

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/ Praise the Lord, who heals the broken-hearted.

SECOND READING

A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak: I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
He bore our sickness,
and endured our suffering.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:29-39

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was. In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

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



Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Pastoral Worker: Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

St Agnes' Parish Highett

Parish Office: 9532 1794

1 Locinda Street, Highett. 3190

Email: Highett@cam.org.au

Website: www.sahighett.org.au



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year B **6th /7th February, 2021**



In touching Simon's mother-in-law and then allowing her to serve him, Jesus is breaking down traditional barriers. He brings wholeness and holiness to her by his presence. The kingdom of God cannot tolerate prejudice and taboo, just as sickness and evil have no place in the kingdom. This text shows us a typical day for Jesus—the first of his ministry. He listens to the Word of God, then worships with his community; he relaxes in the home of a friend; he pursues his work of healing and preaching and, before dawn, he withdraws alone to develop his relationship with the Father through prayer. There is a wonderful pattern of balance here between prayer, work and rest. When the disciples find him, they want him to return to Capernaum to the acclaim he is receiving. Instead, Jesus insists that the boundaries of the kingdom be pushed out. The kingdom of God must reach further and further. It is for this that he came! How is the balance in your life?

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT

Fr Alan Fox 9583 6161 / 9532 1794
Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9583 6161

Monday to Friday 9 am – 3.30 pm
Secretary: Lisa Harris
Bookkeeper: Ann Fitzgerald

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@sahighett.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES – CHELTENHAM & HIGHETT

SATURDAY VIGIL & SUNDAY MASSES:

Please book in via : <https://www.trybooking.com/BNADH>
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.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6th / 7th February 2021

PRAYING FOR:

Judith Jacobs, John Mason,
Maureen Griffiths

...and all who died recently.

We also remember:

Lucy Abrami, Nixon Bumatay,
John O'Sullivan, Joan Martin,
Alan Noone, Roselyn Kendrick,
Maureen Ryan, Bryan Hogan,
Kevin Cripps, Minnie Westby,
Dolores Aviles, Pacifico Chan,

Fred Duscher, Jan Healy, DoTrung Cu,
Lorna Tyrrell, Teresa Maglica, Anthony
Brennan, Ivana Pracepa, Harriet & Paul
Papolie, Dunstant Muller, Carlyle Muller,
Dorothy Longmuir.

...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 #25: 18th January 2021) are available online at:

<https://melboumecatholic.org/covid-19>

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:
<http://bit.ly/CDFpayCheltenham>

The **CDF Pay** link for **St Agnes, Highett** is:
<http://bit.ly/CDFpayHighett>

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

OLA THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES:

Please collect your envelopes for 2021 in the Church Foyer. Many thanks to all parishioners who contribute via direct debit / credit card. The continuing generosity of parishioners is amazing and appreciated.

OLA GENTLE EXERCISE / TAI CHI:

Commencing on Wed. 10th February: Gentle Exercise: 10am - 11am, Tai Chi: 11.15am - 12.15pm. Come along to Exodus Hall. Call Anastasia on: 0422 652 866. **THANK YOU** to Anastasia for her most generous donation of a piano for our parish. The piano now has a new home in Exodus Hall.

OLA KNITTING GROUP:

We welcome back our amazing knitting group. Come join the fun on the 9th February, at 1pm in the O.L.A. Church Meeting Room. All welcome. Remember, 'Behind every knitter is a huge pile of wool!'

HIGHETT ST VINCENT DE PAUL:

Next meeting is in St Agnes' church foyer, Tuesday 9th February at 7:30pm. We help those who are disadvantaged in our area, and would welcome new members to our group.

SENIORS GROUP:

We are looking for OLA volunteers to help run the Seniors group in 2021. The Seniors group has been at OLA for over 25 years, and we would love the group to continue. If you are free on a Thursday from 9am-12noon please contact the OLA Parish office for more details. All volunteers must hold a current WWCC and have signed the Code of Conduct Declaration.

**Readings for this liturgical year from
Advent 2020 to Christ the King 2021 are
taken from Year B in the Lectionary cycle**

Should you wish to view the Scripture Readings for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) please visit:
<https://www.universalis.com/australia.melbourne/1000/>
Navigate the texts of the week ahead via the right-hand column index.

THANK YOU from OLA St Vincent de Paul Society. A belated but sincere thank you to the many generous parishioners who supported the Conference's Christmas "Hamper" project. All families who sought our help since the onset of COVID-19 were given Essentials Cards to purchase food and your donations of Gift Cards (or cash in lieu) enabled us to give several cards to all families with children. You provided these families with a pleasant surprise.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

'Jesus took her by the hand and helped her up.' Who has taken you by the hand and helped you when you needed it?

What would you like Jesus to help you with? Reflect on and then share your experiences of a time in your life when you felt empty or desolate; when you were gripped by a 'demon' you could not shake.

Make a special effort this week to extend a helping hand to someone in need.

If you know someone who is gripped by some 'demon', offer them a word of encouragement.

In quiet moments alone this week, recite the response to the psalm:

Praise the Lord who heals the broken hearted.

FUNERAL MASS: for Judy Jacobs to be held at OLA, Wednesday 10th February at 11.30m.

