



At Christmas, we gather around a mystery both simple and profound: God is with us. In the stillness of the manger, we behold a God who comes close-wrapped in tenderness, humility, and love. In a world that often feels fragile and wounded, the birth of Christ assures us that God does not remain distant. He enters fully into our human story, reminding us that hope is not merely an idea to be spoken about, but a living presence to be received.

As we look back on this year at St Theresa's Parish, our hearts overflow with gratitude. In our Year of Jubilee, we journeyed together as Pilgrims of Hope, rediscovering God's mercy and blessings through Liturgical worship, community, and service. It has been a year shaped by grace — of gathering and listening, healing and growth. We also rejoiced in sacred milestones, celebrating the 100th canonisation anniversary of our patron, St Theresa of Lisieux, and the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed, which binds us to generations of faith before us.

Amid the many rhythms of parish life this year, my visits to our nursing homes and to our sick and home-bound parishioners became sacred pauses of grace. Sitting quietly with you, praying together, and listening to your stories, I have been deeply moved by your faith, patience, and gentle trust in God. Though often unseen, your presence and prayers remain a gentle yet powerful heartbeat at the very heart of our parish.

I offer my sincere thanks to all our volunteers and parish staff. Your dedication, generosity, and faithful service — often behind the scenes — make Christ's presence tangible in our parish.

As we look ahead, the announcement of the Melbourne Archdiocesan Synod in 2026 invites us to continue walking together as Church, listening to the Holy Spirit and one another, particularly in the areas of young discipleship, leadership, and participation.

I conclude this Christmas message with a line from a Christmas card I received a week ago, quoting St Alphonsus Liguori:- "Mary invites everyone — rich and poor, just and sinner — to the cave of Bethlehem to adore and kiss her newborn Son's feet." This captures the essence of Christmas:

EVERYONE IS WELCOMED

With my prayers and every blessing for Christmas and the New Year,

Fr Dixon George Kuriappilly IVDei,

Parish Priest, St Theresa's Parish, Albion

Dear Parishioners,

I take this opportunity to thank- you all, as another year comes to an end we have a chance to reflect on the Parish, some emotional decisions were made that affected some of us more than other parts of the parish but being resilient we have risen to the challenge and supported each other, time to think & ask questions, there is always time to stop & talk to Fr Dixon about your concerns for our parish.

Small things have been done at our parish properties but there is still much work planned for 2026 to keep our parish & buildings successful for many years to come, if you identify anything that needs attention please let us know.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Fr Dixon for the support he gives us all, the leadership team for tireless amount of work they put into our parish community behind the scenes.

I wish you & your families a safe, joyful & Holy Christmas Season & 2026.

Ann-Maree – Parish Finance Chair



Dear parishioners,

We are quickly coming to the end of the Year of Jubilee 2025 where we were called to be “Pilgrims of Hope”. Together we have shared different experiences which we hope have helped us reorient, refresh and renew our relationships with our Lord and one another. Thank you for joining us on this journey and helping to make them meaningful for all.

As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we give thanks for the gift of faith and the blessing of our parish family here at St Theresa’s. May this holy season fill your hearts with peace, joy, and hope, and may the light of Christ guide you into the new year.

Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed Christmas and a grace-filled New Year.

With prayer and gratitude for your continuing support and friendship,

The Parish Leadership Team of St Theresa’s





THE YEAR THAT WAS



2025



St. Theresa's Parish Notices Page

Parish Priest: Fr Dixon George IVDei
Presbytery: 17 Drummartin St., Albion 3020
Phone: 9311 3091
Email: albion@cam.org.au
Website: www.melbcatholic.org/s/albion
Polish Chaplain: Fr Tomasz Nowak SChr
Phone: 0437 677 727
EMail:



"Do Small Things Well"

St. Theresa's Primary School - 93119070
16 Drummartin St., Albion 3020
Principal: Rob Macklin
Mother of God Primary School - 93631734
Blanche St., Ardeer 3022
Principal: Assunta Lacovino

*** EXTRA MASSES FOR THE SEASON***

Wednesday 31st December

5.00pm Mother of God - (Polish Thanksgiving)

Thursday 1st Jan 2026 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9.00am Mother of God (Polish)

11.00am Mother of God Feast day Mass with Novena

MASSES THIS WEEK

ST THERESA'S

Drummartin St, Albion

8.30am Wednesday
8.30am Friday Reconciliation
9.00am Friday
8.30am Sunday Reconciliation
9.00am Sunday
10.30am Sunday

MOTHER OF GOD

Blanche St, Ardeer

NO MASS 10.00am Wednesday
(Polish)
NO MASS 9.00am Thursday
6.00pm Friday (Polish)
5.00pm Saturday Reconciliation
5.30pm Saturday
10.15am Sunday (Polish)

QUEEN OF HEAVEN

Closed

RECONCILIATION

(Individual Confession)
Other times by Appointment

HOLY ROSARY

Before regular Wednesday & Friday
Masses each week

BENEDICTION

Friday 2nd January at
St Theresa's Church

A VERY BIG THANK YOU

We extend our deepest gratitude to all parishioners who generously donated to our Christmas Food Collection.

Your festive goodies have been delivered to St Vincent de Paul, where they will be shared with families in need before Christmas.

💎 Your kindness and generosity truly embody the spirit of the season. 💎

NO CUPPA AFTER MASS IN JANUARY

OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office will be closed from 24th Dec to 5th January 2026. Fr Dixon will be available to attend to any messages.

COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR 2026

Available now, the Columban Calendar costs \$11.

COUNTERS 4th January Team 3: M Azzopardi, M Camenzuli

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of the Lord, 1 January
St Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, 2 January

READINGS

Today
Sirach 3.2-6, 12-14
Psalm 128
1-2, 3, 4-5 (R.see 1)
Colossians 3.12-21
Matthew 2.13-15, 19-23

Next Week
Isaiah 60.1-6
Psalm 72
1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13, (11b+Ps98.3)
Ephesians 3.2-3a, 5-6
Matthew 2.1-12

