



The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese, Essendon

8 & 9 March 2025: First Sunday in Lent Year C

Project Compassion Appeal



First Reading: Deuteronomy 26:4-10 A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

The confession of faith of the elect.

Moses said to the people: 'The priest shall take the panner from your hand and lay it before the altar of the Lord your God. Then, in the sight of the Lord your God, you must make this pronouncement:

'My father was a wandering Aramaean. He went down into Egypt to find refuge there, few in numbers; but there he became a nation, great, mighty, and strong. The Egyptians ill-treated us, they gave us no peace and inflicted harsh slavery on us. But we called on the Lord, the God of our fathers. The Lord heard our voice and saw our misery, our toil and our oppression; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders. He brought us here and gave us this land, a land where milk and honey flow. Here then I bring the first-fruits of the produce of the soil that you, Lord, have given me.' You must then lay them before the Lord your God, and bow down in the sight of the Lord your God.'

Responsorial Psalm: Be with me, Lord, when I am in trouble.

Gospel Acclamation: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Gospel: Luke 4:1-13 A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness where he was tempted.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Jesus left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit through the wilderness, being tempted there by the devil for forty days. During that time he ate nothing and at the end he was hungry. Then the devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.' But Jesus replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.'

Then leading him to a height, the devil showed him in a moment of time all the kingdoms of the world and said to him, 'I will give you all this power and the glory of these kingdoms, for it has been committed to me and I give it to anyone I choose. Worship me, then, and it shall all be yours.' But Jesus answered him, 'Scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.'

Then he led him to Jerusalem and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God', he said to him 'throw yourself down from here, for scripture says: He will put his angels in charge of you to guard you, and again: They will hold you up on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.'

But Jesus answered him, 'It has been said: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.'

Having exhausted all these ways of tempting him, the devil left him, to return at the appointed time.'

INTERCESSIONS

Brothers and sisters, as we begin these forty days of Lent let us offer our fervent prayers to the God of mercy.

That the Holy Church will support all people seeking repentance and forgiveness.

That nations will care for those who face the wilderness of poverty and homelessness.

We pray for all those around the world who are vulnerable to the impact of poverty, violence, and climate change. May our generosity towards Project Compassion be a measure of our commitment to global change.

We pray for those who are ill, especially Jessie Jackman and for Pope Francis to continue to recover from his respiratory illness and be blessed with ongoing good health.

We pray for those who have died recently especially Fr Peter Caruccan & Gwendoline Ryan. And those we remember especially: Marta Ranocchi, Antonio Iacobucci and Joe D'Cruz.

Loving Father, you shower us with mercy and compassion. Hear our prayers and help us to resist temptation and enter into your forgiveness and mercy during this Lenten season. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



GOSPEL REFLECTIONS LENTEN PROGRAMME IN PACE Our weekly Sunday Gospel Reflections group continues to meet each Thursday morning in the PACE Meeting Room after morning Mass. During Lent the group is following the Garratt publishing Lenten Program 'Many paths lead to Easter.' Any interested parishioners are welcome to attend and should purchase a copy of the program book from the parish office.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAYS DURING LENT Parishioner-led Stations of the Cross are held each Friday in Lent at both parish churches. All are welcome. Booklets are provided.

ST THERESE'S CHURCH: 3:00pm each Friday during Lent.

OLN CHURCH: 6:00pm each Friday during Lent.



PROJECT COMPASSION This Lent, we're invited to *Unite Against Poverty* with Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Project Compassion 2025 shares three stories from around the world. We'll meet **Toefuata'iga** a young student from Samoa who faced severe water shortages at her school. Thanks to Caritas Australia and the generosity of supporters like you, her school now has a 10,000L water tank, improving access to clean water and allowing teachers to prioritise education. We'll get to know **Lam** from Vietnam. Born with short stature, Lam faced social exclusion and limited employment opportunities. Through the I-SHINE program, Lam completed a course and is now a freelance graphic designer. And we'll meet **Irene** from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) who faced immense challenges after losing her father to war and raising her children in poverty. With support from Caritas Australia, Irene received vocational training in sewing and farming and can now support her whole family. 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 **Or by calling:** 1800 024 413



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/> The Parish Leadership Team (PLT) is holding focus groups on Wednesdays in the parish office for parishioners who would like to contribute. To register use this link: <https://forms.gle/2ZUjiHMXtcWa7XR8> or use the QR code on the next page ad. If you attended a focus group in 2023 we have captured your feedback from that session.

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> or the QR code on the next page ad. You can also ring the parish office and we will add your name and details to the list.

