



# The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

**22 & 23 March 2025: Third Sunday in Lent Year C**  
**Project Compassion Appeal**



**First Reading:** Exodus 3:1-8. 13-15 A reading from the book of Exodus

*This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.*

Moses was looking after the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, priest of Midian. He led his flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the shape of a flame of fire, coming from the middle of a bush. Moses looked; there was the bush blazing but it was not being burnt up. 'I must go and look at this strange sight,' Moses said, 'and see why the bush is not burnt.' Now the Lord saw him go forward to look, and God called to him from the middle of the bush. 'Moses, Moses!' he said. 'Here I am' he answered. 'Come no nearer' he said. 'Take off your shoes, for the place on which you stand is holy ground. I am the God of your father,' he said 'the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.' At this Moses covered his face, afraid to look at God.

And the Lord said, 'I have seen the miserable state of my people in Egypt. I have heard their appeal to be free of their slave-drivers. Yes, I am well aware of their sufferings. I mean to deliver them out of the hands of the Egyptians and bring them up out of that land to a land rich and broad, a land where milk and honey flow.'

Then Moses said to God, 'I am to go, then, to the sons of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you." But if they ask me what his name is, what am I to tell them?' And God said to Moses, 'I Am who I Am. This' he added 'is what you must say to the sons of Israel: "The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for all time; by this name I shall be invoked for all generations to come.'

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord is kind and merciful.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!

**Gospel:** Luke 13:1-9 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.*

Some people arrived and told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with that of their sacrifices. At this he said to them, 'Do you suppose these Galileans who suffered like that were greater sinners than any other Galileans? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen on whom the tower at Siloam fell and killed them? Do you suppose that they were more guilty than all the other people living in Jerusalem? They were not, I tell you. No; but unless you repent you will all perish as they did.'

He told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came looking for fruit on it but found none. He said to the man who looked after the vineyard, "Look here, for three years now I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and finding none. Cut it down: why should it be taking up the ground?" "Sir," the man replied "leave it one more year and give me time to dig round it and manure it: it may bear fruit next year; if not, then you can cut it down.'"

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## INTERCESSIONS

*Brothers and sisters, through the waters of life, let us bring our prayers before the Lord.*

We pray for the Pope, and bishops of the Church: that they will be ever more open to the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

We pray for peace in countries where there is conflict: may all leaders really strive for a peaceful resolution

Those who are outcast and rejected in our society will be met with acceptance and care.

We pray for Isaiah, Harry, Thomas, Matteo, Emilia, Beau and Isla who are initiated into our church at the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend. That they lead a life of faith and love for all.

We pray that all people will have just access to the necessities of life, especially water. May we, in our support for Project Compassion this Lent, do all we can to become a source of hope for those who thirst.

We pray for those who are ill.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Kathleen O'Brien and Noelle O'Brien; And those we remember especially: Jim Ruth, Aileen Sheean, Joe Ciantar, Stefano Zoiti, Pat Nash, Peppino Restuccia, Joe Campo and Carmelo Migliorino.

*Loving God, we worship you in spirit and in truth. Hear our prayers and give us faith in the coming of Christ to know that he is the way to eternal life. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*

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**WHICH PRIEST WHERE** This weekend Fr John will preside at all Masses across both Mass centres except for Sunday 10:30am Mass at St Therese's church where Fr Trevor Trotter will preside. Next weekend Fr John will preside at both OLN Masses and Sunday 9:00am at St Therese's while Fr Bernie presides at St Therese's at Saturday 6:00pm Mass and Sunday 10:30am Mass.



Photo credit:  
Caritas  
Australia

**PROJECT COMPASSION** Lam is 27 years old from a small village in rural Vietnam who faced significant challenges due to his short stature. Growing up, Lam often felt isolated due to limited job opportunities and difficulty moving around his community. While his friends started jobs after high school, Lam stayed home with his parents, unsure if he could ever achieve his dream of becoming a graphic designer. Through the I-SHINE program Lam completed a six-month course developing his graphic design skills. He now runs a successful freelance graphic design business from home, serving clients worldwide and earning a steady income. You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above. **Or online at:** [caritas.org.au/project-compassion](https://caritas.org.au/project-compassion) **Or by calling:** 1800 024 413



**PROJECT COMPASSION**

**MEN'S CHOIR** We welcome the Men's Choir to St Therese's church this Saturday where they will sing at 6:00pm Mass

**SHARING MEMORIES MORNING TEA** There is a morning tea in PACE on Thursday 27 March for 'Sharing Memories' a gathering to support parishioners through life's challenges. All welcome.

**ROOF WORKS AT ST THERESE'S** On Monday 24 March scaffolding will be erected at St Therese's church behind the outside toilets. This is underneath a section of the church roof where tiles have slipped. Works may take some time while the roof is inspected and repaired.

