



The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

17 & 18 October: Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
World Mission Sunday

Welcome to the Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon. Today Jesus reminds us to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God; and what we give God alone is our worship. And so, we gather today: to worship God, the Creator of the universe and Lord of all.

As we mark 100 years of World Mission Sunday, the Church gathers in a spirit of unity, prayer, and generosity. We come together to celebrate a shared calling that transcends borders, languages, and cultures – a Church united in Christ and sent forth in mission.

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1.4-6

I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before his countenance.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7 (R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.

Gospel Acclamation: Philippians 2:15. 16

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!!

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-21

Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar and to God the things that are God's.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.'

SUNDAY READINGS WITH REFLECTIONS: <https://sundayreadingsandreflections.weebly.com/Urtl0m1hb.html>

DAILY MASS READINGS: <https://melbournecatholic.org/connect/daily-mass-readings>

INTERCESSIONS

Brothers and sisters, God who is mighty has called each of us by name. With confidence let us bring our prayer before the Lord of all.

That our Holy Father Pope Leo will lead the Church to stand against injustice and suffering in the world.

For nations under attack: That peace and justice will prevail.

That the poor and the needy of our community will find us generous and kind.

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.

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, that they will be raised in health and spirit.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Maria De Leo and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially: Finbarr Downey, Giuseppe La Ferlita, Kevin Guiney, Betty Hannon, Dede Huzunken Benissan and Rupert Gilmore.

Loving God, your ways are truth and life. Hear our prayers and help us to keep our hearts set on your kingdom that is to come. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please note: To have the name of someone who has recently died, or whose anniversary falls this week, included in the weekend Mass and bulletin, please submit the name(s) to the Parish Office by 3.00pm Wednesday.

PARISH CENSUS Our parish is currently undertaking a Parish Census. We began last weekend and continue this and next weekend to make sure there are many opportunities for filling in the census cards.

For those who missed out last week, there are still cards on church entrance tables. Please take a card, fill it out and put it on a collection plate this weekend or next.

Data from the census will help us better understand our parish community and support our ongoing life and mission. It will also assist the parish to plan effectively for ministries, important events and future parish initiatives.

There is an accessible online version of the census on our website: <https://www.essendoncatholic.org.au/our-parish/parish-census/> for those who have trouble filling in the printed form. If you use the online form you will need to send the answers to the parish in an email. Answers are not automatically sent to us.

Your privacy is essential, and all information will be treated with confidentiality Thank you for your participation.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY As we mark 100 years of World Mission Sunday, the Church gathers in a spirit of unity, prayer, and generosity. Across continents, communities come together to celebrate a shared calling that transcends borders, languages, and cultures – a living expression of a Church united in Christ and sent forth in mission.

Chosen by Pope Leo XIV, the theme for World Mission Sunday 2026 is 'One in Christ, united in mission'. It invites us to be rooted in unity with Christ and with one another, and calls us to walk together as sisters and brothers, bringing hope, compassion and the Good News to communities near and far.

Catholic Mission invites communities across Australia to join in with open hearts, united in faith and mission, as we journey together on World Mission Sunday.

ST THERESE'S GARDEN Thanks to the dedicated garden crew who completed the big task of mulching and garden maintenance at St Therese's last weekend.

The parish extends grateful thanks to the Spillane family and The Green Centre www.thegreencentre.com.au for generously donating the mulch each year.

NOVEMBER: MONTH OF REMEMBRANCE Our parish begins the Month of Remembrance with special Masses of Remembrance for All Saints' and All Souls' Days. This year they will be held on Friday 30 October:

- **5:00pm** at Our Lady of the Nativity (OLN),
- **7:00pm** at St Therese's

The Memorial Garden at St Therese's will be blessed on **Sunday 1 November at 11:30am**. All are welcome.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE This year our Books of Remembrance are being combined into a single parish book, starting from last year's lists. A copy will be placed in each church on Friday 30 October.

To add new names, use the links on our website: www.essendoncatholic.org.au/remembrance-month
Please first check whether the name is already in our Perpetual Book of Remembrance, which is linked on the same page. Paper forms are also available on the clipboards at the entry tables in both churches. **New names close Sunday 25 October.**

NOVEMBER MASS ENVELOPES Now available for private Mass intentions to be offered by Fr John during November. Names written on November Mass envelopes are not added to the Book of Remembrance nor read in the intercessions at Mass.

JENNY LANGFORD FUNERAL The funeral planned for parishioner Jennifer Langford has now been postponed. We will publish the new date when confirmed.

VINNIES VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY The St Vincent de Paul Society is looking for a Regional Treasurer for the Essendon Region. The role involves preparing monthly financial reports and helping with budgeting, and it takes about 4–6 hours a month. Training, support and a laptop are provided. For more information, contact Richard Turnbull on 0438 377 510.

GOD'S WORD 2027 Copies of St Paul Publications' God's Word 2027 are available for the special price of \$21.95. Call Jane on 0412 239 381.

MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026 Synodality and families. Families are schools of synodality, where listening, patience, and forgiveness are lived daily. The Church learns synodality from family life. You can learn more about the Synod on the Archdiocese website 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 John Hannon	Fr Tony Feeney
OLN 10:00am	Fr John Hannon	Fr Tony Feeney
St T's 6:00pm	Fr Tony Feeney	Fr John Hannon
St T's 9:00am	Fr John Hannon	Fr John Hannon
St T's 10:30am	Fr Tony Feeney	Fr John Hannon

LECTORS/READERS MASS SCHEDULE		
MASS	THIS WEEKEND	NEXT WEEKEND
OLN 5:00pm	Michael Portelli	Michael Balia
OLN 10:00am	John McKibbin	Mark Donahoo
St T's 6:00pm	Tric Joseph	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	Mark Donahoo	Michael Portelli
St T's 6:00pm	Tric Joseph & Trish Giacomini	Kath Dobson
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

SOCIAL BUTTERFLIES

Help us deliver the Parish Strategic Plan by joining our Social Activities Team

We need volunteers who:

- Have an interest in building happy communities
- Enjoy planning and organising events
- Can work in a team to create fun for others
- Enjoy a challenge!

Identify, design, plan and deliver a range of social activities to engage and involve parishioners of all ages



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW



ESSENDON@CAM.ORG.AU

OR SCAN THE QR CODE

Volunteer

Share Your
Time & Talents

WE'RE LOOKING FOR

CULTURAL AMBASSADORS

Help us deliver the Parish Strategic Plan by joining our Multicultural Team

We need volunteers who:

- Represent the diversity of cultures in our parish
- Have an interest in building and sharing cultural awareness and traditions
- Enjoy engaging others in planning and organising events

Help identify, design, plan and deliver events which celebrate our community's diverse cultures



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW



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Volunteer

Share Your
Time & Talents

WE'RE LOOKING FOR

COMMUNICATIONS WIZARDS

Help us deliver the Parish Strategic Plan by joining our Communications Team

We need volunteers who:

- Can create engaging and shareable content
- Can develop and manage parish communications and social media strategies
- Are excited by the possibility of engaging a broad community using a variety of platforms

Design and build new ways of engaging with our Parish community



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST NOW



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OR SCAN THE QR CODE

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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

DATE	EVENT	TIME	LOCATION
Weekend 17 & 18 October	Parish Census	All Masses	
Sunday 18 October	World Mission Sunday		
Sunday 18 October	Parish Morning Tea after morning Masses		St Therese's Annex
Sunday 18 October	Parish Morning Tea after 10:00am Mass		OLN church foyer
Sunday 18 October	Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass	10:30am	St Therese's church
Monday 19 October	Statue of Our Lady: Moreno family		
Monday 19 October	SVDP Essendon Conference meeting	7:00pm	PACE Function Room
Wednesday 21 October	Italian Prayer Group Meet	9:00am	St Therese's Annex
Wednesday 21 October	Men's Coffee Group	10:45am	Lincoln Food Store
Thursday 22 October	Gospel Reflections	10:30am	PACE Meeting Room
Thursday 22 October	Mass at Arcadia Aged Care	11:00am	Arcadia Aged Care
Friday 23 October	Tiny Ts Playgroup	10:30am	PACE Function Room
Weekend 24 & 25 October	Parish Census	All Masses	
Saturday 24 October	Men's Choir singing	5:00pm	OLN church
Saturday 24 October	Grade 2 students and families Mass		OLN church
Sunday 25 October	Parish Baptisms	12:00pm	St Therese's
Monday 26 October	Statue of Our Lady: D'Cruz family		
Tuesday 27 October	Funeral service for Maria De Leo	11:00am	St Therese's church
Tuesday 27 October	Centring Prayer group gathering	7:00pm	PACE Function Room
Wednesday 28 October	Italian Prayer Group Meet	9:00am	St Therese's Annex
Thursday 29 October	Gospel Reflections	10:30am	PACE Meeting Room
Friday 30 October	School Mass Years 2 & 3	10:00am	St Therese's church
Friday 30 October	Tiny Ts Playgroup	10:30am	PACE Function Room
Friday 30 October	Mass of Remembrance	5:00pm	OLN church
Friday 30 October	Mass of Remembrance	7:00pm	St Therese's church
Sunday 1 November	All Saints Day		
Sunday 1 November	Blessing of the Memorial Garden	11:30am	St Therese's Garden
Monday 2 November	All Souls Day		

MASSES	ST THERESE'S CHURCH 48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon	OUR LADY OF THE NATIVITY CHURCH 31 Fawkner St, Aberfeldie
	Weekday Services: Tuesday to Friday 10:00am	Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:00pm
	Weekend Masses: Saturday 6:00pm	Sunday 10:00am
	Sunday 9:00am & 10:30am	Reconciliation: Saturday 4:45pm
	Reconciliation: Saturday 5:45pm	

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
	<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>

