



# The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

**15 & 16 March 2025: Second Sunday in Lent Year C  
Project Compassion Lent Appeal**



**First Reading:** Genesis 15:5-12. 17-18 A reading from the book of Genesis  
*God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.*

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, 'Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants' he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

'I am the Lord' he said to him 'who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land.' 'My Lord, the Lord' Abram replied, 'how am I to know that I shall inherit it?' He said to him, 'Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms: 'To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord is my light and my salvation.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him. Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!!

**Gospel:** Luke 9:28-36 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed, and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.*

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, 'This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.' And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

## INTERCESSIONS

*Sisters and brothers, through faith in the transfigured Christ, let us bring our prayers before the Lord.*

*We pray for Pope Francis to continue to recover from his respiratory illness and be blessed with ongoing good health to continue to guide the Church in Christ's message for the faithful*

*For refugees and migrants throughout the world searching for a new and better life: may they be given Christlike hospitality and compassion*

*We pray for Isaiah, Harry, Thomas, Matteo, Emilia, Beau, & Isla who are welcomed into our parish this weekend before their Baptism next weekend.*

*We pray for gratitude for the wonder of faith in God and the beauty of life. May our vision be broad and deep as we embrace people in great need through our support of Project Compassion.*

We pray for those who are ill.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Fr Peter Caruccan, Stefano Zoit, & Judith Dunstan. And those we remember especially: Emilio Baldi, Margherita Besozzi, Ignazio Monteggia and Tom Kennelly.

*Loving Father, you shower us with mercy and compassion. Hear our prayers and help us to resist temptation and enter into your forgiveness and mercy during this Lenten season. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*



**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 is following the Garratt publishing Lenten Program 'Many paths lead to Easter.'

**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.

**OLN CHURCH:** 6:00pm each Friday during Lent.

**WHICH PRIEST WHERE** This weekend Fr John will say Saturday 5:00pm Mass at OLN and both Sunday Masses at St Therese's while Fr Bernie will say Saturday 6:00pm Mass at St Therese's and then Sunday 10:00am Mass at OLN. Next weekend Fr John will preside at all Masses across both Mass centres except for Sunday 10:30am Mass at St Therese's church where Fr Trevor Trotter will preside.

**PROJECT COMPASSION** Toefuata'iga is a 13-year-old primary school student from Samoa. 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.



Photo credit: Caritas

Thanks to the support of Caritas Australia in partnership with Caritas Samoa, Toefuata'iga's school now has a 10,000-litre water tank. Teachers and students now have access to clean drinking water at their school and are able to focus on education. You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.



**Or online at:** [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) **Or by calling:** 1800 024 413

**MEN'S CHOIR** We welcome the Men's Choir to OLN this Saturday where they will sing at 5:00pm Mass.

**ANOINTING MASS AND MORNING TEA** Our Senior Friendship Group are hosting a St Patrick's Day-themed morning tea after a Mass of Anointing this coming Thursday 20 March. Mass at 10:00am, morning tea to follow. All welcome

**SANDWICHES FOR MORNING TEAS** Our Senior Friendship Group (SFG) are seeking the help of any person able to make sandwiches a few times a year for morning teas. Contact the parish office who will pass on details to the SFG.

**SHARING MEMORIES MORNING TEA** There is a morning tea in PACE on Thursday 27 March for 'Sharing Memories' a gathering to support parishioners through life's challenges. All welcome.

**ROOF WORKS AT ST THERESE'S** We expect the roofing works at St Therese's church to commence on Monday 24 March. Scaffolding will be erected at the north end of St Therese's church behind the outside toilets. This is underneath a section of the church roof where tiles have slipped. Works may take some time while the roof is inspected and repaired.

**PARISH STRATEGIC PLANNING 'LOOKING AHEAD TOGETHER'** The parish strategic planning initiative 'Looking Ahead Together' is now underway. Details on the parish website: <https://www.essendoncatholic.org.au/looking-ahead-together/> Focus groups are scheduled each Wednesdays in the parish office for parishioners who would like to contribute. To register use this link: <https://forms.gle/2ZUjiHMxTcWa7XRe8> or use the QR code on the next page ad.

**ALPHA IS COMING** Our Alpha team are planning to begin a new program after Easter. If you are interested, please register your details using this link: <https://forms.gle/Hu3vaxLVXdHbTsi46>. You can also ring the parish office and we will add your name and details to the list.

**PARISH GIVING**

**BANK ACCOUNT CHANGE** As of 1 February all direct debit and credit card financial support has been directed to the bank accounts for The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese. To make manual payments please use the following details for 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**

**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 22 & 23 MARCH (WEEK 4)**

MASS	READERS	EUCHARIST
OLN 5:00pm	Michael Balia	Fred Grima
OLN 10:00am	Adrian Commadeur	Michael Portelli
St Therese's 6.00pm	Tric Joseph & Tony Proctor	Joe Fittipaldi
St Therese's 9.00am	Bruce White & Christine Nelson	Marg Tormey & Mick O'Brien
St Therese's 10.30am	Jim Maderazo & Lanelle Eid	Marita Hassed-Dunne & Miriam Gandolfo

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

Senior Friendship Group  
**PADDY'S DAY  
MORNING TEA**

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS  
ARE INVITED  
TO GATHER AND CELEBRATE  
ST PATRICK'S DAY

**PACE FUNCTION ROOM**

**Thursday 20 March**

**from 10:30am**

**(After Anointing Mass)**

**ALL WELCOME**



## The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,  
may the faith you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of charity enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within both  
humanity and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

*Franciscus*

## 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

## SHARING

*memories*

A GROUP SUPPORTING  
PARISHIONERS THROUGH  
LIFE'S CHALLENGES

JOIN US AT OUR MONTHLY  
MORNING TEA

**PACE FUNCTION ROOM**

**Thursday 27 March**

**11:00am**

YOU ARE WELCOME

PARISH DIARY

Saturday 15 March	Men's Choir singing at OLN Mass	5:00pm
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
Saturday 22 March	Men's choir singing at St Therese's	6:00pm
Sunday 23 March	Third Sunday of Lent Parish Baptisms at St Therese's	12:00pm
Monday 24 March	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Latera family	
Wednesday 26 March	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Sacrament of First Reconciliation Faith night at St Therese's Sacrament of First Reconciliation at OLN	9:00am 6:45pm 7:00pm
Thursday 27 March	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room Sharing Memories morning tea in PACE Function Room	9:30am 10:30am 11:00am
Friday 28 March	Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN	3:00pm 6:00pm
Weekend 29 & 30 March	St Therese's Students present as candidates for Reconciliation	St Ts Masses
Sunday 30 March	Fourth Sunday of Lent Men's Choir singing at St Therese's	9:00am
Monday 31 March	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Carroll family	
Tuesday 1 April	Mass at Ryman Raelene Boyle Village	11:00am
Wednesday 2 April	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store	9:00am 10:45am
Thursday 3 April	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room Mass at Arcadia Aged Care	9:30am 10:30am 11:00am
Friday 4 April	Last Day of School Term 1 Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN	3:00pm 6:00pm

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](mailto:essendon@cam.org.au) **Website:** [www.essendoncatholic.org.au](http://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 of our parish 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!