



# The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

9 & 10 May: Sixth Sunday of Easter Year A  
Mother's Day

*Welcome to the Parish of Our Lady and St Therese. Christ says to us what he said to his apostles: 'If you love me, keep my commandments'. We can't truly call ourselves his disciples if we don't listen to his words and make an effort to live by them. We know we sometimes fail, and our lives are the poorer for that. We trust in the Lord's help to do better.*

*May is traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, offering Catholics a special time for prayer, devotion, and veneration of the Mother of God. During May we'll begin each weekend Mass in communal prayer:*

*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.  
Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen*

**First Reading:** Acts of the Apostles 8:5-8. 14-17

*They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 65:1-7. 16. 20. R. see v.1 (R.) Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

**Gospel Acclamation:** John 10:14

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,  
and my Father will love them and we will come to them.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel:** John 14:15-21

*I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.*

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate

to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive

since it neither sees nor knows him;

but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;

I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me;

but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father

and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them

will be one who loves me;

and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

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## INTERCESSIONS

*My sisters and brothers, trusting in God's mercy, let us pray for the needs of the world and those of all humanity*

For the Church, the disciples of Jesus empowered by the Holy Spirit.

For nations seeking peace and harmony in the world.

That religious missionaries will be supported in their work of bringing Christ's love to all people.

That our parish community may share the love of Christ and the Spirit of truth with all we encounter.

We pray for all mothers, may the care, happiness, and love they bestow on their family be returned to them bountifully throughout their days.

We pray for those who are ill. We pray for those who have died recently especially Fr Peter Foley. And for those we remember at this time, especially: Giuseppe Brancatisano, Barry Nunn, Frank O'Brien, Iris Sapiano, Moira Farrell, Tom Moloney and Elizabeth Lavars.

*Loving God, hear these petitions which we humbly place before you, through Christ our Saviour and 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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**SIXTH NATIONAL COUNT OF ATTENDANCE MASS COUNT** We thank our collectors who are conducting the Parish Mass 'count' throughout May.



Happy Mother's Day



**ANOINTING MASS AND BIGGEST MORNING TEA** On Thursday 21 May our 10:00am morning Mass will be a Mass of Anointing. Following Mass our Parish Friendship Group are hosting a Biggest Morning Tea to raise funds for Cancer Council. Please come along and give generously to help support the important work of Cancer Council in research, support and prevention programs.

Almost 1 in 2 Australians will be diagnosed with cancer before the age of 85. Cancer Council wants to change that, and they need your help. Our morning tea will help raise vital funds to bring us closer to a cancer free future.

Cancer Council is the largest non-government funder of cancer research in the country, and thanks to the generosity of supporters like you, we have been able to invest almost \$250 million in Australian cancer research in the past 5 years alone.

Investment in research has helped increase cancer survival rates from 49% in the 1980s to 71% today. Because of research, more people are surviving cancer than ever before. And every day, brilliant Australian researchers are working to unlock more of cancer's secret.

If you can't attend the morning tea you can donate online by using the QR code on the last page of the bulletin or go to: <https://www.biggestmorningtea.com.au/fundraisers/FriendshipGroup>

**MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026** Preparation for the Melbourne Synod continues. To assist with the preparatory work a Synod Commission has been appointed and membership includes: Bong Bernardo, Fr Cameron Forbes, Jacqui Giuliano, Fr Binh Lee, Fr Dean Mathieson, Marcelle Mogg, Sr Katherine Stone mgl, Teresa Rhynehart, Silvana Scarfe, Jasmine Tavita and Judeline Wadhvani. This month will see the gradual release of the Synod theme papers, with June and July being Consultation and dialogue months for our faith communities.

