



The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

18 & 19 July: Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Catholic Mission Appeal

Welcome to the Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon. Today we hear how the Spirit of God dwells in all of us, helping us in our weakness. The first disciples had Jesus to explain the parables; we have the Spirit to enlighten us. It is the Spirit who helps us to interpret the teaching of Jesus and to be receptive to the challenges that they pose. God is 'merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in kindness and fidelity'. We acknowledge our flaws and are willing to strive for something better knowing that our God is patient with us, and lenient in his judgements. The power of God is demonstrated not in retribution but in his mercy.

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13.16-19

In the place of sin, you give repentance.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.

Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.

You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there.

By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 85:5-6. 9-10. 15-16. R. v.5
(R.) Lord, you are good and forgiving.

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 13:24-43

Let them grow together until the harvest.

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came,

sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

SUNDAY READINGS WITH REFLECTIONS: <https://sundayreadingsandreflections.a.weebly.com/UrtI0m1hb.html>

INTERCESSIONS

God is our help and our strength. Let us bring our prayer before the God who knows everything in our hearts.

That the Holy Church will remain true to Christ's message of the coming kingdom.

That leaders may work for the common good, respecting the dignity of every person, and promoting peace, justice, and the flourishing of all peoples.

As we celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday, may we be renewed in our commitment to support the Church's mission through prayer, solidarity, and generous action.

That those who sow goodness by their work for those in need will be rewarded a hundredfold.

We pray for the children who are welcomed into our parish this weekend in preparation for the Sacrament of Baptism.

We pray for those who are ill. We pray for those who have died recently especially Maurie Doyle, John Cooney, Salvatore Anselmi, Ninetta Sauro and John Michael Pearson. And for those we remember at this time, especially: William Edward Fogarty, Denis Sully, Marie Lambert, Jack Pattison, Clare Rosario, Giuseppina & Cosimo Luzzza, Rosario Moricca, Antonia Schiavello and Domenico Figliuzzi.

Hear our prayers and help us to carry out your plan with patience and care as we wait for the coming kingdom. Amen



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/unity

CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL This week, you are invited to partner with Catholic Mission and the Church in Malawi as we support families rebuilding after devastating floods and help children access education close to home. The Church is creating a place where children can learn, be nourished, and grow with dignity, regardless of their background or beliefs. As we celebrate 100 years of World Mission Day, we are reminded by Pope Leo XIV that we are 'One in Christ, United in Mission'. Join with us in celebration and action by supporting this work with a compassionate gift. Use the provided appeal envelopes which are on church pews and entrance tables, scan the QR code, or visit <https://catholicmission.org.au/unity> to make a difference today.

There are a limited number copies of Mission Today magazine available on church entrance tables for interested readers.

PARISH SUNDAY MORNING TEAS THIS WEEKEND

This weekend parishioners are welcome to morning tea after Sunday Masses at both churches. At St Therese's Church, parishioners and visitors are invited to gather in the Annex, and at OLN the morning tea will be held in the church foyer. Please note that there will be no morning tea next month at St Therese's.

PAINTING AT OLN CHURCH On Monday we will start a maintenance program at parish buildings, beginning with painting the exterior of OLN Church, where we have significant deterioration of exterior timber. We don't expect the painting to impact access to the church for next weekend's Masses.

MELBOURNE CATHOLIC DIGEST-OUT NOW We have a limited number of printed copies Melbourne Catholic Digest available from some church entry tables. or go online: <https://melbournecatholic.org/melbourne-catholic-digest-archive>

MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026 Synodality and the Eucharist. The Eucharist is the heart of synodality. Around one table, many are gathered as one Body. What we celebrate sacramentally must shape how we live communally.

THEME PAPER RELEASE The three theme papers for our Melbourne Synod consultation: *Formation and Participation, Mission Leadership and Young Discipleship* have now been released.

You can learn more and read the theme papers here: <https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>

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

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 John Hannon
St T's 9.00am	Fr John Hannon	Bishop Terry Curtin
St T's 10.30am	Fr John Hannon	Fr John Hannon

LECTORS/READERS MASS SCHEDULE

MASS	THIS WEEKEND	NEXT WEEKEND
OLN 5:00pm	Michael Portelli	Michael Balia
OLN 10:00am	Mark Donahoo	Adrian Commadeur
St T's 6.00pm	Alison Bretag	Tric Joseph & Tony Proctor
St T's 9.00am	John Harvey	Bruce White & Christine Nelson
St T's 10.30am	Rosemary Patterson & Mary O'Brien	Jim Maderazo & Lanelle Eid

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS MASS SCHEDULE

MASS	THIS WEEKEND	NEXT WEEKEND
OLN 5:00pm	Fred Grima	Fred Grima
OLN 10:00am	Adrian Commadeur	Michael Portelli
St T's 6.00pm	Tric Joseph & Trish Giacomini	Joe Fittipaldi
St T's 9.00am	Maria Cricri	Marg Tormey
St T's 10.30am	Cherrie Arnold & Therese Hanna	Marita Hassed-Dunne & Miriam Gandolfo

WE'RE LOOKING FOR

VOLUNTEERS FOR KEY ROLES

Help us deliver the Parish Strategic Plan by joining one of our new teams:

- Social Activities Team
- Communications Team
- Multicultural Team

Over the next weeks we'll be advertising for applicants in these key roles

For more information or to register your interest scan the QR code



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW

→ ESSENDON@CAM.ORG.AU

OR SCAN THE QR CODE

Volunteer

Share Your
Time & Talents

MissionToday DIGITAL

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Pope Leo XIV

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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

Catholic Mission Appeal
This Weekend
18 & 19 July

Carry Christ's Love
to Malawi's Children

catholicmission.org.au/united

PARISH CALENDAR	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 Requiem Mass for Ninetta Sauro at St Therese's Faith night for Sacrament of Confirmation at St Therese's	9:00am 10:00am 6:45pm
	Thursday 23 July	Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room Mass at Arcadia Aged Care Requiem Mass for John Cooney at St Therese's	10:30am 11:00am 1:00pm
	Friday 24 July	Grandparent's Mass at OLN church (school Mass) Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE function room	9:00am 10:30am
	Weekend 25 & 26 July	Candidate Masses for Confirmation at St Therese's	All Masses
	Saturday 25 July	Men's Choir singing at Our Lady of the Nativity	5:00pm
	Sunday 26 July	Parish Baptisms at St Therese's	12:00pm
	Monday 27 July	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Dang family	
	Tuesday 28 July	Centring Prayer group gathering in PACE function room	7:00pm
	Wednesday 29 July	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
	Thursday 30 July	Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room Sacrament of Confirmation at St Therese's Sacrament of Confirmation at St Therese's	10:30am 4:30pm 6:30pm
	Friday 31 July	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE function room Requiem Mass for John Michael Pearson at St Therese's	10:30am 11:30am
	Saturday 1 August	Kids at Mass at St Therese's	6:00pm
	Monday 3 August	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Christie family	7:00pm
	Tuesday 4 August	Tuesday Gardening Group at St Therese's Sharing Memories Group morning tea in the Annex	9:00am 10:30am
	Wednesday 5 August	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store	9:00am 10:45am
	Thursday 6 August	The Transfiguration of the Lord Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room	10:30am
	Friday 7 August	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
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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 <i>Our Parish is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.</i> <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>	
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