

## FIRST READING

### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11**

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God. When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is,' he had said, 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth.' As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight. They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R/.: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy:  
a blare of trumpets for the Lord.**

## SECOND READING

### **A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians 1:17-23**

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and

perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him. May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers. This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come. He has put all things under his feet, and made him, as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
Go and teach all people my gospel.  
I am with you always,  
until the end of the world.  
Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING

### **A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark 16:15-20**

Jesus showed himself to the Eleven and said to them, 'Go out to the whole world; proclaim the Good News to all creation. He who believes and is baptised is saved; he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will be associated with believers: in my name they will cast out devils; they will have the gift of tongues; they will pick up snakes in their hands, and be unharmed should they drink deadly poison; they will lay their hands on the sick, who will recover.' And so the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven: there at the right hand of God he took his place, while they, going out, preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word by the signs that accompanied it.

## **Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham**

**Telephone:** 9583 6161

9 Centre Dandenong Road, Cheltenham. 3192

**Email:** [Cheltenham@cam.org.au](mailto:Cheltenham@cam.org.au)

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



**Parish Priest:** Fr Alan Fox

**Pastoral Worker:** Christine Dunne

**Psychologist:** AnneMaree Eddy

## **St Agnes' Parish Highett**

**Telephone:** 9532 1794

1 Locinda Street, Highett. 3190

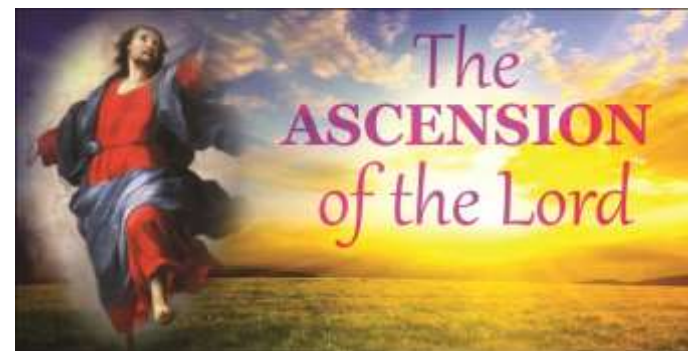
**Email:** [Highett@cam.org.au](mailto:Highett@cam.org.au)

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



# **THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD YEAR B**

**15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2021**



*The Feast of the Ascension is really a kind of liminal moment in the Easter season. It is a time between times; a moment when we have left one place in our journey, but have not yet arrived at a second. While the narratives that describe the Ascension fit well into the unfolding story of redemption, the feast itself celebrates one aspect of the resurrection itself, namely, the exaltation of Jesus. The readings help us through this paradox. They allow us to focus on this theological point while we commemorate a turning point in the life of the church. We do this by considering both the enthronement of Christ in the heavens and the new body of Christ on earth.*

*Today we stand awestruck, watching Jesus ascend into the clouds of heaven, there to be enthroned at God's right hand. Today we are overwhelmed by the divinity of the one whom we have known in his humanity. Amidst shouts of joy and exaltation, Christ is enthroned in heaven in both his divinity and his glorified humanity. Now he is present with us in a new way, in a new body, in the church. He teaches through its apostles and evangelists; he ministers through its prophets and pastors. Through us he continues to heal and to comfort; to forgive and to include. We have his power, the same power with which he performed marvels when he walked the earth. We have each other; together we make up the new body of Christ.*

**PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT**  
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9555 3557  
Email: [Alan.Fox@cam.org.au](mailto:Alan.Fox@cam.org.au)

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** 9583 6161  
Monday / Wednesday / Friday 9am – 3.30pm  
Bookkeeper: Ann Fitzgerald  
Secretary (pro temp) Elizabeth Sebastian

#### OUR SCHOOLS:

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

**St Agnes' Primary School** 9532 0344  
Principal: Mr Lachlan Foott  
Email: [lfoott@sahighett.catholic.edu.au](mailto:lfoott@sahighett.catholic.edu.au)

#### MASS TIMES – CHELTENHAM & HIGHETT

##### SATURDAY VIGIL & SUNDAY MASSES:

Please book via : <https://www.trybooking.com/BNADH>  
Saturday [St Agnes Church] 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

COMMUNION SERVICES – OLA / St Agnes:  
- currently suspended

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** (in line with Covid-safe Protocols) By appointment. Please contact Fr Alan, or the Parish Office.

**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.

#### THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD 15<sup>th</sup> / 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2021

##### PRAYING FOR:

Giuseppe Zappala,  
Bishop David McCall (Anglican - Retired),  
...and all who died recently.