Synodality and the laity. Synodality affirms that the Holy Spirit is at work in the lives of all the baptised. Lay people are not simply helpers of clergy; they are active disciples called to witness to Christ in families, workplaces, and society. A synodal Church takes this vocation seriously. You can learn more about the Melbourne Synod at <https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>

**MELBOURNE CATHOLIC DIGEST-OUT NOW** The latest edition of the Melbourne Catholic Digest (Easter) is now available. This free newspaper is published every two months by the Archdiocesan Communications Office and is offered especially for elderly parishioners who do not have access to the weekly newsletter. We have a limited number of printed copies available at our churches for those who cannot read it online. For those that can, you can access a PDF version of the Digest from here: <https://melbournecatholic.org/melbourne-catholic-digest-archive>

**ARCHDIOCESAN CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL** Parishes, communities and all of the faithful are warmly invited to join the annual Archdiocesan Corpus Christi Procession as we walk through the streets of CBD Melbourne on SUNDAY 7 JUNE. Beginning at 2.00pm from St Patrick's Cathedral and concluding at Federation Square. Like those disciples who recognised Jesus on the journey to Emmaus, this is a wonderful opportunity for the whole Archdiocesan community to bear witness to Christ in the Eucharist, our light and hope, into the heart of the city.



**CARITAS AUSTRALIA LEBANON EMERGENCY APPEAL** Lebanon is facing one of its most severe humanitarian crises in years, as a sudden surge in violence and mass evacuation orders force families to flee with nothing. Communities are already pushed to the brink by years of economic collapse, poverty and failing essential services. Your support can help provide emergency support to vulnerable communities.. More than 2,000 people have been killed and over 1.1 million people displaced nationwide, including more than 390,000 children. Our partners Caritas Lebanon continue to deliver emergency food, water, shelter and health support across the country, maintaining humanitarian convoys to hard-to-reach areas in southern Lebanon. Stand with the people of Lebanon today. Learn more or make a donation today at [www.caritas.org.au/lebanon](http://www.caritas.org.au/lebanon) Photo credit: Caritas Lebanon

**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 9 & 10 MAY (WEEK 2)**

MASS	READERS	EUCHARIST
OLN 5:00pm	Georgina Kucera & John Harris	Kathy Ferguson
OLN 10:00am	Natale Cutri	Douglas D'Cruz
St T's 6.00pm	John O'Connor	Tony Proctor & Trish Giacomini
St T's 9.00am	Lynette Russo	Tony Belcastro & David Gloury
St T's 10.30am	Lucy Angelico	Rosa Pierorazio & Marg Moore

**MINISTRY ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 16 & 17 MAY (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

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

PARISH CALENDAR

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
Friday 15 May	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE function room	10:30am
Weekend 16 & 17 May	Annual Parish Mass Count: Week 3 Presentation Masses for Sacrament of Confirmation at OLN	All Masses
Sunday 17 May	The Ascension of the Lord : Laudato Si' Week begins 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 18 May	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Lambert family SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE	7:00pm
Wednesday 20 May	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store	9:00am 10:45am
Thursday 21 May	Mass of Anointing at St Therese's Parish Friendship Group Biggest Morning Tea in PACE	10:00am 10:40am
Friday 22 May	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE function room	10:30am
Weekend 23 & 24 May	Annual Parish Mass Count - Week 4 Presentation Masses for Sacrament of First Eucharist at OLN	All Masses
Sunday 24 May	Pentecost Sunday Laudato Si' Week ends Parish Baptisms at St Therese's	12:00pm
Monday 25 May	Our Lady, Help of Christians, Patron of Australia Statue of Our Lady moves to the Condillac family	
Tuesday 26 May	Centring Prayer group gathering in PACE function room	7:00pm
Wednesday 27 May	National Reconciliation Week begins Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
Thursday 28 May	Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room	10:30am
Friday 29 May	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE function room Sacrament of Confirmation at Our Lady of the Nativity Sacrament of Confirmation at Our Lady of the Nativity	10:30am 4:30pm 6:30pm
Weekend 30 & 31 May	Candidate Masses for First Reconciliation at St Therese's	All Masses

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.*

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

## SAVE THE DATES

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



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

## Volunteers Needed

*Share Your Time  
& Talents*

Share your gifts, talents and energy to build our parish community

- Mass & Liturgy
- Outreach & Community
- Education & Formation
- Administration & Development
- Property

Brochures available on church entrance tables or scan the QR code for online version



## 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)

# SHARING

## memories

A Friendship group supporting parishioners through life's challenges including:

- Grief and loss
- Relationship breakdowns
- Life changes

Monthly Morning Tea  
First Tuesday of each month  
10:30am in the Annex  
(room located behind St Therese's church)

**Next date: Tuesday 2 June**

YOU ARE WELCOME



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.



## 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**