**PARISH STRATEGIC PLANNING 'LOOKING AHEAD TOGETHER'** The parish strategic planning initiative 'Looking Ahead Together' is now underway. Details on the parish website: <https://www.essendoncatholic.org.au/looking-ahead-together/> Focus groups are scheduled each Wednesdays in the parish office for parishioners who would like to contribute. To register use this link: <https://forms.gle/2ZUjiHMxTcWa7XRe8> or use the QR code on the next page ad.

**ALPHA IS COMING** Our Alpha team are planning to begin a new program after Easter. If you are interested, please register your details using this link: <https://forms.gle/Hu3vaxLVXdHbTsi46>. You can also ring the parish office and we will add your name and details to the list.

**SAFETY AT LINCOLN RD PEDESTRIAN CROSSING** Parishioners, please be very mindful of safety when using the signalled pedestrian crossing outside St Therese's church on Lincoln Road, particularly at peak traffic times. The parish has been made aware of several recent incidents/near-misses where drivers have ignored or not observed red light signals, endangering the safety of pedestrians as they attempt to cross. The parish has contacted VicRoads requesting an investigation of safety at the crossing and the Lincoln Rd/Florence St/Woolley St intersection. We have also contacted Moonee Valley City Council requesting they make school speed limits signs more visible. VicRoads have responded to say they are working with MVCC to improve safety.

PARISH GIVING

**BANK ACCOUNT CHANGE** As of 1 February all direct debit and credit card financial support has been directed to the bank accounts for The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese. To make manual payments please use the following details for or use the new online giving portal:

**CHURCH ACCOUNT** Name: The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese Essendon. BSB: 083-347  
Account Number: 67640 1701

**PRESBYTERY ACCOUNT** Name: The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese Essendon BSB: 083-347  
Account Number: 67616 4988



**ONLINE GIVING PORTAL** Parishioners can now make secure financial contributions to support the parish and/or clergy via this website: <https://www.melbcatholic.org/s/donate?id=0012w0000LOj4wAAD> or by using the QR code above. You can choose to make a one-off donation or set up recurring monthly payments.

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

SAFEGUARDING

**SAFEGUARDING REQUIREMENTS** Volunteers who haven't completed the Safeguarding obligations will now need to pause their involvement until they have completed all three requirements:

**Requirement #1:** All volunteers over the age of 18 are required to maintain a current Working with Children (WWC) check throughout their involvement with the parish, irrespective of the ministry in which they serve. To apply for a WWC check please visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

**Requirement #2:** Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct: You can sign the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct through the online Safeguarding Essentials Training platform

**Requirement #3:** Training <https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fs%2F>

**MINISTRY ROSTER FOR WEEKEND 29 & 30 MARCH (WEEK 5)**

MASS	READERS	EUCHARIST
OLN 5:00pm	Paul Whiting	Fred Grima
OLN 10:00am	Coral D'Cruz	Volunteer please
St Therese's 6.00pm	Anne Lechte & Eve Korytkowski	Teresa Pong
St Therese's 9.00am	Margaret Kerr	Marg Tormey & Tony Belcastro
St Therese's 10.30am	Rosa Pierorazio	Marita Hased-Dunne & Kate Cooper

Adults: <https://sundayreadingsathomeyearc.weebly.com/h1sks0t1.html>

Children: <https://www.childrensliturgyofthewordc.com/yh3rwjcm2.html>

# THERE'S A SEAT FOR YOU AT THE TABLE

ALPHA IS COMING AFTER EASTER

BEGINS TUESDAY 29 APRIL

PACE FUNCTION ROOM AT 7:00PM

ST THERESE'S CHURCH

48A LINCOLN RD, ESSENDON



REGISTRATION ESSENTIAL

USE THE QR CODE TO  
REGISTER YOUR INTEREST



## The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven,  
may the faith you have given us  
in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother,  
and the flame of charity enkindled  
in our hearts by the Holy Spirit,  
reawaken in us the blessed hope  
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us  
into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.  
May those seeds transform from within both  
humanity and the whole cosmos  
in the sure expectation  
of a new heaven and a new earth,  
when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,  
your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee  
reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope,  
a yearning for the treasures of heaven.

May that same grace spread  
the joy and peace of our Redeemer  
throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed,  
be glory and praise for ever.

Amen

*Franciscus*

## Tiny Ts Playgroup

A great place to make new friends!

For children from infancy through to  
primary school age

Indoor and outdoor covered play areas -  
runs in all weather conditions

Grandparents welcome!



