

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom

6:12-16

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/: My soul is thirsting for you
O Lord my God

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

4:13-18

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

GOSEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

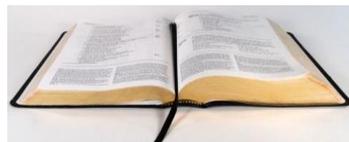
Be watchful and ready:
you know not when
the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

GOSEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

25:1-13

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour."



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



Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Cheltenham

Parish House/Office: 9583 6161

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Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Pastoral Associates: Frances North, Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

7th / 8th November, 2020



As the public ministry of Jesus draws to a close, Matthew introduces the themes of delay and the need to be ready for the second coming of Christ. Matthew's community were living in the 'in-between' times. Christ's victory over death through his resurrection had begun a new phase in history, but it was not yet complete. Completion would only come with his return in glory. We again hear the familiar imagery of the messianic banquet or wedding feast to which all are invited. But only those who live with an attitude of openness, expectation and readiness will be welcomed into the great hall. This parable speaks strongly of the need to live in the present with an eye to the future. We cannot live only for the 'now' with no thought for our ultimate goal, nor can we ignore the sufferings and responsibilities of the present and set our hearts only on heaven.

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PARISH OFFICE: 9583 6161
Monday to Friday 9 am – 3.30 pm
Secretary: Lisa Harris
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PARISH SCHOOL:
Our Lady of the Assumption 9584 9488
Principal: Mr Richard Jacques
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MASS TIMES – CHELTENHAM & HIGHETT

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES:
Limitations on the No. of attendees apply – please book in.
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
SATURDAY VIGIL AND SUNDAY MASSES
Saturday [St Agnes] 6:00 pm
Sunday [OLA] 9:00 am, 11:00 am
COMMUNION SERVICES – OLA / St Agnes:
Monday 9.15 am / 9.00 am

RECONCILIATION:
Saturdays: 9.30am

BAPTISMS: *limitations on the No. of attendees apply:* 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: *limitations on the No. of attendees apply*
By appointment, 6 months' notice required.
Saturdays or weekdays (not Sundays).
Contact the Parish Office: 9583 6161

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 7th / 8th November, 2020

PRAYING FOR:

Maureen Kean, Tony Doherty
...and all who died recently.

We also remember:

Lorna Melia, Ligaya Santos Parker
...and all whose anniversaries occur about
this time.

UPDATED COVID RESTRICTIONS:

Stage Four restrictions now apply. General Guidelines from the Archdiocese (Update #20: 29th Oct, 2020) are available online at:
<https://melbournecatholic.org/covid-19>

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

NOVEMBER MASSES: Each November Masses are offered for our deceased loved ones. A November offering envelope is ordinarily included in your set of Thanksgiving envelopes, however, given this year's challenges, we were unable to include a November offering envelope. If you would like to make an offering you're welcome to drop your envelope in to the Parish Office. Envelopes are available in the Church foyer or office for your convenience.

MAKING CONNECTIONS



The Gospel according to Matthew 25:1-13

The *lamp oil* of our Gospel reading, represents those resources we have, to meet the challenge of being ready: our actions, our faith, our service to others, our prayer, how much we have loved. It is not that the sensible virgins are being selfish; it is simply that this kind of oil—the way we live our lives—cannot be exchanged. We have to rely on our own resources to be ready.

- Think about the priorities in your own life. What are the activities that take up your time and energy?
- Share stories of times when you put a great deal of effort into preparing for an occasion or an event. Did the preparation pay off ?
- You might also remember times when you left things to chance or were unprepared. What was the result?

Pray these lines from Psalm 62 this week:

*O God, you are my God, for you I long;
For you my soul is thirsting.*

Consider finding a few moments in your day, to reflect on your own longing for God and your journey towards him.

THE CELEBRATION OF WEEKDAY MASSES: Mass may currently be celebrated for up to 10 people. It is essential that those who wish to attend, book in for their preferred Mass.

Please note the New Timetable...

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)

Bookings are essential & must be made prior to the day of the Mass. Please telephone the Parish office on **9583 6161**, during office hours, to book a day and time.

Please Note: Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses remain suspended, until such time as the restrictions on the numbers of worshippers permitted, are eased.

✠ REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED DEAD ✠

Throughout November, we pray at every Mass for all those dear to us who have died. While we are not able at this time to offer an opportunity to personally write loved ones' names on our beautiful Cross of Remembrance, we invite you to send us the names to be included in the list we'll produce for attachment to the cross. As always, the cross will stand in the church throughout November and all named thereon will be remembered at each Mass.



(See Genesis 37:3-36)
JOSEPH!!!