



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



11 & 12 May 2024: The Ascension of the Lord



First Reading: [Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11](#)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Why are you standing here looking into the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

Responsorial Psalm: [Ps 46:2-3, 6-9. R. v.6](#) God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: [Matthew 28:19, 20](#)

Alleluia, alleluia! Go and teach all people my gospel. I am with you always, until the end of the world. Alleluia!

Gospel: [Mark 16:15-20](#) A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark+-----

The Lord Jesus was taken into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God.

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.' And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

INTERCESSIONS

Brothers and sisters, with Christ ascended into heaven, let us bring our prayers to the Lord.

We pray for the Catholic Church: that it may be a place of joy, spreading the message of God's love for everyone.

That our parish community may be inspired by the joy and hope of Christ's Ascension into heaven.

We pray for all mothers, may the care, happiness, and love they bestow on their family be returned to them bountifully throughout their days. We pray for the children in our Confirmation Religious Education classes, may they find support within their family and from our parish community along their faith journey. We pray for all who attended the first Alpha prayer session and pray that God prepares the hearts and the minds of the guests to help them explore Jesus' character and nature.

We pray for those who are ill, especially: Michael Conlan, Kath Maslin, Fr Des Maginnis and Fr Tom Brophy.

We pray for our own special needs. We pray for those who have died recently: Lilly McManus, Margaret Browne

And for those we remember at this time, especially: Tom Moloney, Barry Nunn, Frank O'Brien, Rosina Kenny, Iris Sapiano, Luigi Cardamone, Helen Zivic, Shirley Cullum, Victoria Baliviera, Bill Dobbie. Margaret Jenkins, Warwick Stannis, Matteo Cursio, Sarah McCarthy, Theresa, Mary & Carmen Ciantar, Condetta Vidal, Aurora & Amabile Zanatta, Giusepina & Maria Chiavaroli.

God our Father, your Son is with you, at your right hand. Hear our prayers and help us to glorify the work of our Saviour now enthroned in glory, through prayer, word and actions. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WHICH PRIEST WHERE? This weekend Fr John will say all Masses except the 10.00am Mass at OLN where Fr Colin will preside. While Fr Tony is away, Fr Colin will preside at one Mass per weekend while Fr John says the remainder of our Masses.

MASS COUNT Our collectors will be conducting our Parish Mass 'count' throughout May. This annual count taken in May is important for our Archdiocese pastoral planning activities and allows for comparisons to be made across the years. This year, the four weekends of 4 & 5 May, 11 & 12 May, 18 & 19 May and 25 & 26 May have been selected for the count.



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Thank you, Lord that you fill a mother's heart with love, that you have instilled in her very being the need to protect her children. Thank you for giving her the gift of nurturing, teaching them, comforting them, making a safe place and for guiding her children to be all that God has created them to be. Fill every mother with love, wisdom and endurance, with strength, patience and joy. Give them ability to forgive again and again. Enable her to call upon You because You will give her all she needs. We pray for all natural, adopting, fostering and all mothers that are not able to be with us. Amen

SENIOR FRIENDSHIP GROUP MORNING TEA will be in the PACE function room on Thursday 16 May at 10.30am. This month will feature a special 15-20minute presentation from Let's Laugh starting at 11.30am. All welcome

JOURNEY THROUGH SADNESS GROUP Friendly and informal gatherings are being planned for this year, the first one being on Wednesday 26 June. This group aims to support parishioners through the different forms of sadness and loss. More details will be published in upcoming newsletters. The group has provided "What is grief" brochures, which are available on church entry tables.

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.

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 18 & 19 (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
Adults: https://sundayreadingsathomeyearb.weebly.com/th4g0h3lw.html Children: https://www.yearbprayingwithchildren.org/s4m3j3l0		

PARISH CALENDAR

Sunday 12 May	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord Mother's Day Sacrament of Confirmation RE Programme session 1 in PACE Fr Colin McLean presiding at OLN Mass	9:30am 10:00am
Monday 13 May	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Draim family	
Tuesday 14 May	Liturgy of the Word with Communion Alpha Session 2 in PACE Function Room	10:00am 7:00pm
Wednesday 15 May	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Liturgy of the Word with Communion Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store (105 Lincoln Rd)	9:00am 10:00am 10:45am
Thursday 16 May	No Tiny Ts Playgroup & No Gospel Reflections Group Morning tea in PACE hosted by SFG with Let's Laugh	10:30am
Weekend 18 & 19 May	Students present as candidates for First Eucharist at OLN	All Masses
Saturday 18 May	50 th Anniversary of Fr Tony Feeney's Ordination	
Sunday 19 May	Pentecost Sunday Parish Morning Tea after 9:00am and 10:30am Mass at St Therese's in the Annex Sacrament of Confirmation RE Programme session 2 in PACE Fr Colin McLean presiding at OLN Mass Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass at St Therese's	9:30am 10:00am 10:30am
Tuesday 21 May	Alpha Session 3 in PACE Function Room	7:00pm
Wednesday 22 May	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Faith Night for Sacrament of Confirmation at St Therese's	9:00am 6:45pm
Thursday 23 May	Tiny Ts Playgroup in Annex Gospel reflections group in PACE meeting room Mass at Arcadia	9:30am 10.30am 11.00am