The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

04 & 05 July: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Welcome to the Parish of Our Lady and St Therese and to this year's celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday. As we gather in faith, we do so as a people shaped by story; by the Gospel, by culture, and by the journeys that have brought us to this moment. We gather in the presence of God, who walks with us always, and who calls us into unity as one people.

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather. We pay respect to the Elders, past, present and emerging.

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

See how humbly your king comes to you!

The Lord says this:
'Rejoice heart and soul, daughter of Zion!
Shout with gladness, daughter of Jerusalem!
See now, your king comes to you;
he is victorious, he is triumphant,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will banish chariots from Ephraim
and horses from Jerusalem;
the bow of war will be banished.
He will proclaim peace for the nations.
His empire shall stretch from sea to sea,
from the River to the ends of the earth.'

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14 R. v.1

I will praise your name for ever,
my king and my God.

Gospel Acclamation: John 15:26. 27

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;
you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

I am gentle and humble of heart.

Jesus exclaimed, 'I bless you, Father, Lord of heaven and of earth, for hiding these things from the learned and the clever and revealing them to mere children. Yes, Father, for that is what it pleased you to do. Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, just as no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light.'

SUNDAY READINGS WITH REFLECTIONS: https://sundayreadingsandreflectionsa.weebly.com/Urtl0m1hb.html
DAILY MASS READINGS: https://melbournecatholic.org/connect/daily-mass-readings

INTERCESSIONS

Gathered on ancient land, we bring our prayers to God who calls us to walk together in Christ – in faith, in hope and in love.

For the leaders who serve our Church – may they walk with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholics in a spirit of respect, listening, and shared faith.

For justice and compassion: For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples who face challenges in health, education, and housing — may we respond with compassion, commitment, and Gospel action.

That peoples who are bowed down through oppression and violence will have their burdens lifted.

For those who are struggling and who are burdened or in any need; may they find rest in Jesus who invites all who are weary to come to Him, and support from those around them.

We pray for those who are ill. We pray for those who have died recently especially Keith McLean and Joe Misale. And for those we remember at this time, especially: John Conlan, Giuseppe Strati, Francesco Gregorio, Michael Brown, Vincent Catterall, Brian Mansbridge, John Lacy, Maria Rosa Norello and Frank Quattrone.

Loving God, you call us to walk together in faith and unity. Hear these prayers and guide us in your ways. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

PRIESTS MASS SCHEDULE		
MASS	**THIS WEEKEND**	**NEXT WEEKEND**
OLN 5:00pm	Fr Tony Feeney	Fr John Hannon
OLN 10:00am	Fr Tony Feeney	Fr John Hannon
St T's 6.00pm	Fr John Hannon	Fr Tony Feeney
St T's 9.00am	Fr John Hannon	Fr John Hannon
St T's 10.30am	Fr John Hannon	Fr Tony Feeney

OPENING THE DOORS FOUNDATION APPEAL This weekend, on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday, we're holding an appeal to support Opening the Doors Foundation, providing financial assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kids pursuing education.

OTDF works in partnership with families where parents commit to paying school fees, and the Foundation steps in to cover additional essentials: uniforms, stationery, laptops, excursions. It's a model built on dignity and mutual respect. Not charity handed out, but a hand extended in partnership.

And the results are profound. When a child feels they truly belong in their classroom, something shifts. Self-esteem grows. Engagement deepens. And the ripple effect reaches far beyond the individual, it lifts whole families and communities.

The organisation runs on just one or two staff and is driven largely by volunteers, so your donation goes directly to where it matters most.

Please give as generously as you are able. Every gift, no matter the size, opens a door for a child who deserves to walk through it.

HOW TO GIVE:

- Scan the QR code or visit the website in the ad. This is the preferred method, as it reduces costs and you'll receive your tax receipt within minutes.
- Credit card slips are in the brochures on your seat.
- Cash donations will be accepted at a leaving collection at the end of Mass. (Please note: cash donations cannot receive receipts.)

The brochures on church seats and also share more stories — real people, real change.

Please take a moment to read them. Thank you so much. And please give generously.

PETER'S PENCE APPEAL LAST WEEKEND Thanks to the generous support of our parishioners we collected $1281.45 at last weekend's collection.

ST THERESE'S ROOF REPAIRS Works started this week to replace the roof flashing on the two gable ends of the east and west transepts of St Therese's church. Despite the adverse weather conditions, we expect the work to be completed by Monday or Tuesday. It is important to push on with the work because after the initial two weeks, the scaffolding will cost the parish $1,000 per week to keep on site.

