



# The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

18 & 19 April: Third Sunday of Easter Year A

**First Reading:** Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33

*It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.*

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,  
for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.

So my heart was glad

and my tongue cried out with joy:

my body, too, will rest in the hope

that you will not abandon my soul to Hades

nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.

You have made known the way of life to me,

you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. v.11

(R.) Lord, you will show us the path of life.

**Gospel Acclamation:** See Luke 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:  
make our hearts burn with love when you speak. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 24:13-35

*They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.*

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they

were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.'

---

## INTERCESSIONS

*Let us turn to God with our hearts open in faith and pray for those in need.*

That the Holy Church will be sustained by God's word through the scriptures.

That priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer. [*Pope Leo's prayer intention for April 2026*]

That this community recognises Christ in the breaking of the Bread.

That those responsible for armed conflict in so many parts of the world, may be persuaded to turn from violence to sincere dialogue and peaceful outcomes.

We pray for Joshua, Kaia, Liana, Margot, Matteo and Pia who are welcomed into our parish community this weekend in preparation for their Baptism.

We pray for those who are ill. We pray for those who have died recently especially Christine Wall (nee Whiting), Kath Maslin, Margaret Healy and John Andressen. And for those we remember at this time, especially: Lino & Luigi Zanatta, Pasquale & Giuseppina Chiavaroli, Grazia Mazzarella, John Guiney, Filomena Carbone, Reginald & Hyacinth D'Cruz and Daphne & Russell Shelitoe, Mary Reddan and John Lee.

*Hear our prayers and help us to always cherish your presence as we gather at the Eucharistic table. Amen*

Dear friends of the Our Lady and St Therese community,

I write to acknowledge the time, talent and effort that went into preparation and celebration of our Holy Week and Easter liturgies. Attendance at all our services was high at the solemn and joyful celebrations across the week.

To our dedicated volunteers, a note to thank you all for your ongoing commitment in so many ways, to helping celebrate our liturgies well, not just over Holy Week and the Lent and Easter, but throughout the year. There is great appreciation for your dedication, time, effort and talent put into it all. Instrumentalists, singers, decor organisers and those setting up for Masses in the background, all make things move along smoothly.

Thanks also go to Fr Tony Feeney, who is so willing to help out and presided at our OLN Easter Masses.

There are too many to identify individually for their contribution, so please accept this as a general, but personal acknowledgement to all who contributed in some way. I also express thanks to those who made a contribution to the Easter Offerings.

Wishing all well as we continue to work well together, in supporting and building our parish community.

John Hannon PP

---

**WHICH PRIEST WHERE** This weekend Fr John will say all Masses at St Therese's while Fr Tony presides at Masses at OLN. Next weekend Fr John will say all Masses at OLN and the 9:00am Sunday Mass at St Therese's while Fr Tony says 6:00pm Saturday and 10:30am Sunday Mass at St Therese's.

---

**MEN'S CHOIR THIS SATURDAY** We welcome our Men's Choir who will be singing at 5:00pm Saturday Mass at OLN.

**PARISH MORNING TEAS THIS SUNDAY** This weekend parishioners are welcomed to morning tea after Sunday morning Masses at both churches. At St Therese's church parishioners and visitors are invited to gather in PACE Function room and at OLN the morning tea will be held in the church foyer. Many thanks to our hospitable volunteers who host these events for us each month.

**CDF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** We welcome members of the CDF Community engagement team to our Sunday morning Masses. You can find out more about CDF at <https://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/>

---

**PROJECT COMPASSION** The parish has received donations totalling \$4357.95 for Project Compassion. Anyone still with envelopes or money boxes at home, please bring them into the parish office or drop on collection plates so that we can finalise the donation and transfer funds to Caritas.

**HOLY PLACES APPEAL** The parish collected \$2939.30 to support the Good Friday Holy Places appeal.

---

**ANNUAL PARISH MASS COUNT** We thank our collectors who will be conducting the Parish Mass 'count' on weekends throughout May. The four weekends of the count are: 2 & 3 May, 9 & 10 May, 16 & 17 May and 23 & 24 May.

---

**MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026** Why listening matters in the Church. Listening is not a sign of weakness. In the Christian tradition, listening is an act of humility and faith. We believe that God can speak through the experiences, joys, and struggles of His people. Synodality reminds us that listening is a form of love and a path to wisdom.

