

## FIRST READING

### A reading from the prophet Isaiah

50:5-9

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R/:** I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

## SECOND READING

### A reading from the letter of St James

2:14-18

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead. This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

**My only glory is the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, which crucifies the world to me and me to the world.**

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 8:27-35**

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said, 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked, 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him. And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

## **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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## **TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B**

11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2021

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*In the gospel, Jesus asks what people are saying about him. Some believe he is John the Baptist; others that he is Elijah; still others that he is one of the other prophets – all religious figures who have already died. Speaking in the name of the others, Peter proclaims that he is the Christ, the Messiah, the anointed one of God. Hearing this, Jesus elaborates on the character of his Messiahship. He will be a messiah like the Son of Man, the enigmatic figure who will come on the clouds at the end of this age. To this he adds that he will suffer and die, an aspect not part of the ancient messianic traditions. Peter's rebuke exemplifies this. Jesus persists, adding that his followers will also suffer. This is indeed a hard saying.*

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT  
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9555 3557  
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PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9583 6161  
Monday – Friday 9am – 3.30pm  
Parish Secretary: Fatima De Ponte-Gill  
Accountant: Maureen Ryan

#### 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: currently suspended

Please direct all enquiries for the Sacrament of Baptism to the Office: 9583 6161

#### WEDDINGS:

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.

## TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021

#### PRAYING FOR:

Joselito Pareñas, Paulito Aviles

...and all who died recently.

#### We also remember:

Diane Smiles, Jim Sullivan,

....and all whose anniversaries occur about this time.

...and we keep in our prayers all who are currently unwell.

#### 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 #46: 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2021) are available online at:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/covid-19-guidelines>

**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>

**SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS AT OLA & ST AGNES': AN UPDATE** – The extension to the current lockdown continues to play havoc with our capacity to gather as faith communities, and therefore to the scheduling of the Sacraments, notably Baptisms, First Eucharist and Confirmations! Having postponed and rescheduled some of these liturgical celebrations, 2 or even 3 times, sadly we have little clarity around when these celebrations may be able to go ahead. Let's continue to pray for all the children and their families, who continue to wait for these celebrations. – Fr Alan



**PRIESTS RETIREMENT FOUNDATION FATHER'S DAY APPEAL 2021** – if you haven't done so already and would like to make a donation to the Priests' Retirement Foundation's Annual Father's Day Appeal, you can still do so through the Foundation's website (direct debit, credit card, and PayPal options available): [www.cam1.org.au/foundation/Donate](http://www.cam1.org.au/foundation/Donate). Please consider supporting this annual appeal in so far as you're able, so that as the broader Church of Melbourne, we can go on:

*'Caring for those who cared'.*

**HEART OF LIFE – Treasuring our Later Years.** Reflection series via Zoom, 6 x Wednesdays, 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2021 to 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021, 12.45pm - 3.00pm. Facilitated by Nicole Rotaru, this series offers participants the opportunity to explore new possibilities that ageing offers daily. Topics covered include: ageing; spirituality; relationships; meaning; gratitude and death. Cost \$180 for the series, or \$30 per session. Tel: 9890 1101. Book & Pay via the Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation website: [www.heartoflife.melbourne](http://www.heartoflife.melbourne) or for more information, E: [secretary@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:secretary@heartoflife.melbourne)

✝ This weekend marks the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the September 11 (9/11) terrorist attacks. We continue to pray for all those lives that were lost, for their families, for those who live with the scars of these atrocities, and for reconciliation and peace within communities, and between nations.

**LOCKDOWN LIGHT** – A weekly series bringing 'light' to this time of lockdown... Well and truly done with sourdough starters? Not interested in another DIY project? To help fill the void during lockdown, the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne offers some suggestions on content that can bring 'light' to this difficult time. Pop on the kettle and check out the recommendations at: [www.bit.ly/LockdownLight](http://www.bit.ly/LockdownLight)

**QR Codes - Mandatory use of the Victorian Government QR Code Service:** We are required to use this service. Whenever we're permitted to gather for liturgical celebrations, we're strongly encouraged to utilise the **Service Victoria App** with a capable digital device, to register your attendance via **our QR code**, just as you're asked to do at other venues. Digital record keeping is proving vital to efficient contact tracing.

