



The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon



**1 & 2 March 2025: Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C
Project Compassion Sunday**



First Reading: Sirach 27:4-7 A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Do not praise someone before they have spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

A person speaks from what is in his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

INTERCESSIONS

The words we speak display the yearnings of the heart. Let us turn to the Lord in prayer.

For the Church throughout the world: shaped by the word of God may we be faithful in seeking God's will in all things. That governments will work together to try to find a path to peace in Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and all war-torn areas.

That Pope Francis will make a full recovery from his respiratory illness and be blessed with ongoing good health.

For all those who work in harsh environments: may they always feel the security and loving embrace of Jesus.

For our parish: give us the strength and guidance to grow and remain strong in our service to God, our families and our neighbours.

We pray for those who are ill.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Fr Peter Caruccan & Gwendoline Ryan. And those we remember especially: Isabella Campo, Margaret Barmby, Graeme Solomon, Charlie De Fazio, Tim Foley and Giuseppina Mazzarotta.

God our Father, hear our prayer. May our thoughts and deeds bring us closer to your truth. We ask this through Christ the Lord. Amen

WHICH PRIEST WHERE? This weekend Fr John will say all Masses across our two Mass Centres except for the 10:30am Sunday Mass where we welcome Bishop Terry Curtin as we celebrate his retirement and contribution to our parish. Next weekend Fr John will say all Masses at St Therese's while Fr Bernie says all Masses at OLN.

PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY This Lent, we are called to Unite Against Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion, answering the Gospels' call to care for our global family and walk alongside the most vulnerable. Caritas Australia provides life-changing support to communities bringing compassion and opportunity to those most in need. You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes or envelopes available from next week, by calling: 1800 024 413 or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion



GOSPEL REFLECTIONS LENTEN PROGRAMME IN PACE Our weekly Sunday Gospel Reflections group will continue to meet each Thursday morning in the PACE Meeting Room after morning Mass. During Lent the group will follow the Garratt publishing Lenten Program 'Many paths lead to Easter.' Any interested parishioners are invited to attend and should purchase a copy of the program book from the parish office.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAYS DURING LENT Parishioner-led Stations of the Cross are held each Friday in Lent at both parish churches. All are welcome. Booklets are provided.

ST THERESE'S CHURCH: 3:00pm each Friday during Lent. Commences Friday 7 March

OLN CHURCH: 6:00pm each Friday during Lent. Commences Friday 7 March

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES Next Wednesday there will be three Ash Wednesday Masses across our two Mass Centres. At St Therese's church Masses will be held at 10:00am and 7:00pm. At OLN church Mass is at 5:30pm.

LOOKING AHEAD TOGETHER Last weekend members of the Parish Leadership Team spoke at most Masses to announce the re-commencement of the parish strategic planning initiative 'Looking Ahead Together.' You can read details about that initiative on the parish website here: <https://www.essendoncatholic.org.au/looking-ahead-together/> The PLT will be running focus groups on Wednesdays in the parish office for parishioners who would like to contribute to the planning. To register use this link: <https://forms.gle/2ZUjiHMxtcWa7XRe8> or use the QR code on the next page ad. If you have attended a focus group in 2023 we have captured your feedback from that session.

ALPHA IS COMING Our Alpha team are planning to begin a new program after Easter. If you are interested in attending, please register your details using this link: <https://forms.gle/Hu3vaxLVXdHbTsi46> or the QR code on the next page ad. You can also ring the parish office and we will add your name and details to the list. A member of the Alpha team will be in touch to those who register their interest.

UPGRADE TO OLN SOUND SYSTEM We thank volunteers from our music ministry who last week tested speakers at OLN church as a part of our proposed upgrade of the sound system. The testing was successful and we're now moving on to engaging electricians to design and install the wiring requirements of a new system.

REPAIRS TO ST THERESE'S ROOF In coming weeks there will be scaffolding erected at the north end of St Therese's church behind the outside toilets while a section of the church roof where tiles have slipped is inspected and repaired.

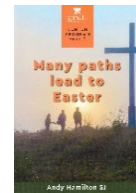
SANDWICHES FOR SFG MORNING TEAS Our Senior Friendship Group (SFG) are seeking the help of anyone who is willing and able to make sandwiches a few times a year for their monthly morning teas. Anyone who is able to help should contact the parish office who will pass on contact details to the SFG.



LENT REFLECTION BOOKS The parish has two Lenten books available for sale from the parish office or from church sacristies at Mass times if you have correct money.

