



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

**2 & 3 March 2024: Third Sunday of Lent**



**First Reading:** Exodus 20:1-17 A reading from the book of Exodus

*The Law was given through Moses.*

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 'You shall have no gods except me. 'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it. 'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work on that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, not your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. 'You shall not kill. 'You shall not commit adultery. 'You shall not steal. 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

**Responsorial Psalm:** Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

**Gospel:** John 2:13-25 A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

*Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.*

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

---

## INTERCESSIONS

*Brothers and sisters, through the waters of life, let us bring our prayers before the Lord.*

We pray for the Pope, and bishops of the Church: that they will be ever more open to the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

We pray for peace in countries where there is conflict, especially Ukraine: may all leaders really strive for a peaceful resolution

That those who are outcast and rejected in our society will be met with acceptance and care

We pray that all people will have just access to the necessities of life, especially water. May we, in our support for Project Compassion this Lent, do all we can to become a source of hope for those who thirst.

We pray for those who are ill, especially: Susan O'Connor, Frederick Bellamy & Bridget Bellamy, Seamus Devlin, Finbar Downey, and Pope Francis.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Clarry Answerth, William Dolan, Marty Fitzsimmons and Louis Fauvrelle. And for those whom we remember at this time, especially Carmelo and Concetta Schembri, John Synan, Toni Fitzgerald, Athos and Marta Ranocchi, Monica Crawley, Mary Cooper, Bernard Murphy, Elena Rando, Nancy, Tom and Brian O'Loughlin, Marie Hassed, Isabella Campo, Margaret Barmby, Concetta Giuffre and Terzita Lizio

*Loving God, we worship you in spirit and in truth. Hear our prayers and give us faith in the coming of Christ to know that he is the way to eternal life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*



**PROJECT COMPASSION** Samoa may be a country surrounded by water, but access to clean drinking water is scarce in some areas, with many families facing extreme hardship as a result. Leaia lives with her five children, husband, brother and sister-in-law on the island of Upolu in Samoa. Not having access to a reliable source of clean water caused Leaia a lot of worry.

Their home is not connected to a piped water system, so they had to rely solely on rainwater collected in old fridges. When their water ran out, Leaia had to walk with her young children to collect water in buckets and containers from a neighbour down the street.

With the support of Caritas Australia's local partner, Caritas Samoa, a water tank was installed at Leaia's home. She and her family now have a steady supply of clean drinking water at home. Next year, they will also have a toilet built, with the support of Caritas Samoa, which will further improve their health and living conditions.



"We are very thankful and grateful for the water tank. It has helped us so much and made our daily life easier," Leaia said.

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

**WHICH PRIEST WHERE?** This weekend Fr John will say all Masses at St Therese's while Fr Tony will say Masses at OLN. Next weekend Fr John will say Masses at OLN plus 9am Mass at St Therese's while Fr Tony presides at 6:00pm and 10:30am Mass at St Therese's.

**SANDWICHES FOR SENIOR FRIENDSHIP GROUP MORNING TEAS** If anyone is able to assist our Senior Friendship Group with making platters of sandwiches for upcoming morning teas, please contact the parish office.



**GOSPEL REFLECTIONS LENTEN PROGRAMME IN PACE** 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 directly from Garratt Publishing as all copies purchased by the Parish have all sold out.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAYS DURING LENT** Parishioner-led Stations of the Cross are held each Friday in Lent at both St Therese's and OLN churches. All are welcome. Booklets are provided.

**ST THERESE'S:** 3:00pm each Friday.

**OLN:** 6:00pm each Friday.

**COLLECTIONS AT MASSES** To further align our practice across the two parishes, beginning this weekend there will be two collections during weekend Masses at OLN. At St Therese's there are already two collections. For parishioners' information:

**First collection** is in support of our church/parish. It goes towards paying all the costs involved in the running of our parishes including staff, facilities, maintenance, insurance etc. The parish also uses this collection to support disadvantaged people living in our area.

**Second collection** is in support of the presbytery/clergy. It pays our clergy living costs and supply fees for visiting priests. These funds mean we can continue to have Masses at both churches every weekend. A portion of this collection also supports priests in parishes where funds are insufficient to meet their stipend and the Priest's Retirement Foundation in support of sick and retired clergy.

Two collections allows parishioners to indicate their wishes in terms of support of one or both areas of parish life.

**Appeals** Neither of the collections during Mass will be used to fund appeals – any APPEAL money must be placed in the appropriate envelope so that it can be identified and allocated appropriately.

**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.

## VOLUNTEERS

**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/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 here: <https://forms.gle/5XmgSURViUYJodnt6>

## MINISTRY ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 9 & 10 MARCH (WEEK 2)

MASS	READERS	EUCHARIST
OLN 5:00pm	Georgina Kucera	Kath Ferguson
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	Lucy Angelico	Rosa Pierorazio & Marg Moore

Adults: <https://sundayreadingsathomeyearb.weebly.com/th4g0h3lw.html>

Children: <https://www.yearbprayingwithchildren.org/s4m3j3l0>



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

## Upcoming Dates...

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*

Thursday mornings in Lent  
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

KAM WILL BE BACK ON  
**SATURDAY 2 MARCH**  
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 can be accompanied by parent/s

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	
Tuesday 3 March	Requiem Mass for William Dolan at St Therese's	11:00am
Wednesday 6 March	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store (105 Lincoln Rd) Requiem Mass for Louis Fauvrelle at St Therese's	9:00am 10:45am 11:00am
Thursday 7 March	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room Requiem Mass for Martin Fitzsimmons at St Therese's	9:30am 10:30am 11:00am
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 Stations of the Cross at OLN	10:00am 3:00pm 6:00pm
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
Wednesday 13 March	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
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 Stations of the Cross at OLN	3:00pm 6:00pm
Saturday 16 March	Gardening Working Bee at St Therese's	9:00am
Sunday 17 March	First Reconciliation RE Programme session 2 in PACE Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass at St Therese's	9:30am 10:30am
Monday 18 March	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Moreno family	
Tuesday 19 March	Mass at Trevi Court	11:00am
Wednesday 20 March	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store (105 Lincoln Rd) Faith Night for First Reconciliation at St Therese's	9:00am 10:45am 6:45pm
Thursday 21 March	No Tiny Ts Playgroup & No Gospel Reflections Group Anointing Mass at St Therese's Morning tea in PACE hosted by the SFG Mass at Arcadia	10:00am 10:30am (after Mass) 11:00am
Friday 22 March	Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN	3:00pm 6:00pm
Weekend 23 & 24 March	Students present at Mass as candidates for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation at St Therese's	All Masses
Sunday 24 March	Palm Sunday First Reconciliation Programme session 3 in PACE Parish Baptisms at St Therese's	9:30am 12:00pm

**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*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.*