Who participates in a Synod? A Synod involves the whole People of God: bishops, priests, deacons, religious, and lay faithful. Each has a distinct role, but all share responsibility for the Church's mission. Synodality does not blur roles—it helps each vocation flourish in service of the Gospel. You can learn more about the Melbourne Synod at <https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>

---

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

### MINISTRY ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND 18 & 19 APRIL (WEEK 3)

MASS	READERS	EUCHARIST
OLN 5:00pm	Michael Portelli	Fred Grima
OLN 10:00am	Mark Donahoo	Adrian Commadeur
St T's 6.00pm	Alison Bretag	Tric Joseph & Trish Giacomini
St T's 9.00am	John Harvey	Maria Cricri
St T's 10.30am	Rosemary Patterson & Mary O'Brien	Cherrie Arnold & Therese Hanna

### MINISTRY ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 25 & 26 (WEEK 4)

MASS	READERS	EUCHARIST
OLN 5:00pm	Michael Balia	Fred Grima
OLN 10:00am	Adrian Commadeur	Michael Portelli
St T's 6.00pm	Tric Joseph & Tony Proctor	Joe Fittipaldi
St T's 9.00am	Bruce White & Christine Nelson	Marg Tormey & Mick O'Brien
St T's 10.30am	Jim Maderazo & Lanelle Eid	Marita Hased-Dunne & Miriam Gandolfo

**Online resource for Sunday Readings:** <https://sundayreadingsandreflections.a.weebly.com/Urtl0m1hb.html>

PARISH CALENDAR

Saturday 18 April	Men's Choir singing at Our Lady of the Nativity	5:00pm
Sunday 19 April	Third Sunday of Easter Parish Morning Tea after morning Masses at St Therese's Parish Morning Tea after 10:00am Mass at OLN Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass at St Therese's	10:30am
Monday 20 April	First day of school term 2 Statue of Our Lady moves to the D'Cruz family SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE	7:00pm
Tuesday 21 April	Mass at Ryman Raelene Boyle Village Aged Care	11:00am
Wednesday 22 April	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Requiem Mass for John Andressen at St Therese's	9:00am 11:00am
Thursday 23 April	Mass at Arcadia Aged Care	11:00am
Friday 24 April	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE function room	10:30am
Saturday 25 April	ANZAC Day	
Sunday 26 April	Good Shepherd Sunday / World Day of Prayer for Vocations Fourth Sunday of Easter Parish Baptisms at St Therese's	12:00pm
Tuesday 28 April	Centring Prayer group gathering in PACE function room Alpha Program commences at OLN parish hall	7:00pm 7:00pm
Wednesday 29 April	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
Thursday 30 April	Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room Mass at Trevi Court Aged Care	10:30am 11:00am
Friday 1 May	School Mass (Prep and Year 1) at St Therese's Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE function room	10:00am 10:30am
Weekend 2 & 3 May	Annual Parish Mass Count: Week 1 CatholicCare Appeal Weekend	All Masses
Saturday 2 May	Kids at Mass at St Therese's	6:00pm
Sunday 3 May	Fifth Sunday of Easter	
Monday 4 May	Alpha Connect evening in PACE function room	7:00pm
Tuesday 5 May	Parish office closed for staff training Sharing Memories Group morning tea in the Annex	10:30am
Wednesday 6 May	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store	9:00am 10:45am
Thursday 7 May	Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room	10:30am
Friday 8 May	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE function room	10:30am

MASSES

**ST THERESE'S CHURCH**  
48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon

**Weekday Services:** 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:** 9:00am until 3:00pm Tuesday to Friday  
**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=0012w00000LOj4wAAD&req=subscribe>



*Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.*

*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.*



Save for a greater reward

5.35% p.a.\*

12-month Term Investment with CDF Community Fund

[catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer](http://catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund/offer)

\*Rate subject to change. Interest paid at maturity. Visit our website to open an account and view the disclosure statement.



## 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

## Tiny Ts Playgroup

All-weather with indoor and outdoor space  
For infant to school-aged children  
Grandparents welcome!



Starts again for term 2  
Friday 24 April at 10:30am

WHEN: Friday mornings in school terms  
10:30am - 11:30am

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)

## THERE'S A SEAT FOR YOU AT THE TABLE

AT ALPHA, YOU CAN ASK ANYTHING!  
ALPHA IS A SAFE SPACE WHERE YOU CAN ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT LIFE, FAITH AND MEANING

A SEAT AT THE TABLE HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR YOU  
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS COME

OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY HALL  
29 FAWKNER ST ABERFELDIE (OPPOSITE BATMAN ST)  
STARTING TUESDAY 28 APRIL AT 07:00 PM



REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL  
SCAN QR CODE  
OR CALL 9401-6330

