



The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

1 & 2 February 2025: Presentation of the Lord Year C



First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4 A reading from the prophet Malachi

The Lord whom you seek will come to his temple.

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

Responsorial Psalm: Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! This is the light of revelation to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

My eyes have seen your saving power.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.'

INTERCESSIONS

Let us turn to the Lord and seek refuge in his name for God hears our every prayer.

We pray for our Holy Father, the Pope, and the bishops: that the Church may provide a moral compass for any who have lost their way in life.

For casualties of war, victims of natural disasters, and those whose lives are in jeopardy: that they may be comforted and supported.

For missionaries, especially our neighbours from the Columban Mission Centre: May they inspire us all to be more generous and may they be role models for this and future generations.

We pray for all in our world who have lost sight of Christ: that through our prayers and our witness to Christ in our daily lives, they may find the one is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Bless all of those returning to school. Please guide our future generations to love God and love one another as themselves.

We pray for those who are ill especially Kath Maslin and June McKibbin.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Hassibe Eid, Fr Gerard Diamond and Christopher Roberts. And for those we remember at this time, especially Athos Ranocchi, Beniamino Venuto, Desmond Delaney, Peter Tunchon, Cas Lukauskas, Frances Cooney, Kevin Joseph O'Dwyer and Joe Delaney.

Loving Father hear these prayers and form us as the community of the beatitudes. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

WHICH PRIEST WHERE? This weekend Fr John will say all Masses at OLN church as well as the Saturday 6:00pm and Sunday 9:00am Mass at St Therese's. This leaves Fr Bernie saying the 10:30am Mass at St Therese's. Next weekend we will have the Columban Fathers saying all Masses across our two churches as we hold the special appeal to support Columban Missions.

AMALGAMATION UPDATES

OUR NEW PARISH We are now officially a single entity with the Holy name The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon. To keep things simple we will often refer to ourselves as Essendon Parish, for instance when answering the parish office phone. There is still work to be done behind the scenes but operationally, we go on as we have for the past two years, without much disruption to parish activities.

DIRECT DEBITS AND CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS DELAY FOR PARISH SUPPORT Please note that some OLN parishioner payments (in support of the parish and clergy) will be delayed for a few days while we transition our OLN financial database into the amalgamated database. This will only effect payments that were due to be processed at the end of January or in the first few days of February and only OLN parishioners. Next month the effected automatic payments will return to their usual schedule. St Therese parishioner PSP payments will not be effected.

CHANGE TO NAME ON PARISH SUPPORT CHARGES For parishioners who make regular, automatic deductions there will be a change to the way direct debit payments and credit card charges appear on statements over the next few weeks. The name 'Fat Zebra' will be replaced with a name that ties in with our new parish entity. It's likely to be 'Our Lady and St Therese' or something similar.

BANK ACCOUNT CHANGE As of 1 February all direct debit and credit card financial support will be directed to the bank accounts for The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese. If you have automatic payments set up which are processed by the parish then there is nothing you need to do, the change will happen automatically. If you make manual payments please use the following details for any future payments:

CHURCH ACCOUNT Name: The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese Essendon. BSB: 083-347
Account Number: 67640 1701

PRESBYTERY ACCOUNT Name: The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese Essendon BSB: 083-347
Account Number: 67616 4988



NEW ONLINE GIVING PORTAL Parishioners can now make secure financial contributions to support the parish and/or the clergy via this website: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/donate?id=0012w00000LOj4wAAD> or by using the QR code above. You can choose to make a one-off donation or set up recurring monthly payments.

NEW WEBSITE Our new parish domain name is www.essendoncatholic.org.au. We will be updating the website with content from across our two Mass Centres over the coming weeks and tidying up content there. All previous links from the stthereses.org.au website are still functioning.

NEW PARISH BOUNDARY For those who are interested, we have a new parish map and street listing available on the website: <https://www.essendoncatholic.org.au/our-parish/parish-boundaries/>

ST COLUMBANS MISSION APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND On the weekend of 8 & 9 February we will hold a special appeal to support the work of the St Columban's Mission. On the appeal weekend we will welcome our friends from the Columban's who preside at all Masses and so can tell us about the work of the Mission and how donations from the appeal will support that important work.

HOW TO DONATE: Columban Mission donation envelopes will be available at Mass NEXT WEEKEND and can be placed on the collection plates or returned to the parish office. We will also ask our collectors to stand at the doors NEXT WEEKEND for a leaving collection.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS Are made from wheat starch and water with a gluten content of 6.2 parts per million.

SAFEGUARDING REQUIREMENTS Volunteers who haven't completed the Safeguarding obligations will now need to pause their involvement until they have completed all three requirements:

Requirement #1: All volunteers over the age of 18 are required to maintain a current Working with Children (WWC) check throughout their involvement with the parish, irrespective of the ministry in which they serve. To apply for a WWC check please visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

Requirement #2: Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct: You can sign the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct through the online Safeguarding Essentials Training platform

Requirement #3: Training <https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fs%2F>

MINISTRY ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 8 & 9 FEBRUARY (WEEK 2)

MASS	READERS	EUCHARIST
OLN 5:00pm	Georgina Kucera & John Harris	Kath Ferguson
OLN 10:00am	Gerald Mullen	Mark Donahoo
St Therese's 6.00pm	John O'Connor	Tony Proctor
St Therese's 9.00am	Lynette Russo	Tony Belcastro & David Gloury
St Therese's 10.30am	Lucy Angelico	Rosa Pierorazio & Marg Moore

Adults: <https://sundayreadingsathomeyearc.weebly.com/h1sks0t1.html>
Children: <https://www.childrensliturgyoftthewordc.com/ych3rwjcm2.html>



ESSENDON PARISH

Columban Missions Appeal

Weekend 8 & 9 February

Give something, however small, to the one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could.

