



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



**10 & 11 February 2024: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Project Compassion Sunday**



First Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2. 44-46 A reading from the book of Leviticus

As long as he is unclean, he must live alone, outside the camp.

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprosy: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean". As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart; he must live outside the camp.'

Responsorial Psalm: I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The leprosy left him and he was cured.

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

INTERCESSIONS

My sisters and brothers, with confident hope we now bring our needs to God.

We pray for the Church: may her teachings always reflect the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

We pray for our world: may we work constantly to expose and refute the systems used to reduce people to poverty and exploitation.

We pray for all who are searching for a true path to follow in their lives: may the Holy Spirit touch their minds and hearts. 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.

That those who are frail or elderly will have access to care that is loving, respectful, and of high quality.

We pray for those who are ill, especially Peter O'Brien, Adelina Cuda, Marion Walsh and Fr Tim Brennan.

We pray for those who have died recently especially: Peter Tunchon, Beniamino Venuto, Joan Symons and Fr Kevin Bates. And for those whom we remember at this time, especially Mary and Alec Taylor, Michael O'Connor, Penny and Les George, Joseph Anthony Martello, Paulene Webster, Obdulia Fondevilla, Santa Capovilla, Marie O'Brien and Elizabeth Heslop.

God of our ancestors, you sent your Son to teach and guide us. Grant us the strength and wisdom we need to live our lives in accordance with your commands. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



THIS WEEKEND IS PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY Please take home a Project Compassion box or a set of donation envelopes to support Caritas Australia this Lenten season and help support vulnerable people around the world, now and for all future generations.

With your support, Caritas Australia has been able to support vulnerable communities around the world to tackle poverty, food security, education, water and sanitation and disaster risk reduction to build a better future for all.

Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow for all future generations.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, by visiting <https://www.caritas.org.au/project-compassion/> or by calling 1800 024 413.



WHICH PRIEST WHERE? This weekend Fr Tony will say 5:00pm Mass at OLN and 10:30am Mass at St Therese's while Fr John will preside at 6:00pm Saturday and 9:00am Sunday at St Therese's then 10:00am Sunday at OLN. The schedule for next weekend has not been decided.

SHROVE TUESDAY MORNING TEA IN PACE A reminder that our Senior Friendship Group are hosting our annual pancake morning tea in PACE this coming Tuesday 13 February following morning Mass. Morning tea will start at 10:30am. All are welcome.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES This coming Wednesday 14 February is Ash Wednesday and there will be three Masses held across our two parishes. We welcome and thank Bishop Terry Curtain who will preside at 5:30pm Ash Wednesday Mass at Our Lady of the Nativity Church. Fr John will preside at the 10:00am Mass at St Therese's which will also be a St Therese's school Mass and he will also preside at the 7:00pm evening Mass at St Therese's.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT Parishioner-led Stations of the Cross will be held each Friday in Lent at St Therese's church at 3:00pm. All are welcome. Booklets are provided.

JOAN SYMONS FUNERAL CHANGE A note to inform parishioners that Joan Symons' funeral will not be at St Therese's but will instead be held at 10:00 am on Monday 12 February at Le Pine Chapel 941 Mt Alexander Rd (cnr Thistle St.)

COLLECTIONS AT MASSES Beginning in March there will be two collections during weekend Masses at OLN, to bring both parishes in line. At St Therese's there are already two collections. For parishioners' information: The first collection is in support of the church. It goes towards paying all costs involved in the running of our parishes including staff, facilities, maintenance, insurance etc. The second collection is in support of the presbytery. It pays our clergy living costs and supply costs for visiting priests so that we can continue to have Masses at both churches every weekend.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS Please be aware that our low gluten hosts are not 100% gluten free. The ingredients are wheat starch and water with a gluten content of 6.2 parts per million. According to Catholic doctrine, the Eucharistic host must be made of wheat and water only (Can. 924). Hosts made from alternative grains are not acceptable under Canon law.

STATUE OF OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY: ROSARY DEVOTION Each week a dedicated volunteer faithfully delivers the statue of Our Lady of the Nativity to parish families for rosary prayer and devotion. If any parishioner (you must live in the parish area) would like to join in the roster for receiving the statue, please contact the office and leave your details. If you don't know how to pray the rosary but would like to learn, our volunteer Maria will be very happy to teach you. The roster has been set until mid-year but there are places available for interested families later in 2024. The parish would like to sincerely thank Maria for coordinating the roster and for all her hard work in helping to keep the devotion to Mary alive in our parish.

TINY TS PLAYGROUP DAY CHANGE Our Tiny Ts Playgroup is back in 2024 on a new day. Sessions will now take place on Thursdays at 9:30am in PACE Function Room. To register interest in joining playgroup please email stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com so that you can keep informed of playgroup events or any changes to the schedule. Anyone who cares for pre-school aged children is welcome to attend.

GOSPEL REFLECTIONS LENTEN PROGRAMME Our weekly Sunday Gospel Reflections group continues to meet each Thursday morning in the PACE Meeting Room after morning Mass. During Lent the group will follow the Garrat Lenten Program 'Living in Harmony.' Any interested parishioners are invited to attend and should purchase a copy of the program (available from the parish office.)

