

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

35:4-7

Say to all faint hearts, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. 'Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./Praise the Lord, my soul!

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St James

2:1-5

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear

brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus preached the
Good News of the kingdom
and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Mark 7:31-37

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'



CHRIST OUR LIGHT
CATHOLIC PARISH

HIGHETT / CHELTENHAM

Parish Office:

9 Centre Dandenong Road,
Cheltenham, VIC. 3192

Our Lady of the Assumption Church
9 Centre Dandenong Road, Cheltenham

St Agnes' Church
25 Spring Road, Highett

Telephone: (03) 9583 6161

Email: col@cam.org.au

Website: www.olacheltenham.org.au

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR B - 7th/8th SEPTEMBER, 2024



**TO HOPE AND ACT
WITH CREATION**

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope

(Rom 8:19-25)

Jesus opens our eyes to the reality of God's presence in our midst, in the goodness of people and in the tenderness of life, even in its vulnerability. He opens our ears to hear the word of God spoken to us by others, revealed to us through the created world. Although the messianic future is already present to us, it is only unfolding, it has not yet opened completely. We still judge each other by appearances. We still miss the presence of God in the poor and the dispossessed, in those who suffer from disease or war or loneliness. We still shun those of another race, or those who have been shaped by another culture, or those who worship God in a different way. We have not yet put aside all of the biases of the past and we have not yet been fully transformed. But God has spoken, God has come to save us. God is trustworthy; God keeps faith forever.

Dianne Bergant CSA

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9555 3557
Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9583 6161
Monday - Friday 9am – 3pm
Secretary: Vino Krishnan
Accountant: Maureen Ryan
Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

OUR SCHOOLS:
Our Lady of the Assumption 9584 9488
Principal: Mr Richard Jacques
Email: principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au
St Agnes' Primary School 9532 0344
Principal: Mr Lachlan Foott
Email: foott@sahighett.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES – CHELTENHAM & HIGHETT
SATURDAY VIGIL & SUNDAY MASSES:
Saturday [St Agnes Church] 6:00 pm
Sunday [OLA] 9:00 am, 11:00 am

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:
Tuesday [St Agnes Church] 9.00 am
Tuesday [OLA Church] 6.00 pm
Wednesday [OLA Church] 9.15 am
Thursday [OLA Church] 9.15 am
Friday [St Agnes Church] 9.00 am
Saturday [OLA Church] 9.00 am

COMMUNION SERVICE (except Public Holidays)
Monday [OLA Church] 9.15 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Wednesday [OLA Church] 9:45 am
Saturday [OLA Church] 9.30 am

BAPTISMS: Contact Parish Office: 9583 6161.

WEDDINGS: By appointment, 6 months' notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays).

The clergy, employees and volunteers of our two parishes are committed to upholding a duty of care to all children, young people and vulnerable adults, taking all reasonable steps to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults from all forms of abuse and harm and commit to safeguard their health and well-being.

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR B - 7th/8th SEPTEMBER, 2024

PRAYING FOR:

Fr Des Magennis, Margaret O'Brien,
Sybil Lee, John Kingston,
Bob Spencer, Jill Evans,
Wayne Coutts, Jadwiga Zolkos,

... and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

John Moller, Hilda Zammit,
Jennyanne Abarquez, Jim Sullivan,

...and all who we remember at this time.

...additionally, we keep in our prayers all
who are currently unwell.

Readings for this liturgical year from Advent
2023 to Christ the King 2024 are taken from
Year B in the Lectionary cycle
Should you wish to view the Scripture
Readings for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical
Calendar) please visit:
universalis.com/australia.melbourneP/1000/Mass

VOLUNTEERS: Please make sure that your
WWCC/POLICE CHECK documents are
current, that is, have not expired, and copies
made available to the Parish Office.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP: Thank you to all
parishioners who continue to generously support our
parish i.e. through their contributions to both our
Thanksgiving and Presbytery collections. With the
assistance of the Archdiocese we are currently working
on refining the facility for parishioners to contribute to
Christ Our Light Parish via an online portal.

PARISH STEWARDSHIP For those who
contribute to our parish via 'Envelopes', **new
boxed sets of Thanksgiving / Presbytery Giving
envelopes** are available for collection in each
church foyer. Thank you once again to all who
offer their ongoing practical and financial support
for the mission of our parish.


Please Note: **CDF Pay** has now been updated to
the new **PACEM** portal. Due to this transition,
anyone wishing to make online contributions
are asked to contact Maureen Ryan, our Parish
Accountant, on: 0407 544 779 or via email at:

maureen@maureenryan.com.au

Please note: Due to the change in parish name,
parishioners' contributions through Direct Debit
and Credit Cards, may now be acknowledged in
a different way on bank statements.



Maureen will be able to clarify any
administrative changes, however, please be
assured that parishioners wishes, re.
contributions to both Thanksgiving and
Presbytery, will be honoured and remain
unchanged.

 **BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND**
With great joy the Church of God
welcomes **Lillet, Archie and Cooper**
who will be Baptised this weekend.

† UPCOMING FUNERAL †

Friday 13th September at 11am (OLA)
Funeral Prayers for
John Kingston (RIP)

*May his soul and the souls of all our faithful
departed, rest in peace.*

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

We extend our best wishes and
congratulations to all the children
Confirmed at OLA Church by Bishop Tony
Ireland, on Friday 6th September.

**BRIGIDINE ASYLUM SEEKERS
PROJECT (BASP)** For the weekends of
14th/15th September and 21st/22nd September, we
are seeking donations of certain types of food and
cleaning products for refugees and asylum
seekers. There is still a great need to help asylum
seekers and refugees, many of whom receive
little or no government support. Please take home
one of the leaflets in the foyer of the church for
details of which items are in demand and leave
donations in the box/basket labelled **BASP Food
& Cleaning Products** in the Church Foyer. For
more information, please contact Adrian Foley at
ade.foley@gmail.com or on mobile 0497 780 233.
Thank you.

**OLA FETE - 23rd Nov. DO YOU HAVE A
MARQUEE?** If anyone has a marquee that they
could loan for the fete, please contact John
Bardon at jkbardon@gmail.com ASAP and copy to
fete@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au.

PLANTS STALL is seeking donations of
flowers, herbs and succulent in plastic pots.

LUCKY BOTTLES STALL The Fete
committee are collecting wine, bubbles or spirits
for the lucky bottles stall. Bottles will be accepted
right up to the week of the fete. Kindly drop your
donations into the school office.

CAKE STALL is seeking donations of jams,
curds, oils and preserves. These items are always
very popular so please make as many jars as you
can. Contact Kara Bogicevic 0409 353 957 for
queries.

OLA ART SHOW 2024, 'A World Full of Art'
will be open this Thursday 12 September, 6.30 -
8.00pm. This Art Show will celebrate amazing
artworks inspired from around the world and the
art has been created in both Visual Art and
Indonesian classes. The children can't wait to
show off their creativity. Sausages, water and soft
drinks will be on sale for the OLA community to
enjoy from 6.00pm in the courtyard outside the
Hall. If you are not able to make the 6.30pm grand
opening you are welcome to pop in during the day
on Thursday. All Welcome!