Once the roof flashing has been repaired, we will carry out further work to repair and repaint the internal walls. This will require scaffolding to be installed inside the church for a period of time. Updates will be published when we move to that phase of the project.

ST THERESE'S CHURCH ACCESS Safety is our top priority. The church will be closed while workers are on site, except during Mass times. For safety reasons, the footpath along the west side of the church (Lincoln Road side) is blocked off.

PROJECT COMPASSION RECEIPTS The office is holding receipts for Project Compassion donors who gave cash and asked for a tax receipt. If you can't get to the office during our opening hours (Tuesday to Friday 9am until 3pm) then please let us know and we can arrange to leave the receipt at a weekend Mass.

PARISH SUPPORT OFFERING ENVELOPES. There are a few remaining sets of 2026/2027 envelopes still to be collected from church entrance tables. It is important that as of this weekend please use only your new envelopes and discard envelopes from last year's allocation.

MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026 Synodality requires humility. Walking together means recognising that no one has all the answers. Synodality invites humility—from leaders and from communities—so that the Spirit can guide us beyond our limitations. 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 4 & 5 JULY (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
MINISTRY ROSTER FOR NEXT WEEKEND 11 & 12 JULY (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 Giacomin
St T's 9.00am	Lynette Russo	Tony Belcastro & David Gloury
St T's 10.30am	Lucy Angelico	Rosa Pierorazio & Marg Moore

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
at 10:30am

Next date: Tuesday 7 July in the Office Boardroom (enter through parish office)

YOU ARE WELCOME

Parish Friendship Group Morning Tea

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS OF OUR PARISH ARE INVITED TO

Morning Tea in PACE Function Room Thursday 16 July from 10:45am After Mass of Anointing at St Therese's Church

All welcome

TUESDAY GARDENING GROUP

Tuesday 7 July

9:00am

St Therese's

Join our new monthly gardening group on the first Tuesday of each month at St Therese's

Meet in the Memorial Garden at 9:00am

BYO gardening tools if you can although we do have some tools

All welcome - it's a big garden and there's a job for every skill level!

On Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Sunday

Weekend 4 & 5 July

OPENING THE DOORS APPEAL

Help us open doors for First Nations students in Victoria

Donate online now on our Parish Fundraising Page using the QR code or at
https://opening-the-doors-foundation-together-we-walk-2026.raiselysite.com/parish-ofourlady-andsttherese

Pledge forms and envelopes are available for cheque & credit card donations

OPENING THE DOORS FOUNDATION
Keeping Koorie Kids in an Education of their Choice

PARISH CALENDAR

Weekend 4 & 5 July	Opening the Doors Foundation Appeal	
Sunday 5 July	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday	
Monday 6 July	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Stazko family	
Tuesday 7 July	Tuesday Gardening Group at St Therese's Sharing Memories Group morning tea in the Annex	9:00am 10:30am
Wednesday 8 July	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
Thursday 9 July	Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room SVDP Regional Council meeting in PACE One-year memorial Mass for Antonio Palumbo at St Therese's	10:30am 7:00pm 7:00pm
Friday 10 July	Requiem Mass for Giuseppe (Joe) Misale at OLN church	11:30am
Sunday 12 July	Marriage and Family Sunday The Mission to Seafarers: Sea Sunday	
Monday 13 July	First day of school term 3 Statue of Our Lady moves to the Rosario family Alpha Connect evening in PACE function room	7:00pm
Tuesday 14 July	Centring Prayer group gathering in PACE function room	7:00pm
Wednesday 15 July	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store	9:00am 10:45am
Thursday 16 July	Mass of Anointing at St Therese's Parish Friendship Group morning tea in PACE	10:00am 10:40am
Friday 17 July	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE function room back for term 3	10:30am
Weekend 18 & 19 July	Catholic Mission: Propagation of the Faith Appeal	
Saturday 18 July	Grade 5 students and families Mass at OLN	5:00pm
Sunday 19 July	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 July	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Grima family SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE	7:00pm
Tuesday 21 July	Mass at Ryman Raelene Boyle Village Aged Care	11:00am
Wednesday 22 July	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Faith night for Sacrament of Confirmation at St Therese's	9:00am 6:45pm
Thursday 23 July	Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room Mass at Arcadia Aged Care	10:30am 11:00am
Friday 24 July	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE function room	10:30am
Weekend 25 & 26 July	Candidate Masses for Confirmation 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 **Website:** 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.