GARRAT PUBLISHING LENTEN PROGRAM 'LIVING IN HARMONY': SOLD OUT – NEW COPIES ARRIVING NEXT WEEK *'We are living in a period where political talk has become increasingly oppositional and polarising, setting the tone for public and private discussion. Despite our wealth and cohesion, we are somehow convinced that this is not the best of times. We seem reluctant to act to avoid what is pending to be the worst of times. This is our Lenten fare, the stuff of our Lenten fast. One aspect is the need for harmony...This year the Garratt Lenten program, features the writings of Joan Chittister, Paul Creevey, Andy Hamilton, Gerard Moore, Paul Rowse and Debra Snoddy. They open up the Sunday readings and provide us with probing questions – uniting these insights in 2024 to build a vital and dynamic response of Christian harmony.'* Once the new delivery arrives the parish will have a limited number of copies of 'Living in Harmony' available to purchase for \$7 during office hours.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAMME Our Sacrament dates for 2024 been set with the first being the Sacrament of First Reconciliation taking place in late March at both St Therese's and OLN. The programme for First Reconciliation begins on Sunday 3 March and concludes with the Reconciliation Service on Wednesday 27 March. Enrolments for this first programme close on Friday 23 February. For more details visit our website here: <https://www.stthereses.org.au/sacraments/sacramental-programme/>

MINISTRY ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 17 & 18 FEBRUARY (WEEK 3)		
MASS	READERS	EUCHARIST
OLN 5:00pm	Michael Portelli & Robyn Grima	Fred Grima
OLN 10:00am	Mark Donahoo	Adrian Commadeur
St Therese's 6.00pm	Murray Sykes	Tric Joseph
St Therese's 9.00am	John Harvey	Maria Cricri & Sofia Ganci
St Therese's 10.30am	Rosemary Patterson & Mary O'Brien	Cherrie Arnold & Therese Hanna
<p align="center">LINKS FOR SUNDAY READINGS RESOURCES</p> <p>Adults: https://sundayreadingsathomeyearb.weebly.com/th4g0h3lw.html Children: https://www.yearbprayingwithchildren.org/s4m3j310</p>		

OLN & St Therese's MEN'S COFFEE GROUP

Upcoming Dates...

7th & 21st February
6th & 20th March
3rd & 17th April
1st & 15th May

1st & 3rd
Wednesdays
of each month
from 10:45am
Lincoln Food Store
105 Lincoln Rd, Essendon



Tiny Ts Playgroup

Hosted by parents from
OLN & St Therese's Parishes

For children from infancy
through to primary school age

Indoor and outdoor covered
play areas - runs in all
weather conditions



A great place to make new friends!

WHEN: Thursday 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

OLN & ST THERESE'S GOSPEL REFLECTIONS GROUP Lenten Programme

During Lent the Gospel Reflections session will follow the Garratt Lenten program 'Living in Harmony' authored by Joan Chittister, Paul Creevey, Andy Hamilton, Gerard Moore, Paul Rowse and Debra Snoddy

Begins Thursday 15 February

at 10:30am
in PACE Meeting Room
and then every Thursday during Lent

Copies of 'Living in Harmony' are available to purchase from the parish office for \$7

Senior Friendship Group Shrove Tuesday Morning Tea

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS
OF OUR PARISHES ARE
INVITED TO

A Pancake Morning Tea in
PACE FUNCTION ROOM
Tuesday 13 February
from 10:30am
(After morning Mass)

All welcome



PARISH CALENDAR

Monday 12 February	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Asher family	
Tuesday 13 February	Shrove Tuesday Pancakes in PACE function room	10:30am
Wednesday 14 February	Project Compassion Appeal begins Ash Wednesday: St Therese's School Mass Ash Wednesday: Mass at OLN with Bishop Terry Curtain Ash Wednesday: evening Mass St Therese's	10:00am 5:30pm 7:00pm
Thursday 15 February	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	9:30am 10:30am
Friday 16 February	Northwest Principals Network at St Therese's morning Mass Stations of the Cross at St Therese's	10:00am 3:00pm
Sunday 18 February	Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass at St Therese's	10:30am
Monday 19 February	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Sequeira family	
Wednesday 21 February	Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store (105 Lincoln Rd)	10:45am
Thursday 22 February	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	9:30am 10:30am
Friday 23 February	Enrolments close for First Reconciliation RE Programme Stations of the Cross at St Therese's	3:00pm
Sunday 25 February	Parish Baptisms at St Therese's	12:00pm
Monday 26 February	Statue of Our Lady moves to the DeLorenzo family	
Thursday 29 February	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	9:30am 10:30am
Friday 1 March	Stations of the Cross at St Therese's	3:00pm
Saturday 2 March	Kids at Mass at St Therese's	6:00pm
Sunday 3 March	First Reconciliation RE Programme session 1 in PACE	9:30am
Monday 4 March	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Musquitta family	
Wednesday 6 March	Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store (105 Lincoln Rd)	10:45am
Thursday 7 March	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	9:30am 10:30am
Friday 8 March	International Women's Day School Mass for Preps and Grade Ones at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at St Therese's	10:00am 3:00pm
Monday 11 March	Labour Day Public Holiday: parish office closed Statue of Our Lady moves to the Xerri family	
Tuesday 12 March	Mass at Raelene Boyle Village	11:00am
Thursday 14 March	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room	9:30am 10:30am
Friday 15 March	Stations of the Cross at St Therese's	3:00pm
Sunday 17 March	First Reconciliation RE Programme session 2 in PACE Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass at St Therese's	9:30am 10:30am

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

Reconciliation: Saturday 5:45pm

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.