

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

17:22-24

The Lord says this: 'From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green. I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Second Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

5:6-10

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God,

Christ is the sower;

all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

4:26-34

Jesus said to the crowds: 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time: he starts to reap because the harvest has come.' He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.' Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

OLA FETE - NOVEMBER 2021

Calling all plant lovers and green thumbs!

The plant stall is one of the most successful and most loved stalls at our fete. But this year we need your help to make sure it is blooming and bigger than ever.

We are looking for people who can:

- Donate indoor/outdoor plants, indoor/ outdoor plant pots (can be creative) or source donations for the stall; or
- Propagate plants that you may have in your garden/home to donate to the fete. Even if it is just a few – every little bit helps;

We are also seeking a plant stall coordinator. If you think you can do a good "seed" and lend a hand for the plant stall – it's 'thyme' to get 'growing'.

If you can assist please get in touch with the Parish Office, or contact Claire Melican, from the Fete Committee, via email at:

fete@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au

**Our Lady of the Assumption Parish
Cheltenham**

Telephone: 9583 6161

9 Centre Dandenong Road, Cheltenham. 3192

Email: Cheltenham@cam.org.au

Website: www.olacheltenham.org.au



Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Pastoral Worker: Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

**St Agnes' Parish
Highett**

Telephone: 9532 1794

1 Locinda Street, Highett. 3190

Email: Highett@cam.org.au

Website: www.sahighett.org.au



ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B **12th / 13th June, 2021**



In many ways, parables are brain-teasers. Jesus states that the reign of God is like seed that takes root and grows and produces in secret places within human reality. In fact it is usually found in places where one would least expect to find it – among the poor and despised, in the hearts of those who suffer, in the lives of the persecuted. The potential of the reign of God is often contained in what appears to be inconsequential. Yet it thrives in its own mysterious ways. The parables of Jesus forced his hearers to stretch their imaginations and to make connections that they might not ordinarily make. The presumption was that those who followed Jesus were always willing or able to do this.

The reign of God also begins in very ordinary circumstances, and it matures gradually until it has spread itself far and wide. Although the mystery of the reign of God unfolds within human history, we need eyes of faith to recognise it. Like the cedar and the mustard seed, it grows within the concreteness of human experience. Just as the life force that thrusts the branches of the trees further and further out cannot itself be seen, so the reign of God is mysterious, even incomprehensible. Still, it is there, inviting us, urging us to move forward, transforming our world.

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

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9583 6161
Monday / Wednesday / Friday 9am – 3.30pm
Bookkeeper: Ann Fitzgerald
Secretary (pro temp) Elizabeth Sebastian

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 & HIGHTT

SATURDAY VIGIL & SUNDAY MASSES:

Please book via : <https://www.trybooking.com/BNADH>

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 SERVICES – OLA / St Agnes:
- currently suspended

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: (in line with Covid-safe Protocols) By appointment. Please contact Fr Alan, or the Parish Office.

BAPTISMS: limitations on the No. of attendees apply
Please direct all enquiries for the Sacrament of Baptism to the Office: 9583 6161

WEDDINGS: limitations on the No. of attendees apply
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.

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B 12th / 13th June, 2021

PRAYING FOR:

Maria Paterno, Stella Nickson,
Allan Kinnear, Rodolfo M. Ferrer Sr.,
Nancy La Victoire,

...and all who died recently.

We also remember:

Duncan McLaren, Mary Moloughney,
Fr Peter Cross,

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

We also keep in our prayers all who are sick.



Readings for this liturgical year from
Advent 2020 to Christ the King 2021 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:

<https://www.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.

UPDATED COVID RESTRICTIONS: Stage
Four restrictions now apply. General Guidelines
from the Archdiocese (Update #34: 2nd June, 2021)
are available online at:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/covid-19>

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>



ST VINCENT DE PAUL 2021 WINTER APPEAL -

12th/13th JUNE This weekend
both Cheltenham & Highett St
Vincent de Paul Conferences are
requesting donations of money (cash/credit card) &
non-perishable food, in support of this year's
Winter Appeal. Appeal envelopes are available at
the back of each church. Thank you for your
continued support and rest assured, the upmost
care will be taken to use your donations wisely.
Alternatively, you may wish to donate anytime via
the online portal at:

<https://donate.vinnies.org.au/winter-appeal>

FIRST EUCHARIST MASSES 2021 Sadly,
due to the lockdown, and the consequent
disruption to the celebration of liturgies, and
more particularly the significant limitation on
numbers currently permitted, it has been decided
to postpone the reception of First Eucharist and
to reschedule these celebrations, as soon as
circumstances permit. Let's continue to keep our
candidates, their families, and those who've
helped with their preparation, in our prayers.

RCIA – Curious about the Catholic Faith?
Do you know someone interested in
becoming a Catholic? Are you interested in
supporting those on their journey of Faith?

Our Parish RCIA Team will soon commence
the 'Journey of Faith' to Easter 2022, where
those seeking to become Catholic will be
formally received into the Church, through the
Sacraments of Initiation. The **Rite of**
Christian Initiation of Adults, leads adults
seeking membership of the Church, through a
process of discernment, exploring many
facets of the Christian life. An invitation is
extended to anyone seeking Baptism, as well
as to those baptised in another denomination
who seek full communion with the Catholic
Church. If you'd like to be involved, or able
to support those undertaking the journey to
Easter, please contact Moira on 9583 4628. Its
early days, and we will keep you informed.



**QR Codes - Mandatory use of the
Victorian Government QR Code
Service: effective 28th May, 2021.**

All parishes, just like so many other
venues and businesses, are now required to use
this service. Once again we're being asked to
adapt. Manual record keeping is no longer
deemed acceptable. Wherever possible, you are
strongly encouraged to utilise the online
TryBooking platform:
<https://www.trybooking.com/BNADH>, in addition to
using your digital device, to sign into the **Service**
Victoria App to register your attendance via **QR**
code, as you're asked to do at shops, hospitals,
doctor surgeries, cafes, etc. Digital record-keeping
is proving vital to efficient contact tracing.

COUNTERS NEEDED The counting team
is looking for extra volunteers to assist with
the tallying of Mass contributions. It would
only entail a commitment of once every 12
weeks on a Monday. If you can assist, please
contact John Tetteroo on: 9583 4628 for
further details. Many thanks in advance.

KNITTING GROUP STALL & MEETINGS
Please note that both the stall and any
planned meetings have been suspended due
to the current restrictions.

'MINDFULNESS & MEDITATION' (via
Zoom), Saturday 19th June, 2021, 10am-3pm.
Presented by 'Heart of Life – Centre for Spiritual
and Pastoral Formation'. When we are present to
the 'now', centredness and relaxation become a
natural part of life, and we know how to act from
a heart of love. This is a day of reflection in the
practice of Mindfulness & Meditation, and we
invite you to come prepared to be still and
journey within. Facilitated by Paola Cheng. Cost
\$50. Book and pay via: www.heartoflife.melbourne
or email: info@heartoflife.melbourne

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE
free online Open Day Information Sessions
"Getting Started in Theology" in June. Attend
one of our 3 online sessions. For bookings visit:
<https://ctc.edu.au/news-and-events/open-days/>