

FIRST READING

**A reading from the book of Deuteronomy
4:1-2. 6-8**

Moses said to the people: 'Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, "No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation." And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./The just will live
in the presence of the Lord.**

SECOND READING

**A reading from the letter of St James
5:21-32**

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created. Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves. Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!
The Father gave us birth
by his message of truth,
that we might be as the
first fruits of his creation.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Mark
7:1-8. 14-15. 21-23**

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture: This people honours me only with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me. The worship they offer me is worthless, the doctrines they teach are only human regulations. You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'



**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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TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YEAR B - 31st AUGUST / 1st SEPTEMBER, 2024



**TO HOPE AND ACT
WITH CREATION**

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

In the letter of Paul the apostle to the Romans, the biblical image pictures the Earth as a Mother, groaning as in childbirth (Rom 8:22). Francis of Assisi understood this when he referred to the Earth as our sister and our mother in his Cantic of Creatures. The times we live in show that we are not relating to the Earth as a gift from our Creator, but rather as a resource to be used.

And yet, there is hope and the expectation for a better future. To hope in a biblical context does not mean to stand still and be quiet, but rather groaning, crying, and actively striving for new life amidst the struggles. Just as in childbirth, we go through a period of intense pain, but new life springs forth.

This year's symbol is The first fruits of Hope. Hope is an instrument enabling us to overcome the natural law of decay. Hope is given to us by God as a protection and guard against futility. Only through hope we may realize the gift of freedom in fullness. Freedom to act not only to achieve enjoyment and prosperity, but to reach the stage in which we are free and responsible. Freedom and responsibility enable us to make the world a better place. Only when we work together with Creation can the first fruits of hope emerge.

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGGETT
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: Anne Maree 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: lf00t@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 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-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B - 31st AUG / 1st SEPT, 2024

PRAYING FOR:

Rocco Tripodi, Martin Foley,
... and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Fr Greg Florendo, Virginia D'Monte,
Paul Azzilla, Angeles Chan, Ian Stoddart,
Ursula Millar, Edmond Millar,
Marjorie Hammond, Margaret Benham,
Antonia Razga, John Razga, Ivan Herft,
Wilhelmeina Herft, Anthony Cutajar,

...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.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.



This Sunday 1st September,
you're invited to stay and join
fellow parishioners for a
cuppa after the 9am & 11am Masses, in the
OLA Church Meeting Room. This also gives
us the opportunity to celebrate Father's Day
with our Dads.



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 **Charles** and **Cruz** who
will be Baptised this weekend.

† UPCOMING FUNERAL †

Tuesday 3rd September at 11.30am (OLA)
Funeral Mass for
Rocco Tripodi (RIP)
(Rosary prior to Mass: 11am)

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

OLA FETE - 23rd Nov.

DO YOU HAVE A MARQUEE? The Fete
Committee are on the
lookout for marquees. For
every dollar saved on
equipment hire, more
funds go towards our
school and parish
community. 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.



LUCKY BOTTLES STALL Throughout
August, the Fete committee are collecting
wine, bubbles or spirits for the lucky bottles
stall. Kindly drop your donations into the
school office.



CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE Upcoming CTC events

- Information Session for Educators
- Information Session for Prospective Students
- Engaging Your Faith Online Sessions

Register via our website:
ctc.edu.au

For more information: Email - ctc@ctc.edu.au