##### We also remember:

Hilary Palman, Mary Roberts, Dorothy McKenzie,  
Vladimir Gazdik, Joseph Beveridge,  
....and all whose anniversaries occur about  
this time.

##### We also keep in our prayers all who are sick.



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:  
[universalis.com/australia.melbourne/1000/Mass](http://universalis.com/australia.melbourne/1000/Mass)

**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 #31: 4<sup>th</sup> May, 2021)  
are available online at:

<https://melbournecatholic.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>

*The Church of God welcomes:*

**Franklin Alvaro,  
Noah Michael Dunbar,  
Jordan Wirajaya Kett,  
Wendy Julie Smith-Manion,  
& Jasmine Lucy Tucker**

*whose baptisms we celebrate this weekend.*

**ANNUAL CHAPLAINCY APPEAL:** The  
**2021 Chaplaincy Appeal Collection** will be  
taken up across all parishes of the Archdiocese  
of Melbourne this weekend. This annual special  
collection supports the vital work of Catholic  
chaplains. The chaplains support thousands of  
Victorians every year in hospitals, prisons and  
youth justice centres, as well as those living with  
HIV/AIDS. Chaplains provide a listening ear, a  
compassionate presence, along with assistance  
to cope with emotional pain and loneliness.  
Please consider supporting this important  
outreach work of the Church of Melbourne.  
Donations may be made using the envelopes  
available in the church foyers, or you may wish  
to donate online at: [www.ccam.org.au](http://www.ccam.org.au) or by  
phoning: (03) 9287 5513.

**OLA CHOIR** is seeking an organist, pianist,  
guitarist, violinist and/or other volunteers, to  
accompany the choir at Sunday Masses. If  
you, or anyone you know, possess these skills,  
we'd love to hear from you. Come and join a  
fun-filled musical choir group with a range of  
talents.

For further information please contact Tony  
Aloysius on: 0456 000 317 or email OLA  
Parish Office: [Cheltenham@cam.org.au](mailto:Cheltenham@cam.org.au)

**'PONDERING GRIEF':** Sat. 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2021,  
10am-3.30pm. This reflection day offers an  
invitation to reflect upon and honour our inner  
life of change and transition. With creativity,  
space and gentle guiding support, this workshop  
offers a sacred place for the breadth of human  
experiencing and spirit to guide individual  
exploration. Facilitator: Linda Espie, Heart of  
Life, Kildara Centre. Cost \$80 (Materials  
provided & BYO lunch). Tel.: (03) 9890 1101  
or Email: [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne)

**POSITION VACANT: PARISH SECRETARY**  
**Our Lady of the Assumption & St Agnes:** An  
opportunity for an experienced Parish Secretary to  
undertake office administrative duties associated  
with the partnered parishes of OLA, Cheltenham  
and St Agnes', Highett. This permanent part-time  
position is based at the Cheltenham Parish Office,  
and entails approx. 22 hours per week, worked  
across four days, (Tuesday- Friday). Hours and  
days can be flexible. Terms and conditions are  
governed by the Archdiocese of Melbourne.  
Information about the position, including a more  
detailed role description, as well as other  
vacancies across the parishes and agencies of the  
Archdiocese, are listed on the following page:


<https://melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies>


Further information about the vacant positions  
can be obtained by emailing the Human  
Resources Office: Archdiocese of Melbourne at:  
[hadmin@cam.org.au](mailto:hadmin@cam.org.au)

**Applications close: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2021**

**ST AGNES SOCIAL LUNCH:** The First  
Social Lunch since COVID was enjoyed by all.  
It was great to get to know Fr Alan, and catch  
up with Fr Vincent, and to welcome two new  
parishioners. I am handing over the organising  
responsibilities to Karen Mitri, but I would like  
to thank everyone for their support over the  
years, since Fr Cyril Blake asked me to arrange  
something in the Parish. Looking forward to  
seeing you all again on 1<sup>st</sup> July - Sybil Lee.

#### ACTIVITIES AT OLA – EXODUS HALL

 **Knitting Group** meets at Exodus  
Hall each Tuesday at 1pm. All are  
welcome and we look forward to  
meeting new members.

 **Gentle Exercises & Tai Chi:** Please  
Note - Classes that were to be held on  
Wed. 26<sup>th</sup> May, have been cancelled.  
Classes resume on Wed. 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

**PLEASE NOTE re QR Codes - Mandatory  
use of the Victorian Government QR Code  
Service.** From 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2021, all parishes must  
use this service. Once again we're being asked to  
adapt. Manual record keeping is no longer  
deemed acceptable. Let's pray for patience!