our sympathy and prayers for the families of Alfred Muscat and Marie Spain. Dates and times for their funerals are in the Parish Dates.

**REV TOM CHRISTIE** will celebrate his ordination to the priesthood at St Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday 25 November at 10:00am. Parishioners from OLN and St Therese's are invited to attend. Following his ordination there will be a Mass of Thanksgiving at Our Lady of the Nativity on Sunday 26 of November at 5:00pm. All are very welcome. Food and refreshments will be provided in the OLN parish hall after Mass. For parishioners that would like to join the choir for this Mass, there will be a rehearsal in OLN Church on Thursday 16 November at 7:00pm. Thank you for your support.

**VISIT OF HIS EXCELLENCY MOST REV PAUL GALLAGHER** Secretary for the Relations with States and International Organisations, Secretariat of State, Holy See. On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between the Commonwealth of Australia and the Vatican, Archbishop Comensoli is pleased to welcome His Excellency Most Rev Paul Gallagher and the Apostolic Nuncio to Australia – His Excellency Most Rev Charles Balvo to Melbourne. Archbishops Comensoli, Gallagher and Balvo, together with clergy of the Archdiocese, will celebrate Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica – Thursday 9 November, 5.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

**BOOKS OF REMEMBRANCE** Our perpetual Books of Remembrance are now on display in our churches and will remain there for the month of November.

**OLN BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE: SPECIAL THANKS** Many volunteer hours went into producing the new OLN Book of Remembrance. We extend our sincere thanks to parishioners Robyn & Fred Grima and Natalia D'Cruz, who undertook the huge task of transcribing the handwritten OLN book into a digital file which can now be updated and printed each year; and to Charlie Gauci and Stef Laghigna who crafted the new book's custom-made cover.

**NOVEMBER OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available from entrance tables now. These Offering envelopes can be given directly to Fr John, dropped at the office or put in collection plates.

**ST THERESE'S CENTENARY BOOK** Those who ordered books online or from the parish office can now collect them from the office (or sacristy if you prefer and payment has been made.) We have a very limited number of books available for sale so if you haven't ordered a copy contact the office ASAP to reserve a copy. Once they're gone, they're gone.

**ENVELOPES FOR OLN PARISH SUPPORT** OLN PSP envelopes are in OLN church foyer to collect.

**VOLUNTEERING**

**LOOKING AHEAD TOGETHER** The Parish Leadership Team have a new initiative involving the development of St Therese's & Our Lady of Nativity Parish strategic plan. They are seeking volunteers to join focus groups convening in November. If you're keen to join, there are clipboards with sign-up sheets on entry tables so please add your name and someone from the PLT will be in touch. Dates and times of the focus group meetings are on the sheets.

**WELCOMING TEAM AT ST THERESE'S** The Parish Welcoming Team is looking to set a up a roster of volunteers to greet parishioners and guests at Masses at St Therese's on weekends. Please contact the parish office to register your interest.

**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 NEEDED AT ST THERESE'S** Please get in touch with the parish office if you are able to assist.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY AT AGED CARE** We are still asking for volunteers to assist with the Eucharistic ministry at our local aged care centres. 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** 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**

**PROCLAIM 2023** Over three days (16-18 November) join together with parishes from across the Archdiocese of Melbourne to hear inspiring speakers, encounter Jesus through prayer, music and fellowship and participate in workshops. Register: <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1131232> use the discount code: parishmember to access the special registration price for parishioners. Enquiries: (03) 9926 5761 or [proclaim@cam.org.au](mailto:proclaim@cam.org.au)

**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 on Thursdays 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

**ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 11 & 12 NOVEMBER 2023**

| CHURCH / MASS        | LECTORS                           | EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS         |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| OLN 5:00pm           | Georgina Kucera                   | Loretta Sheehy                 |
| OLN 10:00am          | Gerald Mullen                     | Mark Donahoo                   |
| ST THERESE'S 6.00pm  | John O'Connor                     | Tony Proctor & Trish Giacomini |
| ST THERESE'S 9.00am  | Lynette Russo                     | Tony Belcastro & David Gloury  |
| ST THERESE'S 10.30am | Ryan/Anna English & Lucy Angelico | Rosa Pierorazio & Marg Moore   |

Online resource for weekly readings and reflections:  
<https://sundayreadingsathomeyeara.weebly.com/st4t3b3g.html>

# OLN & St Therese's MEN'S COFFEE GROUP

Meets on the first  
and third  
Wednesday of  
each month...  
Upcoming dates  
15 November  
6 December  
20 December

Fortnightly on  
Wednesdays  
from 10:45am  
Lincoln Food Store  
105 Lincoln Rd, Essendon



NEXT KAM WILL BE ON  
**SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER**  
AT ST THERESE'S 6:00PM MASS



Primary school-aged children can listen  
to Jesus' message in a child friendly  
and engaging way.  
Children who are not yet at school  
should be accompanied by parent/s



With joy and thanksgiving,  
Rev. Tom Christie invites:

Parishioners of Our Lady of the Nativity, Aberfeldie  
and  
Saint Therese's, Essendon.  
to attend his

*Ordination to the Priesthood*

Saturday 25th of November, 2023 at 10.00am,  
St Patrick's Cathedral,  
1 Cathedral Place, East Melbourne.

