

# The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

25 & 26 April: Fourth Sunday of Easter Year A  
ANZAC Day & Good Shepherd Sunday

*Welcome to the Parish of Our Lady and St Therese. This is Good Shepherd Sunday and a particular focus taken is leadership. Authentic leadership is patterned after the leadership of Jesus. It is gentle and familiar, like the true shepherd; it has won the confidence of those who follow and is committed to the enhancement of the lives of others. Jesus shows us that authentic leadership is willing to forgo its own needs and to deny its own interests in favour of the needs and interests of others.*

**First Reading:** Acts of the Apostles 2:14. 36-41

*God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 22:1-6. R. v.1

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

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## INTERCESSIONS

*Brothers and sisters, the Good Shepherd hears the voice of those who follow Him. In this confidence, we place our needs humbly before Him.*

For the Shepherds of our Church: Pope Leo, Archbishop Peter, our Bishops and our pastors. May they reflect a Father's love and care for all whom they serve.

That Christians all over the world will be united in Christ as one true flock.

For nations seeking peace in the midst of conflict

We pray for the men and women who have served in our armed forces in defence of this country. We give thanks for their great sacrifices, in conflict and in captivity and for the dedicated service of current Australian military personnel.

We pray for the children who Baptised into our parish community this weekend.

We pray for those who are ill. We pray for those who have died recently especially Terry Cartwright, Josephine Olando, Lucia Pitruzzello and Domenico Mesiti. And for those we remember at this time, especially: Jeanette D'Cruz, Irene & Osmond Bastian, Shirley & Malcolm Baptist, Helen Whelan, Tess Fogarty, Margaret Jenkins, Jim Duffy, Kevin Oakman, Jo Godden, Carmela Uccello and Fr Tom Brophy.

*Loving Father, Your Son came to lead us to you. Hear the prayers we make in his name, confident of your care for us. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*

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**WHICH PRIEST WHERE** This 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. Next weekend Fr John will say all Masses at St Therese's while Fr Tony presides at Masses at OLN.

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**CATHOLIC CARE VICTORIA SUNDAY APPEAL NEXT WEEKEND** Next weekend is the CatholicCare Victoria Sunday Appeal. CatholicCare Victoria is the Church's mission in action - empowering communities and building strength and resilience, to enable everyone to reach their full potential and live life to the full. Your kindness and generosity will help provide caring and compassionate support for struggling individuals and families in our community. You can donate using the appeal envelope available in our parish, donate online at [www.catholiccarevic.org.au](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au) or call (03)

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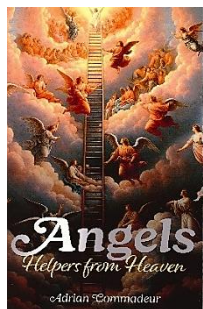
**ANNUAL PARISH MASS COUNT** We thank our collectors who will be conducting the Parish Mass 'count' beginning next weekend and throughout May. The weekends are: 2 & 3 May, 9 & 10 May, 16 & 17 May and 23 & 24 May.

**GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY** Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pope Leo tells us: *Listen to the voice of the Lord who invites you to a full and fruitful life, calling you to put your talents to use (cf. Mt 25:14-30) and to unite your limitations and weaknesses with the glorious cross of Christ.*

**WHAT IS GRIEF: SHARING MEMORIES GROUP SPECIAL GUEST** The Sharing Memories Group will welcome guest speaker Heather Somerville on Tuesday 5 May. Heather is currently Director of Pastoral and Spiritual Care at St Vincent's Health Australia, overseeing St Vincent's public and private hospitals and aged care facilities in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. Heather previously managed the Pastoral Care team at St Vincent's public hospital in Melbourne with a further 14 years' experience as a pastoral care practitioner at Peter Mac. Heather is a clinical pastoral education consultant supporting and providing education and formation for pastoral care practitioners. Everyone is invited to listen to Heather's talk on Tuesday 5 May at 10:30am in the Annex (room located at the rear of St Therese's church.)

**KIDS AT MASS** Our K@M team will be back next Saturday at 6:00pm Mass at St Therese's.

**LEADLIGHT REPAIRS AT ST THERESE'S CHURCH** A recent condition survey of the leadlight windows at St Therese's church has identified some urgent works required to one window in the church tower which will begin on Monday 4 May to make the window safe. The window will be removed for repairs and boarded up until re-install.



**ANGELS – HELPERS FROM HEAVEN** A new book from parishioner Adrian Commadeur on the role of angels, good and fallen, in the Scriptures, in the life of the Church and in our own personal lives. The book is available at OLN after Mass for \$10, and at St Therese's from the parish office.

**ABOUT THE BOOK:** The author traces the roles of Angels as they appear in the Bible. From the Book of Genesis to the Book of Revelation, Angels play a major role in God's plan of salvation. Angels announce the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, and they announce his Resurrection.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Adrian is an author and speaker. Born in the Netherlands, he studied theology and criminology. He was married to Anne for 47 years, is a proud father and grandfather. For more than 50 years he has been active in Catholic Charismatic Renewal having received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit in 1971.

**MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026** Synodality and bishops. Bishops remain shepherds and teachers of the faith. Synodality does not weaken their authority; rather, it enriches their ministry by grounding leadership in prayerful listening and communal discernment. A bishop who listens walks more closely with his people, as Christ the Good Shepherd does. 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.



Help fund projects across Catholic organisations, including parishes, hospital wings and classrooms, with a CDF Community Fund savings account.

Save for a Greater Reward

With competitive interest rates, it's a greater reward than money alone.



Visit [www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund](http://www.catholicdevelopmentfund.org.au/communityfund) or call our team on 1800 134 135 for more information

**MINISTRY ROSTER FOR THIS WEEKEND 25 & 26 APRIL (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 Hassed-Dunne & Miriam Gandolfo

**MINISTRY ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 2 & 3 MAY (WEEK 1)**

MASS	READERS	EUCHARIST
OLN 5:00pm	Jon Fleming	Tatiana Polizzi
OLN 10:00am	Paula O'Byrne	Andrew Scaramozzino
St T's 6.00pm	Eve Korytkowski	Gina Bell & Maggie Catterall
St T's 9.00am	Mary Dowling & Margaret Kerr	Carmen Merrigan & Rosina Tempini
St T's 10.30am	Silvia Campo & George Jungwirt	Miriam Gandolfo & Maria Giampiccolo

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

PARISH CALENDAR

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
Monday 27 April	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Portelli family Rosary and Requiem Mass for Lucia Pitruzzello at St Therese's	11:00am
Tuesday 28 April	Funeral service for Domenico Mesiti at St Therese's Centring Prayer group gathering in PACE function room Alpha Program commences at OLN hall	11:00am 7:00pm 7:00pm
Wednesday 29 April	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Requiem Mass for Terry Cartwright at St Therese's	9:00am 11:00am
Thursday 30 April	Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room Requiem Mass for Josephine Olanda	10:30am 11:30am
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	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Draim family	
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 Mass at Trevi Court Aged Care	10:30am 11:00am
Friday 8 May	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE function room	10:30am
Weekend 9 & 10 May	Annual Parish Mass Count: Week 2	All Masses
Sunday 10 May	Sixth Sunday of Easter Mother's Day	
Monday 11 May	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Notaro family Alpha Connect evening in PACE function room	7:00pm
Tuesday 12 May	Centring Prayer group gathering in PACE function room	7:00pm
Wednesday 13 May	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
Thursday 14 May	SVDP Regional Council meeting in PACE	7:00pm

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.*

# SHARING

*memories*

A Friendship group supporting parishioners through life's challenges:

- Grief and loss
- Relationship breakdowns
- Life changes

**Tuesday 5 May**  
**With Special Guest Speaker**  
**Heather Somerville**

Presentation & Morning Tea  
10:30am in the Annex  
(room located behind St Therese's church)

-YOU ARE WELCOME

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?



SCAN ME  
FOR  
DETAILS

**YES**

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

KAM IS BACK NEXT WEEKEND

**SATURDAY 2 MAY**

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

**NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD**  
**SATURDAY 13 JUNE**

# 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



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

## SAVE THE DATES

6 & 20 May  
3 & 17 June  
1 & 15 July  
5 & 19 August  
3 & 17 September  
1 & 15 October  
5 & 19 November  
3 & 17 December

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



## Senior Friendship Group Morning Tea

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS OF  
OUR PARISH ARE INVITED TO

**PACE Function Room  
Thursday 21 May  
from 10:45am  
(After Anointing Mass)**

Donations on the day will go to  
Cancer Council Australia's  
Biggest Morning Tea

Donate online using the QR code or go to:  
<https://www.biggestmorningtea.com.au/fundraisers/FriendshipGroup>



 **Cancer Council**  
Australia's Biggest  
Morning Tea

## Tiny Ts Playgroup

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



## Friday Mornings in PACE

**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)

## SUNDAY GOSPEL REFLECTIONS GROUP

The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese

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.

**PACE is located at  
48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon**

# The Good Shepherd



PRAY FOR OUR FUTURE PRIESTS



DEACON  
Dominic  
LAWES



DEACON  
Rhys  
LOWTHER



Nicolas  
CALANDRA



Andrew  
TRAN



Anthony  
WRIGHT



Xavier  
RYAN



Patrick  
HARRIS



Luke  
KENNEDY



Mathews  
NOBLE



Rohan  
PRINCE



Chinh  
TRAN



Liam  
BUI



Chris  
FERNANDO



Alexander  
SGRO



George  
BECCERA



Ambrose  
MEEHAN



Luke  
ROCHFORD



Fr Dishan  
CANDAPPA  
VOCATIONS  
DIRECTOR



Fr Anil  
MASCARENHAS  
ASSISTANT  
VOCATIONS DIRECTOR



Fr Dean  
MATHIESON



Fr Geoff  
MCILROY



Fr John  
VESPA

VOCATIONS PROMOTERS

03 9926 5733  
vocations@cam.org.au  
[vocations.melbournecatholic.org](http://vocations.melbournecatholic.org)



SCAN TO LEARN MORE