

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Kings

3:5. 7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Rs/ Lord, I love your commands.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

8:28-30

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth;
You have revealed to little ones
the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

13:44-52

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'



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

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Email: col@cam.org.au

Website: www.olacheltenham.org.au

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

25th / 26th JULY, 2026

**"The kingdom
of heaven
is like treasure
hidden in
a field which
someone
has found."**

Matthew 13:44



The treasure is the kingdom of heaven. It is the prize that gives meaning to the present, and its fullest delight which is the joy that we experience when we realise that the treasure is ours, draws us into the future. The reign of God is the fulfilment of our deepest desires and our fondest hopes. Nothing in the world can compare with it, and that is why we are willing to sacrifice everything to attain it. The treasure that we find is really an extraordinary gift that is given. We need not work to attain the kingdom, nor can we earn it in any way. It is given to us by God. All we have to do is accept it. Solomon chose to be of service to others. In this he is a model for disciples to follow. We have discovered the treasure in the field; we have found the pearl of great price. What we have been given, we must now give to others. In giving we will lose nothing. In fact, we gain an abundance of blessings. All things work for good, and God is glorified in all. Such is the character of the kingdom of God.

Dianne Bergant CSA

PARISH PRIEST:
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9532 1794
Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9583 6161
Monday - Friday 9am – 3pm
Secretary: Julie Binstead
Accountant: Maureen Ryan

OUR SCHOOLS:

Our Lady of the Assumption PS 9584 9488
Principal: Mr Richard Jacques
Email: principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au
St Agnes' Primary School 9532 0344
Principal: Mr Thomas Hartney
Email: principal@sahighett.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES – CHELTENHAM & HIGGETT
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 parish 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.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY-Year A
25th / 26th JULY, 2026

PRAYING FOR:

Marie San Juan, Willy Santos, Craig Leith,
Rosa Luppino, Glenn Malaguit,
Lachlan Barton, Alexander D'Cruz,
Edward Doolan

and all who died recently.

WE ALSO PRAY FOR:

Mary Joseph Emmanuel, Christine Phelan,
Mary Arokia, Arthur Goepfert,
John Lambert, Derek Lambert, Mabel Ming
Margaret Kelly, Sheila Fury, Lois Hickey,
Jack Hickey, Jerome D'Souza,
Margaret Dowsey

and all who we remember at this time.

*...as we also keep in our prayers
all those who are currently unwell.*

**Readings for this liturgical year from
Advent 2025 to Christ the King 2026 are
taken from Year A in the Lectionary cycle.**

Should you wish to view the Scripture
Readings for Daily Mass (Australian
Liturgical Calendar) please visit:
universalis.com/australia.melbourne/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.



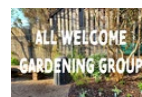
MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026

We're invited to answer the call
to deepen our understanding of
synodality in parish life.

Timeline for Synod consultation: This month
will see the gradual release of the Synod theme
papers, with June and July being Consultation
and dialogue months for our faith communities.
For more information on the Synod please visit:
melbournecatholic.org/synod2026

**SYNOD CORNER: Synodality and the
margins.** A synodal Church pays attention to
voices often overlooked: the poor, the wounded,
the disaffected, and those who feel distant from
the Church. Their experiences matter, and their
stories can teach us where renewal is most
needed.

**SAVING MONEY ON HOME ENERGY
BILLS.** The Care for Our Common Home
Group is holding an **Information Seminar
on Monday 27th July at 7pm**, OLA Church
meeting room. The presenters are Cait
O'Shea and Tom Rose from Solar Savers, a
council-led program. We'll cover practical
energy efficiency tips, the benefits of
electrification, and how making smart
upgrades to a few key appliances can help
you save money over time. For further
information please contact;
Phillip Steele m: 0419 311 582



COL GARDENING GROUP.
'Working Bee', Saturday, 1st
August from 10am, (weather
permitting). Anyone able to assist, either
casually or more regularly, would be most
welcome. For information please contact
John Tetters m: 0432 649 659

**6th WORLD DAY OF GRANDPARENTS
& THE ELDERLY.** Together we give
thanks for the love and dedication, wisdom
and care provided by grandparents and our
wise elders who so generously share of
themselves with us and our faith community.
May they feel loved and supported by us.



Any queries contact: Antonella Taranto &
Liz Dawson via email:
fete@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au

WE ARE CALLED VOCATIONS EXPO
ACU Campus Sat 1st August 9.00am –
1.00pm. Greg Craven Centre, Level 7, St
Teresa of Kolkata Building. ACU Campus
Ministry and Vocations Melbourne invite
you to explore what life looks like in
Catholic Religious Orders, Diocesan
Priesthood and Married life. Key note
speaker Archbishop Peter Comensoli. Free
event, book via - trybooking.com/DNKHK
www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1606368

**MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026 - THEME
PAPER RELEASE.** The suggested
reflection process is a 'Conversation in the
Spirit' or a Spiritual Conversation. It is an
attentive listening process that aims to
discern where the Holy Spirit is leading us.
At the conclusion there are prompt questions
for reflection. Responses to these questions
can be provided via a QR code which at the
end of each paper. Resource access:
<https://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026>