

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

43:16-21

Thus says the Lord, who made a way through the sea, a path in the great waters; who put chariots and horse in the field and a powerful army, which lay there never to rise again, snuffed out, put out like a wick: No need to recall the past, no need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed, even now it comes to light; can you not see it? Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness, paths in the wilds. The wild beasts will honour me, jackals and ostriches, because I am putting water in the wilderness (rivers in the wild) to give my chosen people drink. The people I have formed for myself will sing my praises.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ The Lord has done great things for us;
we are filled with joy.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

3:8-14

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death. That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won, but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ Jesus captured me. I can assure you my

brothers, I am far from thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!**

**With all your heart turn to me,
for I am tender and compassionate.**

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!**

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and don't sin any more.'



**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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C

5th/6th APRIL, 2025



Lent ends on a note of wonder. In the face of all the mighty works that God has already performed for the people, God promises something even more magnificent. Throughout this season we have reflected on the marvels that God accomplished in the lives of the people, cutting a covenant with Abraham, leading the people out of bondage, revealing God's own personal name, bring them into a land that is bursting with life. The first reading proclaims that something new is about to appear. In the gospel, this new thing unfolds before our eyes. Here we see Jesus neither rejecting the law nor changing it. Instead, he shows that the law, as good as it might be, serves something higher. He shows that the mercy and compassion of God exceed the authority of the law. Once again we see that the readings of Lent are less concerned with mortification and penance than they are with divine graciousness and our response of joy and thanksgiving. Life with Christ transforms us from people who are caught in sin to women and men who have been forgiven. Life in Christ is the new thing that God has fashioned for us. God is the one who creates something new; we are the ones who are re-created.

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: lfoott@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.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT
YEAR C - 5th / 6th APRIL, 2025

PRAYING FOR:

John Desmond O'Reilly, Pat Sheedy,
Ivan Velasco, Bernard Martis,
and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Thomas Byrne, Frances Russo,
Neliya Edema, Vera Grima, Mesake Ravu,
Bill Smith, Enrico Alba, Filomena Perotte,
Bruce Longmuir, Elsie Longmuir,
Hazel Sweeney, Brian Raj,
Remedios Frejas, Jacques Buttie,
Olivia Capule,

...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
2024 to Christ the King 2025 are taken from
Year C 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.



PROJECT COMPASSION

2025 The life-changing work
of Caritas Australia is only
made possible by the unwavering generosity of
our supporters and the dedication of our local
partners on the ground. Our partners are the true
heroes, working tirelessly on the frontlines every
day to transform lives and build brighter, more
hopeful futures for their communities. You can
support Project Compassion 2025 through the
donation boxes, envelopes or online at:
caritas.org.au/project-compassion or by calling: 1800
024 413



You're invited to stay and join
fellow parishioners for a cuppa
after the 9am & 11am Masses,
this weekend, in the OLA church Meeting Room.



THE KNITTING GROUP will
be holding their stall at OLA
church **this Sunday 6th April** after
the 9am and 11am Masses. All
proceeds will go to the St Vincent De Paul
Cheltenham Conference. Come along and
support these wonderful, creative people.

† UPCOMING FUNERAL †
(OLA Church)

Wednesday 9th April at 2pm

John Desmond O'Reilly (RIP)

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

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS BISHOPS
CONFERENCE: Election Statement 2025**

This week, with the announcement that we will
be heading to the polls in a federal election on
3rd May, the Australian Catholic Bishops have
released an election statement that links the
Jubilee call to be 'pilgrims of hope' with our
responsibility to help shape the nation's future,
by voting with compassion and conscience.
Read the full statement here:

<https://bit.ly/ACBCElection2025>



COL CHOIR We extend an
invitation to you to come along and
sing with us!! The last practice for
our Easter Choir at OLA will be
next Sunday, 13th April, from 10am. All are
welcome. Enquiries: Tony 0468 453 156 or
Helen 0432 866 039.

FLORAL ART VOLUNTEERS



We are seeking volunteers to assist
with the presentation of flowers
within OLA church. If you can spare an hour or
two of your time and creativity, please contact
Vino in the Parish Office on 9583 6161 or
Email: col@cam.org.au.

HOLY WEEK 2025 – Please find enclosed
within this bulletin, a hard copy of the '**Holy
Week Liturgical Timetable**' for both OLA
and St Agnes' churches. The timetable can also
be downloaded directly from both church
websites.



**HOLY WEEK LITURGICAL
MINISTRIES / VOLUNTEERS**

We are looking for volunteers for
the various liturgical roles from Palm Sunday
through Holy Week to Easter Sunday, as
readers, special ministers, commentators and
PowerPoint operators. A Sign-up sheet is
available in each church's foyer.

HOLY THURSDAY WASHING OF

FEET: Please add your name and phone
number to sign up sheet if you would like to
be part of this ritual on **Holy Thursday, 17th
April, at 7pm at St Agnes' church.**



**CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL
COLLEGE** Sign up for one or more
online presentations. **Engaging Your
Faith – May 2025**

Topics: Theology, Scripture, Meditation,
Spirituality, Science & Faith.

From: \$25 per session.

For more information and to register go to:

ctc.edu.au/engaging-your-faith/