

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

63:16-17, 64:1, 3-8

You, Lord, yourself are our Father, ‘Our Redeemer’ is your ancient name. Why, Lord, leave us to stray from your ways and harden our hearts against fearing you? Return, for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your inheritance. Oh, that you would tear the heavens open and come down! – at your Presence the mountains would melt. No ear has heard, no eye has seen any god but you act like this for those who trust him. You guide those who act with integrity and keep your ways in mind. You were angry when we were sinners; we had long been rebels against you. We were all like men unclean, all that integrity of ours like filthy clothing. We have all withered like leaves and our sins blew us away like the wind. No one invoked your name or roused himself to catch hold of you. For you hid your face from us and gave us up to the power of our sins. And yet, Lord, you are our Father; we the clay, you the potter, we are all the work of your hand.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

1:3-9

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace. I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank him that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers and preachers; the witness to Christ has indeed been strong among you so that you will not be without any of the gifts of the Spirit while you are waiting for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed; and he will keep you steady and without blame until the last day, the day of our

Lord Jesus Christ, because God by calling you has joined you to his Son, Jesus Christ; and God is faithful.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

13:33-37

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘Be on your guard, stay awake, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man travelling abroad: he has gone from home, and left his servants in charge, each with his own task; and he has told the doorkeeper to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, cockcrow, dawn; if he comes unexpectedly, he must not find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake!’



Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

Parish Office: 9583 6161

9 Centre Dandenong Road, Cheltenham. 3192

Email: Cheltenham@cam.org.au

Website: www.olacheltenham.org.au



St Agnes' Parish

Highett

Parish Office: 9532 1794

1 Locinda Street, Highett. 3190

Email: Highett@cam.org.au

Website: www.sahighett.org.au



Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Pastoral Associates: Frances North, Christine Dunne

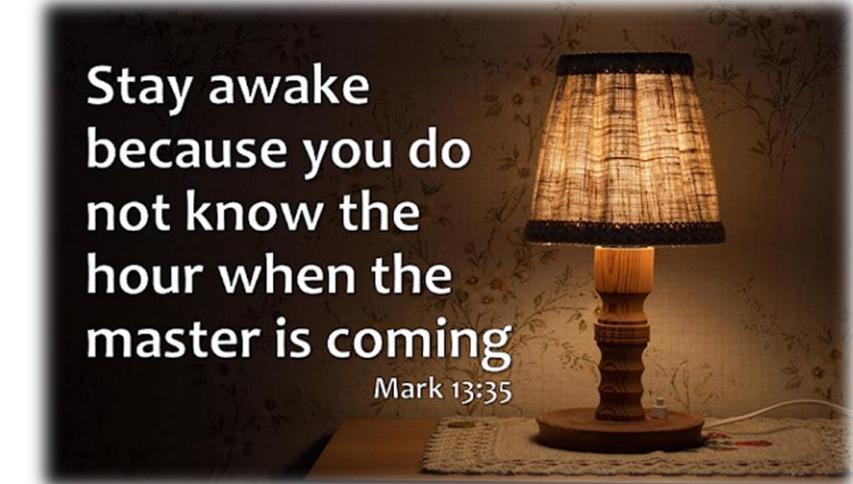
Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B

28th / 29th November, 2020

**Stay awake
because you do
not know the
hour when the
master is coming**

Mark 13:35



During Advent, in each year of the three-year cycle, the theme of the first week looks to the end times—the *eschaton*—with an emphasis on the second coming of Jesus and the need to be ready. In the early church, there was an expectation that Jesus would return quickly. In their post-Easter faith, believers knew that Jesus had been taken up to heaven at the ascension (a man travelling abroad, as mentioned in this gospel?) and that he was remaining with God until the time came for him to return in triumph. For Mark, it is now the church that waits and must remain always ready to greet the master on his return. The ‘waiting’ theme of Advent is established: we await the birth of the child and we await the fulfilment of human history at the end times when Jesus comes again.

PARISH PRIEST: HIGHETT / CHELTENHAM
Fr Alan Fox 9532 1794
Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9583 6161
Monday to Friday 9 am – 3.30 pm
Secretaries: Lisa Harris / 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@sahightt.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES – CHELTENHAM & HIGHETT

SATURDAY VIGIL & SUNDAY MASSES:

Limitations on the No. of attendees apply – please book in.
Saturday [St Agnes] 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

The following remain suspended

COMMUNION SERVICES – OLA / St Agnes:
Monday 9.15 am / 9.00 am

RECONCILIATION:
Saturdays: 9.30am

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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR B
28th / 29th November, 2020

PRAYING FOR:

James Monaghan
...and all who died recently.