WHEN: Thursday mornings during school terms

TIME: 9.30am - 10:30am

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 GROUP SUPPORTING  
PARISHIONERS THROUGH  
LIFE'S CHALLENGES

JOIN US AT OUR MONTHLY  
MORNING TEA

PACE FUNCTION ROOM  
Thursday 27 March  
11:00am

YOU ARE WELCOME

PARISH DIARY

Weekend 22 & 23 March	OLN Students present as candidates for Reconciliation	OLN Masses
Saturday 22 March	Men's choir singing at St Therese's	6:00pm
Sunday 23 March	Third Sunday of Lent Parish Baptisms at St Therese's	12:00pm
Monday 24 March	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Latera family	
Wednesday 26 March	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Sacrament of First Reconciliation Faith night at St Therese's Sacrament of First Reconciliation at OLN	9:00am 6:45pm 7:00pm
Thursday 27 March	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room Sharing Memories morning tea in PACE Function Room Rosary and Requiem Mass for Noelle O'Brien at St Therese's	9:30am 10:30am 11:00am 1:00pm
Friday 28 March	Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN	3:00pm 6:00pm
Weekend 29 & 30 March	St Therese's Students present as candidates for Reconciliation	St Ts Masses
Sunday 30 March	Fourth Sunday of Lent Men's Choir singing at St Therese's	9:00am
Monday 31 March	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Carroll family	
Tuesday 1 April	Mass at Ryman Raelene Boyle Village	11:00am
Wednesday 2 April	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store	9:00am 10:45am
Thursday 3 April	Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room Mass at Arcadia Aged Care	9:30am 10:30am 11:00am
Friday 4 April	Last Day of School Term 1 Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN	3:00pm 6:00pm
Saturday 5 April	Men's Choir singing at OLN Kids at Mass at St Therese's	5:00pm 6:00pm
Sunday 6 April	Fifth Sunday of Lent	
Monday 7 March	Statue of Our Lady moves to the Rodriguez family	
Wednesday 9 April	Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex	9:00am
Thursday 10 April	Senior Friendship Group morning tea in PACE SVDP Regional Conference meeting in PACE	10:30am 7:00pm
Friday 11 April	Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN	3:00pm 6:00pm
Saturday 12 April	Easter Working Bees at both churches	9:00am

MASSES

**ST THERESE'S CHURCH**  
48a Lincoln Rd, Essendon

**Weekday Masses:** 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:** Monday to Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm

**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 Owners of Country of the land of our parish and recognize their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and to Elders past, present and emerging.*



# Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults.

## HOW TO UPDATE YOUR COMPLIANCE STATUS

*This information is provided to assist volunteers to ensure continued compliance. This information assumes you have access to internet and are comfortable with computers. If you require assistance, please call our parish staff on 9401 6330, so we can help.*

### **Requirement #1: Working with Children Check**

All volunteers over the age of 18 are required to maintain a current Working with Children (WWC) check throughout their involvement with the parish, irrespective of the ministry in which they serve.

A volunteer check is free but only valid for volunteer work. To apply for a WWC check please visit <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

It is a requirement that volunteers register Essendon or West Essendon parish as an organisation where they engage in volunteering through the [WWCC Service Vic website](#). The Parish will then receive a letter linking their WWC check to the parish and will be informed if the WWC check status changes.

A teacher who holds a current registration with the Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) is exempt from the requirement to undertake a WWC check. VIT, however, requires registered teachers to nominate organisations in which they undertake volunteer work. Website: [Service Victoria Teachers Notifications](#)

### **Requirement #2: Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct**

You can sign the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct through the [online Safeguarding Essentials Training platform](#) (without completing the training). When you log into the online Safeguarding Essentials Training platform, you will see the following statement:

*"Our records indicate that you have not acknowledged the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct Declaration in recent times. Please read the document provided below and acknowledge your agreement by clicking the Accept Button."*

Volunteers are required to read and acknowledge the Code of Conduct every three years. There is a downloadable pdf version of the code on Archdiocese website here: [Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct](#)

### **Requirement #3: Safeguarding Essentials Training**

Volunteers are required complete the Safeguarding Essentials training module every three years.

Website link: [online Safeguarding Essentials training](#)

The Safeguarding Essentials Training takes approximately 45 minutes and you can stop, leave and go back to it if you need to break it up.

### **Websites:**

Working With Children Check: <https://www.vic.gov.au/working-with-children-check>

Code of Conduct: <https://melbournecatholic.org/uploads/documents/Code-of-Conduct.pdf>

Training: <https://safeguarding.melbournecatholic.org/s/login/?ec=302&startURL=%2Fs%2F>

Once you have read and accepted the Safeguarding Children and Young People Code of Conduct, and completed the Safeguarding Essentials Training, the online training platform will automatically update the parish administration system (PACEM) held by our Essendon and West Essendon parish.

The parish is happy to assist those who have trouble accessing the online training so please reach out!