St Gregory Nazianzen



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.

Tiny Ts Playgroup

A great place to make new friends!

For children from infancy through to primary school age

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

Grandparents welcome!



WHEN: Thursday mornings during school terms

TIME: 9.30am - 10:30am

WHERE: St Therese's PACE Function Room
48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon

COST: Free of charge

EMAIL: stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com

ESSENDON PARISHES

SAFEGUARDING

ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST:

- Hold a current Working With Children Check and must list the parish as a place you volunteer
- Complete the CAM Safeguarding Essentials Training Certification every three years
- Acknowledge The Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct every three years

DOES THIS APPLY TO YOU?



SCAN ME FOR DETAILS

YES

To maintain accurate records ALL volunteers must be registered as parishioners
If you are a volunteer but not a registered parishioner please contact the parish office ASAP

Sunday 2 February	The Presentation of the Lord	
Monday 3 February	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Tran family	
Tuesday 4 February	World Cancer Day Mass at Ryman Raelene Boyle Village	11:00am
Wednesday 5 February	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
Thursday 6 February	Beginning of School Year Mass at OLN Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room Mass at Arcadia Aged Care	9:00am 9:30am 10:30am 11:00am
Weekend 8 & 9 February	Appeal for the Columban Missionaries	
Monday 10 February	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Asher family	
Wednesday 12 February	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
Thursday 13 February	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room	9:30am 10:30am
Friday 14 February	Northwest Principals Network at Mass at St Therese's	10:00am
Monday 17 February	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Sequeira family	
Wednesday 19 February	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
Thursday 20 February	Tiny Ts Playgroup in the St Therese's Annex Senior Friendship Group pancake morning tea in PACE	9:30am 10:30am
Friday 21 February	Beginning of School Year Mass at St Therese's	12:00pm
Monday 24 February	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Musquita family	
Wednesday 26 February	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
Thursday 27 February	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room	9:30am 10:30am
Monday 3 March	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Xerri family	
Tuesday 4 March	Shrove Tuesday	
Wednesday 5 March	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
Wednesday 5 March	Ash Wednesday: Lent Begins Project Compassion Appeal Ash Wednesday: St Therese's School Mass Ash Wednesday: Mass at OLN Ash Wednesday: evening Mass St Therese's	10:00am 5:30pm 7:00pm
Thursday 6 March	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room	9:30am 10:30am

PARISH PRIEST Fr John Hannon

Office phone: 9401 6330 **Office address:** 48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon
Office email: essendon@cam.org.au **Website:** www.stthereses.org.au
Office hours: Monday to Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm
After-Hours phone: 0490 956 610 (answering service)

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

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

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:00pm, Sunday 10:00am**Reconciliation:** Saturday 4:45pm**School:** email principal@olnaberfeldie.catholic.edu.au phone 9337 4204**St Vincent de Paul helpline:** 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10:00am-3:00pm

Our Parish is 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.

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults.

HOW TO UPDATE YOUR COMPLIANCE STATUS

This information is provided to assist volunteers to ensure continued compliance. This information assumes you have access to internet and are comfortable with computers. If you require assistance, please call our parish staff on 9401 6330, so we can help.

Requirement #1: Working with Children Check

All volunteers over the age of 18 are required to maintain a current Working with Children (WWC) check throughout their involvement with the parish, irrespective of the ministry in which they serve.

A volunteer check is free but only valid for volunteer work. To apply for a WWC check please visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

It is a requirement that volunteers register Essendon or West Essendon parish as an organisation where they engage in volunteering through the [WWCC Service Vic website](#). The Parish will then receive a letter linking their WWC check to the parish and will be informed if the WWC check status changes.

A teacher who holds a current registration with the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) is exempt from the requirement to undertake a WWC check. VIT, however, requires registered teachers to nominate organisations in which they undertake volunteer work. Website: [Service Victoria Teachers Notifications](#)

Requirement #2: Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct

You can sign the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct through the [online Safeguarding Essentials Training platform](#) (without completing the training). When you log into the online Safeguarding Essentials Training platform, you will see the following statement:

“Our records indicate that you have not acknowledged the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct Declaration in recent times. Please read the document provided below and acknowledge your agreement by clicking the Accept Button.”

Volunteers are required to read and acknowledge the Code of Conduct every three years. There is a downloadable pdf version of the code on Archdiocese website here: [Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct](#)

Requirement #3: Safeguarding Essentials Training

Volunteers are required complete the Safeguarding Essentials training module every three years.

Website link: [online Safeguarding Essentials training](#)

The Safeguarding Essentials Training takes approximately 45 minutes and you can stop, leave and go back to it if you need to break it up.

Websites:

Working With Children Check: <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

Code of Conduct: <https://melbournecatholic.org/uploads/documents/Code-of-Conduct.pdf>

Training: <https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fs%2F>

Once you have read and accepted the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct, and completed the Safeguarding Essentials Training, the online training platform will automatically update the parish administration system (PACEM) held by our Essendon and West Essendon parish.

The parish is happy to assist those who have trouble accessing the online training so please reach out!