



# The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

31 August 2025: Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

**First Reading:** Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29 A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

*Humble yourself and you will find favour with the Lord.*

My son, be gentle in carrying out your business, and you will be better loved than a lavish giver. The greater you are, the more you should behave humbly, and then you will find favour with the Lord; for great though the power of the Lord is, he accepts the homage of the humble. There is no cure for the proud man's malady, since an evil growth has taken root in him. The heart of a sensible man will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream.

**Responsorial Psalm:** God, in your goodness, you have made a home for the poor.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Take my yoke upon you; learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 14:1. 7-14 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*All who exalt themselves shall be humbled and all who humble themselves shall be exalted.*

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely. He then told the guests a parable, because he had noticed how they picked the places of honour. He said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour. A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this man." And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place. No; when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, he may say, "My friend, move up higher." In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the man who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Then he said to his host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again.'

---

## INTERCESSIONS

*Dear friends, as disciples of Christ, let us bring our prayers before God.*

That the Holy Church will always honour Christ's message of grace to the humble.

That the countless people suffering from war and famine will receive urgent and ongoing assistance from the global community.

We pray for those tragically caught up in acts of gun violence this week. For Victoria Police officers and children attending Mass in Minneapolis who lost their lives and for all those injured and traumatised. We pray for their families, friends, colleagues and communities.

This Season of Creation, that we may, by working with love and perseverance, sow many seeds of justice and thus contribute to the growth of peace and the renewal of hope.

We pray for the students from Our Lady of the Nativity who present themselves at Mass this weekend in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. May they guided by the Spirit as they continue to grow in faith and life.

We pray for those who are ill.

We pray for those who have died recently especially: Giovanni Ansaldo; And for those whom we remember at this time, especially: Anne Whiting, Pasquale Monteleone, Domenico Germano, Antonio Tripodi, Karen Wheeler and Helen Sully.

*Loving God, you teach us humble faith through your word. Hear our prayers today, and help us live in the spirit of Christ as we strive for exultant life with you. We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen*

---

**WHICH PRIEST WHERE** This weekend Fr Tony Feeney will say all Masses at St Therese's while Fr Colin McLean presides at our OLN Masses. Next weekend Fr Colin will preside at all St Therese's Masses and Fr Tony will preside at OLN Masses. Fr Tony and Fr Colin will rotate Masses in this way until Fr John returns from leave.

**FR JOHN ON LEAVE** While Fr John is away on annual leave a Liturgy of the Word with Communion service will replace 10:00am Masses on Tuesday and Thursday at St Therese's while Fr Colin will preside at 10:00am Masses on Wednesdays and Fridays. There is no After-Hours message service while Fr John is away and we won't have a priest in residence to attend the sick and dying. For patients in hospitals, families should contact the hospital chaplain.

---

**CARITAS AUSTRALIA: GAZA PLEDGE (CLOSES THIS SUNDAY 31 AUGUST 2025)** Caritas Australia have asked parishes to publish the following notice: By September 9, changes to registration processes for international NGOs threaten to drastically reduce the already insufficient flow of food, water, and medicine into Gaza. While Caritas Australia's locally embedded partners remain unaffected, Caritas Australia has launched a pledge to acknowledge the devastating impact of any further reduction in aid to Gaza. To learn more and sign the pledge go to: [caritas.org.au/gaza](https://caritas.org.au/gaza). Support through signing and sharing the pledge - closes this Sunday 31 August 2025.



## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2025** The World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, opens the Season of Creation each year. Since adding this day to the Catholic liturgical calendar in 2015, Pope Francis issued an official message each year, offering his reflections on the Season of Creation ecumenical theme. This year, 2025, he chose a theme to complement and support the ecumenical theme of Peace with Creation: Seeds of Peace and Hope but he left the reflection and official message to his successor.

Pope Leo XIV begins his reflection by noting how appropriate this theme is during this Jubilee year in

which we are being called to be Pilgrims of Hope. He then notes Jesus's frequent use of the image of seeds, even applying it to himself as a grain of wheat that must die to bring forth its fruit. In the mystery of their death, seeds are transformed and new life, new beginnings emerge. In Christ, he writes, we too are seeds, "seeds of peace and hope." Here he draws into his reflection this year's ecumenical theme based on Isaiah 32:14-18: the promise that "a spirit from on high will be poured out on us" and the desert created by so much injustice and abuse of Earth will be transformed into a fruitful field, a garden of beauty and peace. That desert of devastation, however – from deforestation and pollution to the loss of biodiversity and ever more frequent and intense storms, fires, and even wars – is still with us. It hurts the poor, the marginalized, the excluded, and indigenous communities the most. And all of these wounds are the result of sin.