We also remember:

Beryl Holloway, Kath Devine
Fr Anthony Kenny, Margaret Keane,
...and all whose anniversaries
occur about this time

We also keep in our prayers all who are sick.

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 #22: 24th November, 2020) are available online at:
<https://melbournecatholic.org/covid-19>

WEEKLY OFFERINGS: Please consider putting your Thanksgiving Offerings into one envelope with your number written on it and the amount. Please do the same for your presbytery offerings. This will reduce unnecessary work for the counters. Thank you for your understanding and assistance. Please contact the Parish Office if you have any questions.

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:
<https://melbourne.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=222>

The **CDF Pay** link for **St Agnes, Highett** is:
<https://melbourne.cdfpay.org.au/details/?id=190>

Thank you most sincerely to all who support the mission of both parishes.

Broadcast & Online Masses: 11am Sunday
Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral continues to be televised **live (free to air) on Channel 31** (Ch. 44 Digital TV). This Mass is also live-streamed on the Melbourne Catholic website:
melbourne.catholic.org/connect/mass-online

THE CELEBRATION OF MASSES: Masses indoors may now be celebrated for up to **150** people, subject to quotient densities.

Please note the New Mass Timetable across the two parishes...

Tuesday	9.00am (St Agnes) 6.00pm (OLA)
Wednesday	9.15am (OLA)
Thursday	9.15am (OLA)
Friday	9.00am (St Agnes)
Saturday	9.00am (OLA)
Saturday	6.00pm (St Agnes)
Sunday	9.00am (OLA) 11.00am (OLA)

Bookings for Weekend Masses are essential, and can be made via the TryBooking.com platform:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BNADH>

There is no need to book in for **Weekday Masses**, however a record of attendees will still be taken.

O.L.A. PIETY SHOP: If you would like to purchase Christmas Cards, and the Columban Calendar 2021, our wonderful volunteers will be in the foyer over the weekend. Christmas cards are \$3 for a pack of 5 cards, and calendars are \$9 each. All proceeds assist the work of the OLA StVdP conference.

CHRISTMAS PREPARATIONS: We're beginning our planning for Christmas Masses across both parishes, and COVID restrictions are likely to determine that some Masses will be celebrated outdoors, to allow for larger numbers. One of the challenges is having an adequate public address system. If you know anyone who could assist us with audio equipment, including setup, and could do so at a reasonable price, please do get in touch: 9583 6161.

O.L.A. ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY CHRISTMAS HAMPERS: This weekend our Christmas 'Giving Tree' is in the OLA foyer. It is essential we provide COVID-safe Hampers to families needing our assistance and also protect Conference members, who are our valued volunteers. Therefore, for this year only, we are avoiding the traditional handling, packing and delivery of festive foods and toys etc. Instead, we will distribute our Essentials Cards for purchasing food and where there are children in the family, add Retailers' Gift Cards for parents to purchase gifts of their choice. Please take an envelope from the tree and return it next week with a Gift Card (or cash to allow us to buy Gift Cards). There will be a box under the tree for returned envelopes. We would like to receive all donations by Sunday, 6th December.

CHILDREN'S WEEK ACTIVITY: "JUST AS I HAVE LOVED YOU": To celebrate Children's Week this year, we are inviting all children and young people (from the ages of 4 years to 17) to participate in an activity. We want you to share with us what the words "Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another" (Jn 13:34) mean to you through a drawing or artwork (mixed media)

[Download the activity flyer & submission form](#)
[Download activity colouring sheet \(for little ones!\)](#)

Along with your artwork, please include an answer (150 words or less) to the following question: *In what ways do you feel part of the parish community and how do you try to make others feel welcome?*

Entries should include the completed submission form and can be sent to psu@cam.org.au before 5pm on 18th December, 2020. For details go to: <https://melbourne.catholic.org/news/celebrating-childrens-week-2020>

SCRIPTURE READINGS for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) online:
www.universalis.com/Australia/1000/mass
Navigate the daily Scripture readings for the week ahead using the right-hand column