No need to RSVP for this Mass. Please note  
the Mass will finish at approximately  
12.00pm.

ST LUKE'S, LALOR INVITES YOU TO A

## NIGHT OF EVANGELIZATION WITH RON HUNTLEY

Wednesday 15th November  
**7.00PM**  
in the church



Be inspired by this  
world-renowned  
speaker and author on  
his mission to help  
create fruitful parishes  
around the world.

INTENTIONAL PARISH RENEWAL

FOR MORE INFORMATION

(03) 9465 2180  
lalor@cam.org.au  
1A David St, Lalor, 3075

PARISH DATES

|                          |  |                              |
|--------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Saturday 4 November      | Kids at Mass cancelled for Melbourne Cup long weekend  |                              |
| Monday 6 November        | School Closure day – St Therese’s and OLN schools<br>Parish office closed for Melbourne Cup Day weekend<br>Statue of Our Lady moves to the Notaro family |                              |
| Tuesday 7 November       | Melbourne Cup Day – Public holiday – Office closed   |                              |
| Wednesday 8 November     | Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function room<br>Requiem Mass for Alfred Muscat at St Therese’s  | 9:30am<br>11:00am            |
| Thursday 9 November      | Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room<br>SFG committee meeting in PACE<br>SVDP Regional Meeting in PACE  | 10:30am<br>10:30am<br>7:30pm |
| Friday 10 November       | Requiem Mass for Marie Spain at St Therese’s   |                              |
| Saturday 11 November     | Remembrance Day  |                              |
| Weekend 11 & 12 November | Annual 3-in-1 Collection for Peter’s Pence, Mercy Palliative Care and John Pierce Foundation   | All Masses                   |
| Monday 13 November       | Statue of Our Lady moves to the Portelli family  |                              |
| Wednesday 15 November    | Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function room<br>Men’s Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store  | 9:30am<br>10:45am            |
| Thursday 16 November     | Mass of Anointing<br>Morning tea in PACE hosted by SFG   | 10:00am<br>10:30am           |
| Sunday 19 November       | Fr Colin McLean saying Mass at OLN<br>Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass  | 10:00am<br>10:30am           |
| Monday 20 November       | Statue of Our Lady moves to the Draim family<br>SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE   | 7:00pm                       |
| Wednesday 22 November    | Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function room  | 9:30am                       |
| Thursday 23 November     | Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room  | 10:30am                      |
| Sunday 26 November       | Youth Sunday<br>Parish Baptisms<br>Mass of Thanksgiving for Fr Tom Christie’s ordination at OLN  | 12:00pm<br>5:00pm            |
| Monday 27 November       | Statue of Our Lady moves to the Lambert family   |                              |
| Wednesday 29 November    | Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function room  | 9:30am                       |
| Thursday 30 November     | Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room<br>SFG Committee Meeting   | 10:30am<br>10:30am           |
| Saturday 2 December      | Kids at Mass at St Therese’s   | 6:00pm                       |
| Monday 4 December        | Statue of Our Lady moves to the Pereira family   |                              |
| Tuesday 5 December       | Christmas Mass at Raelene Boyle Village  | 11:00am                      |
| Wednesday 6 December     | Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function room<br>Men’s Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store  | 9:30am<br>10:45am            |
| Thursday 7 December      | SFG Christmas Lunch in PACE  | 12:00pm                      |

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](mailto:essendon@cam.org.au) **Website:** [www.stthereses.org.au](http://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](mailto:info@stessendon.catholic.edu.au) phone 9374 6100

**OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY CHURCH**  
 31 Fawkner St, Aberfeldie  
**Office email:** [essendonwest@cam.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:principal@olnaberfeldie.catholic.edu.au) phone 9337 4204  
**St Vincent de Paul helpline:** 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10:00am–3:00pm

You can **subscribe** to the weekly Parish newsletter and the monthly Gospel Reflections:  
<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/subscription?id=0012w00000LOj4wAAD&req=subscribe>

*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.*