Pope Leo insists, then, that environmental justice is an urgent need, a matter of social, economic, and all-around human justice. And it is above all a duty born of faith since the Universe reflects the face of Jesus Christ. We must sow many seeds of justice to contribute to the growth of peace, offering us new hope. He closes his message with these words: I pray that Almighty God will send us in abundance his "Spirit from on high" (Isaiah 32:15), so that these seeds and others like them, may bring forth an abundant harvest of peace and hope. The Encyclical Laudato Si has now guided the Catholic Church and many people of good will for ten years. May it continue to inspire us and may integral ecology be increasingly accepted as the right path to follow. In this way, seeds of hope will multiply, to be "tilled and kept" by the grace of our great and unfailing Hope, who is the risen Christ.

**SVDP WINTER APPEAL – THANKS FROM OUR ESSENDON CONFERENCE** Our Essendon SVDP Conference sincerely thanks all parishioners for their generosity in donating to the recent 2025 Vinnies Winter Appeal. The final tallies have now become available and we're really pleased to announce that our conference has raised a grand total of \$16,559 in cash, credit card and online donations. These funds will certainly be put to good use in providing a hand up to all those in need in the Essendon local area and across Victoria.

**OLN SOUND SYSTEM PROGRESS** Our volunteers are working this weekend at OLN to begin the installation of wall brackets and possibly speakers. All going to plan, we will see some real progress! Many thanks to Mario Iacobaccio and Teresa Pong for giving up their Saturdays for this project. As the installation of the audio equipment and speakers will be undertaken by our volunteers this will happen on weekends and will take a number of weeks.

**NEARLY \$8K DONATED FOR OLN SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE** We have reached a total of \$7800 donated to the project and we'd like to thank everyone who has so generously contributed, it's been a really amazing response. The total project cost will be over \$31,000 so if you'd still like to contribute you can send cheques or make credit card payments via the parish office or make EFT payments to the parish account. **Account name:** The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese Essendon **BSB:** 083-347 **Account Number:** 67640 1701 and use the reference "OLN Sound" and your last name. You can also place cash or cheques in a clearly marked envelope in any collection at Mass.

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES** Next week the parish office will open on Monday 1 September but will be closed on Friday 5 September. The parish office will be closed on most Mondays until further notice to accommodate staff leave. The office will also be closed on Wednesday 17 September when staff attend the quarterly Parish Administration Forum.

**TAP N GO TERMINALS** Over the past couple of weeks we've had some teething problems with our new Quest Tap N Go terminals. At time of publishing, we are hoping to have all terminals operational for weekend Masses. The terminals can be used to make anonymous donations to the parish with funds being distributed equally between the church and the presbytery accounts.

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

| MINISTRY ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 6 & 7 SEPTEMBER (WEEK 1)   |                               |                              |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| MASS   | READERS                       | EUCARIST                     |
| OLN 5:00pm   | Paul Whiting                  | Kathy Ferguson               |
| OLN 10:00am  | Coral D'Cruz                  | Doug D'Cruz                  |
| St T's 6.00pm  | Anne Lechte & Eve Korytkowski | Teresa Pong                  |
| St T's 9.00am  | Margaret Kerr                 | Marg Tormey & Tony Belcastro |
| St T's 10.30am   | Rosa Pierorazio               | Marita Hassed-Dunne          |
| Adults: <a href="https://sundayreadingsathomeyearc.weebly.com/h1sks0t1.html">https://sundayreadingsathomeyearc.weebly.com/h1sks0t1.html</a><br>Children: <a href="https://www.childre sliturgyofthewordc.com/ych3rwjcm2.html">https://www.childre sliturgyofthewordc.com/ych3rwjcm2.html</a> |                               |                              |




