

## FIRST READING

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

**22:19-23**

Thus says the Lord of Hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiyah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R/: Lord, your love is eternal;  
do not forsake the work of your hands.**

## SECOND READING

**A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans**

**11:33-36**

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

You are Peter,  
the rock on which I will build my Church;  
the gates of hell will not hold out against it.

**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew**

**16:13-20**

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.



**Have you experienced the ups and downs of faith?**

**What sustains you?**

**What title would you give to Jesus?**

**Are you like the Peter who doubts and falters or the Peter who boldly proclaims his faith?**



Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Cheltenham

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Website: [www.olacheltenham.org.au](http://www.olacheltenham.org.au)

Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Pastoral Associates: Frances North, Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

## **21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time** **Year A – 22<sup>nd</sup> / 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2020**



At this point in the gospel, Jesus and his chosen ones have travelled and lived together for some time. He invites them to explore what they understand of his identity. Even in his question, there is an explicit hint of his identity: 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' The people offer a variety of opinions: John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah or one of the prophets. But it is Peter who adds to the title 'Son of Man' by recognising Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God. This same Peter, whose faith faltered when he was buffeted by the wind and waves (see the gospel for the 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time), has now shown that he is open to God and recognises Jesus for who he is. But this is not the end of Peter's story. There are ups and downs in his response, as there are in our own. As long as we remain open to the gift of faith, we are offered forgiveness when we fail to treasure what God has given to us.

**PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT**  
Fr Alan Fox 9583 6161  
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**PSYCHOLOGIST:**  
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**PARISH OFFICE:** 9583 6161  
Monday to Friday 9 am – 3.30 pm  
Secretary: Lisa Harris  
Bookkeeper: Ann Fitzgerald  
Email: [Cheltenham@cam.org.au](mailto:Cheltenham@cam.org.au)

**PARISH SCHOOL:**  
**Our Lady of the Assumption** 9584 9488  
Principal: Mr Richard Jacques  
Email: [principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Year A – 22<sup>nd</sup> / 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2020**

**PRAYING FOR:**

Joan Sparkes, Dorothy Wilkie,  
Mick Somerville

*...and all those who died recently.*

**We also remember:**

Mollie Taylor, Sr Sue Shannon

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

**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](https://cam.org.au/wp-content/uploads/14-4August20-UPDATE-COVID_19-GENERAL-GUIDELINES_.pdf)

**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](http://melbournecatholic.org.au/Mass)

**Pre-recorded Masses available online:**  
[cam1.org.au/Greensborough/Spirituality/Mass-Online](http://cam1.org.au/Greensborough/Spirituality/Mass-Online) or  
[stsimonsparish.com.au/mass-videos](http://stsimonsparish.com.au/mass-videos) or  
[holymfamilydoveton.org.au/](http://holymfamilydoveton.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](http://www.universalis.com/Australia/1000/mass)  
Navigate the daily Scripture readings for the week ahead using the right-hand column.

**THANK YOU:** A sincere thank you to all who were able to support this year's CatholicCare Sunday Appeal. Amidst the toughest times most of us have ever endured, we are seeing true partnership. When it would have been so easy to politely decline, so many parishes found a way to help spread the message about the Sunday Appeal. We are deeply humbled and encouraged. One way of expressing our thanks is to send this video. From all of us at CatholicCare...  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o7ZKjtnKO74>

**ST BEDE'S COLLEGE INFORMATION:** Enrolments are now open at the Bentleigh East Campus (on the current site of St James College). Places are available for Year 7 2021 and 2022. To make a booking for one of the Virtual Open Tours for Term 3, please telephone: 9575 8100 or head to: [www.sjcbecatholic.edu.au](http://www.sjcbecatholic.edu.au)

**KILBREDA COLLEGE TOURS:** The health and wellbeing of the Kilbreda community is their first priority, so in light of the current situation with Coronavirus (COVID-19), any Open Mornings or Talk and Tours for the majority of Term 3, will run virtually. Virtual visits will feature a Principal's Address, tour of the College, student commentary, and an opportunity to ask questions at the conclusion of the tour. For more information visit: [www.kilbreda.vic.edu.au](http://www.kilbreda.vic.edu.au)



The COVID-19 pandemic is a threat in many ways – physical, social, political and economic. But it's also

putting pressure on the mental health of many people in ways both seen and unseen. Those who are at high risk, and those who love them, may be especially anxious. The loss of jobs and income from businesses, together with underemployment and insecure work, place enormous pressure on people trying to provide for themselves and their families. Isolation has also been very difficult for many – and dangerous for those who are in situations of family strife and domestic violence. As well, these can be stressful times for people in decision-making positions. In this Social Justice Statement, *To Live Life to the Full: Mental Health in Australia Today*, the Catholic Bishops of Australia encourage faith communities, governments and each one of us, to make mental health a priority. Download the 'Full Statement' & 'Prayer Card':  
<https://www.catholic.org.au/> and...  
<https://socialjustice.catholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/2020-Social-Justice-Prayer-Card-download.pdf>

**CONGRATULATIONS TO FR PETER MATHESON** who celebrates his 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood this weekend. We have been blessed to share a part of Fr Peter's priestly journey, and thank God for this unique man who has guided us, nourished us at the Lord's Table, and helped us grow in faith, a true blessing to the whole Church. We wish him many more years of good health and abundant grace.

Also we congratulate Fr Alan who, on 20<sup>th</sup> August, celebrated his 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood. We wish him many blessings, and we look forward to the opportunity to soon gather again as one, around the Lord's Table.