

FIRST READING

**A reading from the book of Wisdom
12:13. 16-19**

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Lord, you are good and forgiving.

SECOND READING

**A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans
8:26-27**

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

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
13:24-43**

Jesus put a parable before the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfill the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

...continued overleaf

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

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Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

St Agnes' Parish Highett

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**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A - 22nd / 23rd JULY, 2023**



The gospel continues on from the parable of the Sower that we heard last week. For all our good intentions, and efforts we will probably continue to struggle with some issues all our lives. The garden of our soul will always need a little weeding. These inner struggles will continue to call us to conversion and we will continue to need to call on God and allow God to be the gardener of our souls. Knowing the weeds and wheat within our own individual lives, can help us be a little more patient, or tolerant of the weeds and wheat around us – in our families, communities, our Church. Also, sometimes in the struggle to live a good meaningful life, we can be our own worst enemy in being far too harsh and unforgiving towards ourselves. The Parable may invite us to greater kindness towards ourselves and to leave the task of major garden work to God.

Mary Coloe PBVM

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

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: tfoot@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 9:45 am
Saturday 9.30 am
i.e. following Mass (COVID-safe protocols apply)

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.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
Year A - 22nd / 23rd July, 2023

PRAYING FOR:

Edward Cheevers, Seamus Moloughney,
Julie Eagle, Francis Yang, Jim De Gregorio,
Beverley Christopher, Ken Brown,
Alan Morrow,

... and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Silvesta Misajon, Colleen Barrett,
Mabel Ming, Jerome D'Souza,
Louis Hickey

....and all whose anniversaries occur about
this time.

...and we keep in our prayers all who are
currently unwell.

Readings for this liturgical year from Advent
2022 to Christ the King 2023 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.

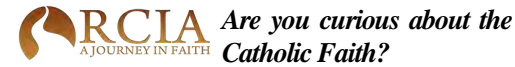
PARISH STEWARDSHIP: Thank you to all
parishioners who continue to support both the
Thanksgiving and Presbytery collections through
your generous contributions. Both OLA & St
Agnes are now registered for online contributions.

The **CDF Pay** link for **OLA, Cheltenham** is:
<http://bit.ly/CDFpayCheltenham>

The **CDF Pay** link for **St Agnes, Highett** is:
<http://bit.ly/CDFpayHighett>



We extend our congratulations to
Margot McCormick on the
occasion of her 100th Birthday.
Please join us for a cuppa and cake
after the 6pm Mass at St Agnes'
church, this Saturday the 22nd of July, to celebrate
this marvellous milestone. Warm wishes Margot,
from all within your parish family.



**Are you curious about the
Catholic Faith?**
Are you interested in becoming a Catholic?
**Are you keen to support people on their journey
of Faith?** Shortly, our Parish team will be
beginning a Journey of Faith for those in our
community interested in becoming a Catholic. It
is a journey of discernment with a group, and
usually reception next Easter. We are open to all
needs! The 'process' is called - The RCIA ~ The
Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. It is
comprised of those wishing to be baptised as
Catholics, those wanting full communion with
the Catholic Church but baptised in other faiths
and those community members aiming to deepen
their faith. If you are interested please contact
Moira at 9583 4628. We also need members of
our Parish community to be involved, thank you.

WINTER REFLECTION AFTERNOON
Step away from the busyness of life and join the
**Catholic Women's League of Victoria &
Wagga Wagga** for an inspiring Winter Reflection
Afternoon on **Saturday 29th July. From 1-4pm.**
Venue: **St. Joan of Arc, Brighton**
Beginning with 1pm Mass celebrated by Fr.
Dean Mathieson.

Enjoy reflections shared by CWLVWW General
President Anna Krohn OAM: *'Made in the image
of God: What does that mean for my life?'*
Afternoon tea provided.

Register at <https://www.trybooking.com/CJQEO> or via
email at: cwlvicww@gmail.com
Walk-ins welcome.

Don't miss this opportunity to take time to reflect
and deepen your relationship with God.

GOSPEL READING *continued...*

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house;
and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain
the parable about the dandel in the field to us.'
He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is
the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good
seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the dandel,
the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who
sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of
the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then,
just as the dandel is gathered up and burnt in the
fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of
Man will send his angels and they will gather
out of his kingdom all things that provoke
offences and all who do evil, and throw them
into the blazing furnace, where there will be
weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the
virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom
of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

† UPCOMING FUNERALS †

Monday 24th July at 11am (OLA)

Fiona Roberts (RIP)

Wednesday 26th July at 11am (St Agnes')

Joyce D'Olivera (RIP)

[Rosary will be recited from 10.30am]

Thursday 27th July at 11am (OLA)

Edward Cheevers (RIP)

*May their souls and the souls of all our
faithful departed rest in peace.*

ST AGNES/OLA PARISH SOCIAL LUNCH



The next
combined Parish
Social Lunch will
be at **12 noon on
Thursday, 3rd August**, at the **Highett RSL**.
All are most welcome.

Please RSVP by Monday 31st July to:
Karen Mitri: 0411 354 670 or 9553 0350
or via email: karen.mitri@gmail.com