# Parish of Our Lady and St Therese MEN'S COFFEE GROUP

**Put it in your diary!**  
**Dates for 2025**  
20th August  
3rd & 17th September  
1st & 15th October  
5th & 19th November  
3rd & 17th December

*1st & 3rd  
Wednesdays  
each month  
from 10:45am*  
Lincoln Food Store  
105 Lincoln Rd  
Essendon




KAM WILL BE BACK  
**SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER**  
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 should be accompanied by parent/s

**REMAINING DATES FOR 2025**  
6 September, 11 October & 6 December



**PEACE WITH CREATION**  
SEASON OF CREATION 2025

Garden of Peace  
Isaiah 32:14-18

Creator of all, we praise you for the gift of life and for the faith that unites us in care for our common home. We confess how estranged we have become— from one another, from your Creation, and from our truest selves. We acknowledge that our greed and destructive impulses have fractured our relationships with you, with others, and with the Earth. Fertile fields have become barren, forests lie desolate, oceans and rivers are polluted. Thriving communities have become places of suffering, and the earth cries out.

Beloved Christ, who spoke “Shalom” to frightened hearts, stir us to compassionate action. Inspire us to work for the end of conflict, and for the full restoration of broken relationships— with you, with the ecumenical community, with the human family, and with all Creation.

Prince of Peace, through your wounds, teach us to stand in solidarity with the woundedness of others, of creation, and of the world. Through your resurrection, make us people of hope— with a vision of swords turned into ploughshares and tears transformed into joy. May we come together as one family, to labour for your peace— a shalom where all your people may dwell in safety, and rest in quiet places.

Amen

**ESSENDON PARISH**  
**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?**

**YES**




**SCAN ME FOR DETAILS**

**ALL volunteers must be registered as parishioners**

If you are a volunteer but not a registered parishioner please fill in a Parishioner Registration Form (available from church entry tables) and return it to the parish office

|              |                         |  |  |
|--------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| PARISH DIARY | Weekend 30 & 31 August  | Archbishop's Campaign Appeal concludes<br>OLN Students present as candidates for Confirmation  | OLN Masses                             |
|              | Sunday 31 August        | ACBC Social Justice Sunday<br>One-year Mass of Remembrance for Pat Monteleone at OLN<br>Five-year Mass of Remembrance for Domenico Germano StTs  | 10:00am<br>10:30am                     |
|              | Monday 1 September      | World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation<br>Season of Creation Begins<br>Statue of Our Lady moves to the Bacak family  |  |
|              | Tuesday 2 September     | Liturgy of the Word replaces morning Mass at St Therese's<br>Sharing Memories Group morning tea in the Annex   | 10:00am<br>10:30am                     |
|              | Wednesday 3 September   | Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex<br>Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store  | 9:00am<br>10:45am                      |
|              | Thursday 4 September    | Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room<br>Liturgy of the Word replaces morning Mass at St Therese's<br>Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room  | 9:30am<br>10:00am<br>10:30am           |
|              | Friday 5 September      | Parish office closed   |  |
|              | Weekend 6 & 7 September | St Therese's Students present as candidates for First Eucharist  | St Ts Masses                           |
|              | Saturday 6 September    | Kids at Mass at St Therese's   | 6:00pm                                 |
|              | Sunday 7 September      | Father's Day<br>Men's Choir singing at St Therese's church   |  |
|              | Monday 8 September      | The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary<br>Statue of Our Lady moves to the O'Neil family   |  |
|              | Tuesday 9 September     | Liturgy of the Word replaces morning Mass at St Therese's  | 10:00am                                |
|              | Wednesday 10 September  | Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex<br>Sacrament of First Eucharist Faith Night at St Therese's  | 9:00am<br>6:45pm                       |
|              | Thursday 11 September   | Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room<br>Liturgy of the Word replaces morning Mass at St Therese's<br>Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room<br>SVDP Regional Council meeting in PACE | 9:30am<br>10:00am<br>10:30am<br>7:00pm |
|              | Friday 12 September     | Whole school Mass at St Therese's for Season of Creation<br>Sacrament of Confirmation at OLN<br>Sacrament of Confirmation at OLN   | 10:00am<br>4:30pm<br>6:30pm            |
|              | Saturday 13 September   | Men's Choir singing at OLN church<br>Sacrament of First Eucharist at St Therese's (4LT)  | 5:00pm<br>6:00pm                       |
|              | Sunday 14 September     | Exaltation of the Holy Cross<br>Safeguarding Sunday<br>Sacrament of First Eucharist at St Therese's (4C)<br>Sacrament of First Eucharist at St Therese's (4P & RE))                      | 9:00am<br>10:30am                      |
|              | Monday 15 September     | Parish office closed<br>Statue of Our Lady moves to the Rodriguez family<br>Rosary and Requiem Mass for Giovanni Ansaldo at St Therese's<br>SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE     | 10:00am<br>7:00pm                      |

