

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Exodus 24:3-8
Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/.: I will take the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews 9:11-15
Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God

through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God. He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the living bread from heaven,
says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark 14:12-16, 22-26
On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover. And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.' After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

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Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Pastoral Worker: Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy



St Agnes' Parish Highett

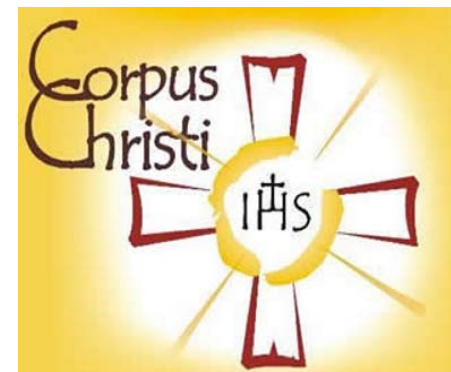
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THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST – YEAR B 5th / 6th June, 2021



The readings, which reflect some aspect of the feast, feature three prominent themes: the importance of blood in the ratification of the covenant; the atoning actions of Christ; the attitude of thanksgiving.

Most people today would probably be repelled by the ritual use of blood. Yet birth blood is not subject to the same revulsion, nor is blood transfusion frowned upon. Blood is recognised as a life force, and blood relationships are cherished. In a sense this ritual makes us blood sisters and brothers of God and of each other. It seals our fate and it entitles us to the family inheritance.

This feast celebrates the incomparable love of Christ. He offered himself for the expiation of our sins; he spread a banquet table for us at which we are able to eat the bread of companionship and share the blood of the new covenant.

How shall we make a return to the Lord for all the good that we have received? The only appropriate response to God's graciousness is thanksgiving (eucharistía). We have been chosen; we have been delivered; we have a witness in heaven; and now we have been given the bread of eternal life and the blood of salvation. What return can we give? A life of gratitude lived in the presence of God; a life of union with all those who eat the same bread and drink from the same cup; a life of faithful expectation, waiting for the coming of the reign of God in all its fullness.

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9555 3557
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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

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 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 SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST 5th / 6th June, 2021

PRAYING FOR:

Dorothy Snell, Maria Paterno,
...and all who died recently.

We also remember:

John Bird, Mario Incrocci, Janage Sonayan,
....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:

<https://www.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 #34: 2nd June, 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>

FIRST EUCHARIST MASSES 2021 Sadly, due to the current lockdown, and the consequent suspension of all public worship during this period, our First Eucharist Masses that were to be celebrated both last and this weekend, have been postponed. We'll wait to see whether there's an impact on the other celebrations planned for the weekends ahead. Any postponed First Eucharist Masses will be rescheduled as soon as circumstances allow. Let's continue to keep our candidates, their families, and those who've helped with their preparation, in our prayers.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL 2021 WINTER APPEAL 12th/13th JUNE

The Cheltenham & Highett St Vincent de Paul Conferences are requesting donations of money (cash/credit card) & non-perishable food, in support of this year's Winter Appeal. Appeal envelopes will be available **next weekend, the Appeal weekend**, at the back of each church on the proviso we're permitted to gather for our weekend Masses. Alternatively, you may wish to donate anytime via the online portal at:

<https://donate.vinnies.org.au/winter-appeal>

RCIA – Curious about the Catholic Faith? Do you know someone interested in becoming a Catholic? Are you interested in supporting those on their journey of Faith? Our Parish RCIA Team will soon commence the 'Journey of Faith' to Easter 2022, where those seeking to become Catholic will be formally received into the Church, through the Sacraments of Initiation. The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults**, leads adults seeking membership of the Church, through a process of discernment, exploring many facets of the Christian life. An invitation is extended to anyone seeking Baptism, as well as to those baptised in another denomination who seek full communion with the Catholic Church. If you'd like to be involved, or able to support those undertaking the journey to Easter, please contact Moira on 9583 4628. Its early days, and we will keep you informed.



QR Codes - Mandatory use of the Victorian Government QR Code Service: effective 28th May, 2021.

When we're permitted to gather, all parishes, like so many other venues and businesses, are now required to use this service. Once again we're being asked to adapt. Manual record keeping is no longer deemed acceptable as the first, or preferred option. Wherever possible, you are strongly encouraged to utilise the **TryBooking** platform: <https://www.trybooking.com/BNADH> to book in, and if you have a capable digital device, to utilise the **Service Victoria App** to register your attendance via our **QR code**, as you're asked to do at other venues. Digital record keeping is proving vital to efficient contact tracing.

COUNTERS NEEDED The counting team is looking for extra volunteers to assist with the tallying of Mass contributions. It would only entail a commitment of once every 12 weeks on a Monday. If you can assist, please contact John Tetteroo on: 9583 4628 for further details. Many thanks in advance.

O.L.A. FETE - NOVEMBER 2021

Calling all plant lovers and green thumbs!

The plant stall is one of the most successful and most loved stalls at our fete. But this year we need your help to make sure it is blooming and bigger than ever.

We are looking for people who can:

- Donate indoor/outdoor plants, indoor/outdoor plant pots (can be creative) or source donations for the stall; or
- Propagate plants that you may have in your garden/home to donate to the fete. Even if it is just a few – every little bit helps;

We are also seeking a plant stall coordinator. If you think you can do a good "seed" and lend a hand for the plant stall – it's 'thyme' to get 'growing'.

If you can assist please get in touch with the Parish Office, or contact Claire Melican, from the Fete Committee, via email at:

fete@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au