

## FIRST READING

*Malachi 3:1-4*

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of Hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fullers' alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Ps. 23(24):7-10*

*R./ Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!*

## SECOND READING

*Hebrews 2:14-18*

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Christ too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

*This is the light of revelation to the nations,  
and the glory of your people, Israel.*

*Alleluia!*

## GOSPEL READING

*Luke 2:22-40*

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.



## Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Cheltenham

Parish House/Office: 9583 6161

Email: Cheltenham@cam.org.au

Website: www.olacheltenham.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Pastoral Associates: Frances North, Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

## The Presentation of the Lord - Year A 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020



### *Focus of the Readings*

*The focus is God's presence in the temple, the one to be adored. In the first reading, the prophet Malachi tells us that God will send a messenger to prepare for the one to come. The Lord of the covenant is coming to the temple and will call all people to change their lives. Our Christian tradition has seen in this prophecy the persons of John the Baptist and Jesus.*

*The Gospel recounts the day that Mary and Joseph presented Jesus in the temple. There, in the temple, he is recognized by both Simeon and Anna as the fulfilment of God's promise. He is the Saviour of the Israelites and the Gentiles as well. But the Gospel also forewarns that this Saviour will suffer and will be a sign of contradiction among his own people.*

**PARISH PRIEST:**  
Fr Alan Fox 9583 6161  
Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

**PASTORAL ASSOCIATES :**  
Frances North 9583 6161  
Email: Frances.North@cam.org.au

Christine Dunne 9583 6161

**PSYCHOLOGIST :**  
AnneMaree Eddy 9583 6161

**PARISH OFFICE:** 9583 6161  
Monday to Friday 9 am – 3.30 pm  
Secretary: Lisa Harris  
Bookkeeper: Ann Fitzgerald  
Email: Cheltenham@cam.org.au

**PARISH SCHOOL:**  
**Our Lady of the Assumption 9584 9488**  
Principal: Mr Richard Jacques

**MASS TIMES:**  
**Saturday 6:30 pm**  
**Sunday 9:00 am, 11:00 am**  
Tuesday 6.00 pm  
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9.15 am  
Saturday 9.00 am

**COMMUNION SERVICE:**  
Monday 9.15 am

**RECONCILIATION:**  
Saturdays: 9.30am & 6pm

**BAPTISMS:** Either during a weekend Mass or at 12.30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month. 6 weeks' notice required. Please refer to our Guidelines for Infant Baptism and an Application Form are available from the Parish Office and on the parish website.

**RITE OF WELCOME:** 2<sup>nd</sup> February at our 11am Mass. We extend a warm welcome to: Olivia O'Mahony, daughter of Paul and Laura. Rita Ndungu, daughter of Anna.

**WEDDINGS:** By appointment, 6 months' notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays). Contact the Parish Office.

## The Presentation of the Lord – Year A 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2020

### PRAYING FOR

Leonie Clarke, Fred Hyde, Paul Barella, Karon Blythe, Grazia Piccolo, Jan Ross, Achata Morabito, Marie Cannarozzo, Karen May *and all those who have died recently.*



*We also remember the anniversaries of* Peter Bunting, Reg Burgess, Marta Andrade, Gustavo Rivera, Eileen Fitzsimmons, Marly Lara, Leslie Cudd, Norma Sevilla, Mirek Andrysik, Domenica Carboni, Ken Mircen.

**KNITTING GROUP:** Our group starts back on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 1.00pm in the Church Meeting Room. ALL WELCOME. 'Knitters ain't quitters...'

**OLA SOCIAL GOLF:** Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> February Twilight Golf & Dinner. More Players Needed & Non-golfers. Also Welcome for Dinner if golf is not your game. See Entry sheet on table in foyer-3.30pm start. Enquiries: 9583 6161

**CARD DAY:** Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> February at 11.00am in Church Meeting Room. Basket lunch provided. Cost \$10. Proceeds to St Vincent De Paul. Enq: via Parish Office 9583 6161.

**GENTLE EXERCISE AND TAI CHI:** Gentle Exercise classes will be held on Wednesday 10.15am – 11.15am in Exodus Hall. Tai Chi will be held on Wednesday 11.30am-12.30pm. If you are looking for a beginner class for Tai Chi, please contact Anastasia via the Parish Office on 9583 6161.

**SENIORS GROUP:** Reconvenes on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February, providing morning tea, lunch, Bingo and friendship. If you would like to join the team of helpers or drivers, please call Parish Office 9583 6161.

**COUNSELLING SERVICE:** Counselling is provided by AnneMaree Eddy, Psychologist. Please contact the Parish Office for appointments, 9583 6161

**PARISH NEWS:** The long Summer holidays have come to an end, and once again the playground is filled with the happy sounds of children playing. We hope that they, their parents and teachers, have had a wonderfully happy and relaxing holiday, and are once again ready to embark on the adventure of learning. We warmly welcome our new Principal, Mr Richard Jacques, and look forward to a long and happy partnership. At the 9am Mass this Sunday we will commission the school staff for their ministry of teaching this year. Mass to celebrate the start of the school year will be celebrated on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> February, at 9.15am. ALL ARE MOST WELCOME. We have all been deeply saddened by the death of Leonie Clarke, and our love and prayers go out to Graham, Edward and Julia. Leonie will be farewelled from OLA on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> February at 1pm. If you would like to contribute to the catering, please contact the Parish Office on 9583 6161 before Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February.

**LENTE DISCUSSION GROUPS:** The programme we will be following this year this year is *Be Opened* ... to be led by the Spirit... to listen... to the living water... to see... to believe.. to death...to new life. If you would like to host/lead a group, please add your name to list in foyer, noting your preferred day, time and venue.

**FETE NEWS – SATURDAY 24<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER:** Calling all cooks... If you are busy bottling jams, sauces, pickles, relishes, etc. We would really appreciate you sharing your culinary genius, and putting some aside for the Fete. Jars are available from the Parish Office if needed.

To all our wonderful gardeners... We so appreciate your help with any sort of plants, cuttings i.e. anything that will grow!! If you need Pots or potting mix, they are available from the Parish Office.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS** for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) head to: <http://www.universalis.com/Australia/1000/mass.htm>

Navigate using the right-hand column.



**GENERATION X RESEARCH PROJECT INFORMATION** Christina Westmore-Peyton, a Doctoral student at the University of Divinity, is undertaking a research project investigating Generation X (those born 1965-1980) and their relationship to the Catholic Church. They may or may not be Church attenders now, or may have become completely disaffiliated from the Church. The people that Christina would like to interview grew up in a family where both parents were active Catholics, and regularly took their children to Mass. They would have been to Catholic schools for most of their schooling. She wants to find out about their spiritual and religious journey. For further information contact Christina on: 0407 689 022 or via email: [christinawestmore@bigpond.com](mailto:christinawestmore@bigpond.com)

**OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION PRIMARY SCHOOL:** The first tour of the school will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> February at 9.15am. For further information, please contact the school on 95849488

**MINISTRY FORMATION:** A meeting for Special Ministers of the Eucharist at Mass and to the Sick: Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 9.45am or 7.30pm. A meeting for Proclaimers of the Word: Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February 10.15am or 8pm. All who assist in these ministries are strongly encouraged to attend either the morning or the evening session(s).