START ANEW IN CHRIST Start Anew in Christ is a book of daily reflections written by Fr Michael Grace. An A5 small book that is easy to carry, and read, at home or while commuting. Cost \$5 per copy

MANY PATHS LEAD TO EASTER written by Fr Andy Hamilton sj. Includes reading excerpts for Year C, discussion around these readings, poetry and prayer. Cost \$7 per copy



CHANGE TO NAME ON PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT CHARGES For parishioners who support the parish via regular, automatic deductions there will be a change to the way direct debit payments and credit card charges appear on statements. The name 'Fat Zebra' will be replaced with 'Our Lady and St Therese.'

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. To make manual payments please use the following details for any future payments or use the new online giving portal:

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



ONLINE GIVING PORTAL Parishioners can now make secure financial contributions to support the parish and/or clergy via this website: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/donate?id=0012w0000LOj4wAAD> or by using the QR code above. You can choose to make a one-off donation or set up recurring monthly payments.

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 MARCH (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.childrensliturgyofthewordc.com/ych3rwjcm2.html>

PARISH GIVING

We Welcome Bishop Terry Curtin

*In celebration of his
retirement as
Auxiliary Bishop and
acknowledgement of his
involvement in our parish
over many years*

This Sunday 2 March
10:30am Mass
St Therese's Church
followed by
Morning Tea in PACE
Function Room



THERE'S A SEAT FOR YOU AT THE TABLE

ALPHA IS COMING AFTER EASTER

Keep your Tuesday evenings free

**The next Alpha will be run on Tuesday
nights following Easter**

More details to come

**USE THE QR CODE TO REGISTER YOUR
INTEREST**



Parish Strategic Planning Initiative

'Looking Ahead Together'

Have your say at a Focus Group
Session being held on Wednesdays in
March at the parish office

VISION

MISSION

VALUES

STRATEGY

For details and to
book use the QR
code below



Focus groups will be facilitated by
members of the Parish Leadership Team

Parish of Our Lady & St Therese GOSPEL REFLECTIONS

Lenten Programme

*During Lent the Gospel Reflections
session will follow the Garratt Lenten
program 'Many paths lead to Easter'
authored by Andy Hamilton SJ*

Thursday Mornings in Lent
at 10:30am
in PACE Meeting Room

Copies of 'Many paths to Easter' are
available to purchase from the parish
office for \$7

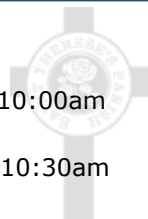
PARISH DIARY

| | | |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Sunday 2 March | Mass with Bishop Terry Curtin at St Therese's Morning tea in PACE | 10:30am 11:30am |
| 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 Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store | 9:00am 10:45am |
| 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 Funeral Mass for Gwendoline Ryan at St Therese's | 9:30am 10:30am 11:30am |
| Friday 7 March | Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN | 3:00pm 6:00pm |
| Sunday 9 March | First Sunday of Lent | |
| Monday 10 March | Labour Day Public Holiday: parish office closed Statue of Our Lady moves to the Moreno family | |
| Wednesday 12 March | Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Sacrament of First Reconciliation Faith night at OLN | 9:00am 7:00pm |
| Thursday 13 March | Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room SVDP Regional Conference meeting in PACE | 9:30am 10:30am 7:00pm |
| Friday 14 March | Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN | 3:00pm 6:00pm |
| Sunday 16 March | Second Sunday of Lent RE Programme for First Reconciliation session 1 in PACE Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass at St Therese's | 9:30am 10:30am |
| Monday 17 March | St Patrick's Feast Day Statue of Our Lady moves to the Whiting family SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE | 7:00pm |
| Wednesday 19 March | St Joseph's Feast Day Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store | 9:00am 10:45am |
| Thursday 20 March | Tiny Ts Playgroup in St Therese's Annex Mass of Anointing at St Therese's Senior Friendship Group morning tea in PACE | 9:30am 10:00am 10:45am |
| Friday 21 March | Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN | 3:00pm 6:00pm |
| Weekend 22 & 23 March | OLN Students present as candidates for Reconciliation | OLN Masses |
| Sunday 23 March | Third Sunday of Lent Parish Baptisms at St Therese's | 12:00pm |

MASSES

ST THERESE'S CHURCH
48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon

Weekday Masses: Tuesday to Friday 10:00am
Weekend Masses: Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 9:00am & 10:30am
Reconciliation: Saturday 5:45pm



OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY CHURCH
31 Fawkner St, Aberfeldie

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:00pm,
Sunday 10:00am
Reconciliation: Saturday 4:45pm



PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST Fr John Hannon

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

St Vincent de Paul helpline: 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10:00am-3:00pm

To subscribe to our newsletter go to the link below or use the QR code:
<https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/subscription?id=0012w0000LOj4wAAD&req=subscribe>



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

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!