|        |   |   |
|--------|---|---|
| MASSES | <b>ST THERESE'S CHURCH</b><br>48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon<br><b>Weekday Services:</b> Tuesday to Friday 10:00am<br><b>Weekend Masses:</b> Saturday 6:00pm<br>Sunday 9:00am & 10:30am<br><b>Reconciliation:</b> Saturday 5:45pm | <b>OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY CHURCH</b><br>31 Fawkner St, Aberfeldie<br><b>Weekend Masses:</b> Saturday 5:00pm<br>Sunday 10:00am<br><b>Reconciliation:</b> Saturday 4:45pm |
|--------|---|---|

|                 |   |   |
|-----------------|---|---|
| PARISH CONTACTS | <p align="center"><b>PARISH PRIEST</b> Fr John Hannon (on leave)</p> <p align="center"><b>Office phone:</b> 9401 6330 <b>Office address:</b> 48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon</p> <p align="center"><b>Office email:</b> <a href="mailto:essendon@cam.org.au">essendon@cam.org.au</a> <b>Website:</b> <a href="http://www.essendoncatholic.org.au">www.essendoncatholic.org.au</a></p> <p align="center"><b>Office Hours for the week 1-5 September :</b> Monday to Thursday 9:00am to 3:00pm</p> <p align="center"><b>St Vincent de Paul Helpline:</b> 1800 305 330 WEEKDAYS 10:00am-3:00pm</p> <p align="center">To subscribe to our newsletter go to the link below or use the QR code:<br/> <a href="https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/subscription?id=0012w00000LOj4wAAD&amp;req=subscribe">https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/subscription?id=0012w00000LOj4wAAD&amp;req=subscribe</a></p> <p align="center"><i>Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.</i></p> <p align="center"><i>We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land of the Kulin Nation who have walked upon and cared for this country for thousands of years. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to Elders past, present and emerging.</i></p> |  |
|-----------------|---|---|



## ESSENDON CHORAL SOCIETY

*presents*



# Ripples from Haydn

Choral Concert

2:30pm Sunday  
14 September



St Thomas' Anglican Church  
Moonee Ponds



Tickets: at the door, or  
[www.trybooking.com/DDARU](http://www.trybooking.com/DDARU)

[www.essendonchoralsociety.org.au/](http://www.essendonchoralsociety.org.au/)



# You are invited

to a conversation: an  
evening to learn about  
domestic violence and its  
impacts.

This is a chance to ask all your questions  
(nothing is off the table), and to find out how  
you can make a difference.

Hear from our speaker, Naomi Johnson: social  
worker, PhD candidate and survivor of  
domestic violence.

St John's Uniting Church Essendon

Cr. Buckley Street and Mount Alexander Road, Essendon

0430 625 216

7pm, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October

Light supper to follow

St Columba's College presents

ST COLUMBA'S COLLEGE

## SPRING MUSIC CONCERT 2025



4 SEPTEMBER | 6:30PM - 9:30PM

ST. COLUMBA'S COLLEGE HALL  
2 LESLIE ROAD ESSENDON



St Columba's  
College

FAITHFUL  
CONTEMPORARY  
INNOVATIVE  
SINCE 1897



Scan the QR Code  
to learn more today

AN INCLUSIVE CATHOLIC GIRLS' SCHOOL | YEARS 7-12  
2 LESLIE ROAD, ESSENDON VIC 3040 | 9337 5311

# Tiny Ts Playgroup

A great place to make new friends!

All-weather with indoor and outdoor space

For infant to school-aged children

Grandparents welcome!



WHEN: Thursday morning in school terms  
9.30am - 10.30am

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

COST: Free of charge

EMAIL: [stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com](mailto:stthereses.tinyts@gmail.com)