

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Kings
19:9, 11-13

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R/: Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.**

SECOND READING

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to
the Romans** 9:1-5

What I want to say now is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!
I hope in the Lord,
I trust in his word.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy gospel
according to Matthew** 14:22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord,' he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'



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

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time **Year A – 8th and 9th August, 2020**



A little-noticed phrase in this week's Gospel adds significantly to the way we understand this story. Jesus told the disciples to cross to the other side of the lake. In doing this, they were heading away from the Jewish region and into Gentile territory. The boat is a symbol of the church, and as such, we can detect in this text a reflection of the situation of Matthew's community, who have been forced out of the synagogue and away from traditional Judaism. More and more, it is Gentiles who are coming to belief in Jesus. This is causing fear and concern for some in the community. Matthew gives a prominent place to Peter, whose actions do not make sense, except as a combination of impulsive love and faith weakened by doubt. While his full attention is on Jesus, Peter is fine, but as soon as he allows what is going on around him to distract him from Jesus, he begins to sink. This text offers a parable of the church besieged and being tossed about. Peter's response is to be bold and to step out into the unknown, yet he is vulnerable. The great comfort is in the risen Lord stretching out his hand to restore morale. This manifestation of the power of Christ is greeted by that great acclamation of faith: 'Truly you are the Son of God.'

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT
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 0403 284 536

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
Email: principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES:

SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

MASS TIMES:

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

COMMUNION SERVICE:

Monday	9.15 am
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SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays: 9.30am & 6pm

BAPTISMS: SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Either during a weekend Mass or at 12.30pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month. 6 weeks' notice required. Please refer to our Guidelines for Infant Baptism and Application Form available on our parish website.

WEDDINGS: CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR MORE INFO

By appointment, 6 months' notice required. Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays). Contact the Parish Office: 9583 6161

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Year A – 8th / 9th August, 2020

PRAYING FOR:

...and all those who died recently.

We also remember:

Sister Paola Borg, Anthony Borg,
Andrew Borg, John Borg, Sophia Lang,
Sarah Christensen & Fr John Carnie

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

FETE NEWS: No one will be surprised to learn that our Parish Fete, planned for November, will not now go ahead at this time. After much deliberation as to the best alternative, the Fete Committee has agreed that the most workable date would be **November 2021**. For all our wonderful gardeners: please keep up your great work. The extra twelve months of your TLC can only mean better established plants. We set the bar pretty high in 2018 – let's make 2021 even better!



VOLUNTEERING AT OLA: Once again a reminder to all who volunteer their services at our Parish. We are very grateful for the time you offer to our Parish community. We must however meet our obligations surrounding Child Safe Standards. Any volunteer must have a current WWCC. If you already have one, that is great, but we at the Parish require documentation stating you volunteer **with us** as well, irrespective of other engagements, e.g. StVdP. For us to receive this, we ask you to simply go online and register OLA as your volunteering organisation. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the office on: 9583 6161.

COVID RESTRICTIONS: Stage Four (4) restrictions now apply. General Guidelines from the Archdiocese: https://cam.org.au/wp-content/uploads/14-4August20-UPDATE-COVID_19-GENERAL-GUIDELINES_.pdf



CatholicCare Sunday Appeal (8/9 August, 2020) is held each year in Parishes across the Archdiocese of Melbourne and the Diocese of Sale. It is the organisation's major annual fundraiser and our Parish support will help to meet the growing demand for services in our community. CatholicCare's Sunday Appeal theme for 2020 is **'Help break barriers'**.

Thank you in advance for helping the thousands of people they support each year - by strengthening their relationships, increasing their resilience and improving their quality of life. To donate please visit:

www.ccam.org.au/SundayAppeal

or to donate over the phone call: **9287 5513**

All gifts of \$2 and above are tax deductible.

Broadcast & Online Masses:

11am Sunday Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral continues to be **televised live (free to air) on Channel 31** (Ch. 44 on Digital TV).

This Mass is also live-streamed on the Melbourne Catholic website:

melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass

Pre-recorded Masses available online:

cam1.org.au/Greensborough/Spirituality/Mass-Online or stsimonsparish.com.au/mass-videos or holyfamilydoveton.org.au/

Mass can also be heard on **Light FM (89.9 FM) every Sunday at 7am.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) are accessible online:

www.universalis.com/Australia/1000/mass

Navigate the daily Scripture readings for the week ahead using the right-hand column

*A man tried to walk on water in Egypt
He regretted it, as he was in 'de-Nile' ...sigh*



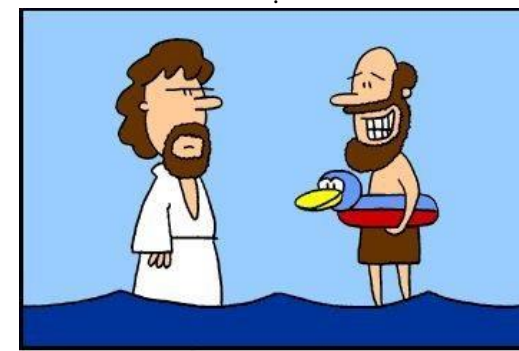
St Mary of the Cross
Mary MacKillop's Feast Day is held every August 8th, in honour of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop. She was the first Saint of Australia,

and her influence in the country has spread far and wide. She is recognised for her commitment to the poor, helping those who needed it the most in any way she could.

Perhaps these quotes from Saint Mary will help us in the lockdown, and remind us that life is so fragile...."Remember we are but travellers here" (1866); "We must teach more by example than by word" (1867); "Never see a need without doing something about it" (1871); "Do all you can, with the means at your disposal, and calmly leave the rest to God" (1891).

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK

As we commemorate the Feast of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop this week, we pray that many young people in our communities may embrace her spirit of concern and compassion, in response to the Lord's call to serve His holy people, and consider a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated religious life.



(See Matthew 14:24-33) 02-06-1998
PETER'S EARLY ATTEMPTS TO WALK ON WATER WITH JESUS DISPLAYED AN INADEQUATE AMOUNT OF FAITH