

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

The godless say to themselves, 'Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing. Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/: The Lord upholds my life.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St James

3:16 – 4:3

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate; it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness. Where do these wars and battles between yourselves first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot

satisfy; so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

**God has called us with the gospel
to share in the glory
of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 9:30-37

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know, because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them, 'The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him. They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the Twelve to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all.' He then took a little child, set him in front of them, put his arms round him, and said to them, 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

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TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

18th / 19th September, 2021



Away from the crowds, Jesus identifies himself as the mysterious Son of Man and predicts his passion, death and resurrection. The disciples did not grasp the meaning of Jesus' words, and they engaged in a heated discussion about status within the community. Jesus had just admitted his ultimate vulnerability, and they were quarrelling about rank. Jesus seized the moment to teach an important lesson: following his own example, those who would be first must be willing to be last. In the world of Jesus' time, neither servants nor children had any legal rights or social status. Jesus turns the social ranking system upside down. Those who hold the highest positions within the community must be willing to take the lowest place and be the servants of all. He offers himself as an example of one who empties himself for the sake of others.

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9555 3557
Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

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

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: 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-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B 18th & 19th September, 2021

PRAYING FOR:

Radovan Kinkela

...and all who died recently.

We also remember:

Vera Moloney,

....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 #47: 10th 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>


CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES VICTORIA - The 19th September 2021, marks Social Services Sunday within the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. On this day we invite all to give thanks and pray for all who stand with and provide support to those who are marginalised and vulnerable within our communities. We recognise with deep gratitude, those working within Catholic Social Services Victoria's 43 member organisations, the 7,000 staff and 17,000 volunteers, who together, serve more than 200,000 people in need each year. We also give thanks for all in our parishes, who are so often at the forefront of providing practical support and care to those in need within their local communities, and beyond.

HEART OF LIFE – Treasuring our Later Years. Reflection series via Zoom, 6 x Wednesdays, 22nd September, 2021 to 27th 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 or for more information, E: secretary@heartoflife.melbourne

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

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



 **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.