SANDWICHES FOR SFG MORNING TEAS Our Senior Friendship Group (SFG) are seeking the help of anyone who is willing and able to make sandwiches a few times a year for their monthly morning teas. Anyone who is able to help should contact the parish office who will pass on contact details to the SFG.

LENT REFLECTION BOOKS There are a few copies left of the Lent reflection books available from the parish office or from church sacristies at Mass times if you have correct money.

START ANEW IN CHRIST Start Anew in Christ is a book of daily reflections written by Fr Michael Grace. \$5 per copy

MANY PATHS LEAD TO EASTER written by Fr Andy Hamilton sj. Cost \$7 per copy

CHANGE TO NAME ON PARISH FINANCIAL SUPPORT CHARGES For parishioners who support the parish via regular, automatic deductions there will be a change to the way direct debit payments and credit card charges appear on statements. The name 'Fat Zebra' will be replaced with 'Our Lady and St Therese.'

BANK ACCOUNT CHANGE As of 1 February all direct debit and credit card financial support will be directed to the bank accounts for The Parish of Our Lady and St Therese. If you have automatic payments set up which are processed by the parish then there is nothing you need to do, the change will happen automatically. To make manual payments please use the following details for any future payments 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 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 15 & 16 MARCH (WEEK 3)

| MASS | READERS | EUCHARIST |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| OLN 5:00pm | Michael Portelli | Fred Grima |
| OLN 10:00am | Mark Donahoo | Adrian Commadeur |
| St Therese's 6.00pm | Murray Sykes | Tric Joseph |
| St Therese's 9.00am | John Harvey | Maria Cricri |
| St Therese's 10.30am | Rosemary Patterson & Mary O'Brien | Cherrie Arnold & Therese Hanna |

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

Children: <https://www.childrensliturgyofthewordc.com/yhc3rwjcm2.html>

PARISH GIVING

Senior Friendship Group
**PADDY'S DAY
MORNING TEA**

PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS
ARE INVITED
TO GATHER AND CELEBRATE
ST PATRICK'S DAY

PACE FUNCTION ROOM

Thursday 20 March

from 10:30am

(After Anointing Mass)

ALL WELCOME

THERE'S A SEAT FOR YOU AT THE TABLE

ALPHA IS COMING AFTER EASTER

Keep your Tuesday evenings free

**The next Alpha will be run on Tuesday
nights following Easter**

More details to come

**USE THE QR CODE TO REGISTER YOUR
INTEREST**



Parish Strategic Planning Initiative

'Looking Ahead Together'

Have your say at a Focus Group
Session being held on Wednesdays in
March at the parish office

VISION

MISSION

VALUES

STRATEGY

For details and to
book use the QR
code below



Focus groups will be facilitated by
members of the Parish Leadership Team

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

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Sunday 9 March | First Sunday of Lent | |
| Monday 10 March | Labour Day Public Holiday: parish office closed Statue of Our Lady moves to the Moreno family | |
| Wednesday 12 March | Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Sacrament of First Reconciliation Faith night at OLN | 9:00am 7:00pm |
| Thursday 13 March | Tiny Ts Playgroup in PACE Function Room Gospel Reflections in PACE Meeting Room SVDP Regional Conference meeting in PACE | 9:30am 10:30am 7:00pm |
| Friday 14 March | Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN | 3:00pm 6:00pm |
| Sunday 16 March | Second Sunday of Lent RE Programme for First Reconciliation session 1 in PACE Parish Baptism Welcoming Mass at St Therese's | 9:30am 10:30am |
| Monday 17 March | St Patrick's Feast Day Statue of Our Lady moves to the Whiting family SVDP Essendon Conference meeting in PACE | 7:00pm |
| Wednesday 19 March | St Joseph's Feast Day Italian Prayer Group Meet in St Therese's Annex Men's Coffee Group at Lincoln Food Store | 9:00am 10:45am |
| Thursday 20 March | Tiny Ts Playgroup in St Therese's Annex Mass of Anointing at St Therese's Senior Friendship Group morning tea in PACE | 9:30am 10:00am 10:45am |
| Friday 21 March | Stations of the Cross at St Therese's Stations of the Cross at OLN | 3:00pm 6:00pm |
| Weekend 22 & 23 March | OLN Students present as candidates for Reconciliation | OLN Masses |
| 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 | 9:30am 10:30am 11:00am |
| 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 | |
| Monday 31 March | Statue of Our Lady moves to the Carroll family | |

MASSES

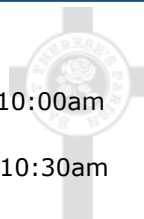
ST THERESE'S CHURCH

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 **Website:** 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 on which our churches stand and recognize their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to them and to Elders past, present and

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!