

St. Theresa's Parish Community Newsletter

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
Mobile: 0437 677 727
Email: tomasz.n04@gmail.com



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 Iacovino

"Do Small Things Well"

DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

8 & 9 November

2025

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

10.00am Wednesday (Polish)

9.00am Thursday

6.00pm Friday (Polish)

5.00pm Saturday Reconciliation

5.30pm Saturday

10.15am Sunday (Polish)

QUEEN OF HEAVEN

Holt St, Ardeer

CLOSED

RECONCILIATION

(Individual Confession)

Other times by Appointment

HOLY ROSARY

Before regular Wednesday & Friday

Masses each week

BENEDICTION

First Friday of the month at St
Theresa's Church

CONGRATULATIONS to Oliver Rabbitt and to
Summer Michetti on their baptisms as we
welcome both of them into our faith community.

ESTIA HEALTH 30 North St, Ardeer

Tuesday 11th November, 11.00am -

Remembrance Day



COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR 2026 — On Sale Soon!

For those who've been waiting.....the 2026 Columban Art
Calendar will be available from next weekend at the church.

Cost: \$11 A beautiful and meaningful gift idea. Pick one up
after Mass.

LEGION OF MARY

Meet on Tuesday 10am at St Theresa's Church

COLLECTIONS RECEIVED

Thanksgiving \$948 Loose Money \$416 Presbytery \$822

COUNTERS 16th November

Team 1: D Catania, E Catania, C Xuereb

FFEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

St Leo the Great, 10 November

St Martin of Tours, 11 November

St Josaphat, 12 November

READINGS Today

Ezekiel 47.1-2,8-9, 12

Psalm 46

1-2, 4-5, 7-8 (R.4)

1 Corinthians 3.9b-11, 16-17

John 2.13-22

Next Week

Malachi 4.1-2

Psalm 98.

5-6,7-8,9 (R.9)

2 Thessalonians 3.7-12

Luke 21.5-19



PRAYER SERVICE OF LAMENT

Wednesday 12th November

I invite all those who have been affected and impacted by abuse and violence across the Archdiocese to
join in a Prayer Service of Lament on Wednesday 12th November, 11.30am -12.00pm in the grounds of St
Patrick's Cathedral, East Melbourne. Daily Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral at 1.00pm for those
who wish to attend.

ST JOSEPH'S BY THE SEA

16 Esplanade, Williamstown



Mary MacKillop Spirituality Ministry, at St Joseph's by the Sea, Williamstown, the gentle rhythm
of nature invites reflection, renewal and a deeper sense of connection to all life.

A place to gather, to stay and to encounter the sacred, nurturing body, mind and spirit through
the wisdom of eco-spirituality. At the centre we offer, Reflection Days and Retreats, Conference
Spaces and Accommodation. Scan for more information



YEAR OF JUBILEE - PILGRAM OF HOPE...



Many Queen of Heaven parishioners would know centenarian, **RITA DESIRA** who is one of the founding parishioners of the Queen of Heaven Church.

As a 13-year-old, Rita met her father for the first time when she came to Ardeer (then known as Deer Park) from Malta with her mother, grandmother and aunty in 1938. Her father, grandfather and uncles had spent 13 years in Australia working hard to pay for their passage to Australia and to make a home for them. Their sacrifice and hard work paid off and they purchased land in Deer Park (now Ardeer) bordering Koroit Creek and Ballarat Road, which they farmed. Rita came to live in a house built by her father on the farm on Ballarat Road.

With very little public transport in the area, Rita would ride her bike all the way to Our Lady's School in Sunshine to continue her education. She was also married a few years later at Our Lady's Church as there was only an old aeroplane hangar at St Peter Chanel's Parish that was used for a church and no other church nearby.

After World War Two, many European immigrants began to arrive in the Ardeer area, often with nothing but a bag of belongings over their shoulder. By then Rita and her husband had opened a hardware store on the corner of Chatswood Ave and Ballarat Road and the new arrivals would come to the store looking for building supplies to build their homes which would often be a single room on a block of land to begin with. Although the community had very little money and possessions at the time, they all pitched in and helped each other out. They exchanged different cultural foods and got to know each other. Rita and her husband also implemented a lay buy system at the store to help the new arrivals to purchase what they needed for their homes before they could afford to pay for it in full.

With so many Catholics living in Ardeer at the time, they needed a church of their own in the area. This became a reality when they all got together and decided they would build their own church in Holt Street with money they donated and using their own labour and skills. When Queen of Heaven was built, the same community spirit ensured that there was always someone to clean the church and keep it full of flowers from their gardens. Rita's strong sense of Christianity and desire to give back to the community that she had grown to love, meant that she would continue to ensure that nobody ever felt that they were not seen or appreciated. Well, known for her small gestures of kindness and friendship, she would always ensure that she had something for everyone, whether it be ice creams for the neighbourhood children playing in the street or a Christmas present for the postie. Rita's daughter, Monica, remembers her mother "did little things that made people feel special, like St Theresa". That life of kindness towards others was not forgotten. One of those little boys she befriended while he played in the street went on to visit Rita in the nursing home, never forgetting her.

Rita had seminarians from NSW billeted with her for a few weeks as the archdiocese had nowhere for them to stay at that time. She went on to attend their ordinations in Armadale, NSW with a bus load of other parishioners to show their love and support

Even after becoming old and frail, Rita's love for God continues to shine through, with the nursing home staff once asking her to sit with a dying Catholic man and pray with him as he died. As confronting as that would be for most of us, Rita did not hesitate to sit with the man and pray with him as he left this world.

Rita's generosity to our parish and sense of goodwill to her neighbours knew no limits. By doing small things well throughout her life, Rita has lived as a Pilgrim of Hope should.

St Theresa's Parish is committed to the safety of children, young people and vulnerable adults