

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis

2:7-9; 3:1-7

The Lord God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then he breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being. The Lord God planted a garden in Eden which is in the east, and there he put the man he had fashioned. The Lord God caused to spring up from the soil every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat, with the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden. The serpent was the most subtle of all the wild beasts that the Lord God had made. It asked the woman, 'Did God really say you were not to eat from any of the trees in the garden?' The woman answered the serpent, 'We may eat the fruit of the trees in the garden. But of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden God said, "You must not eat it, nor touch it, under pain of death".' Then the serpent said to the woman, 'No! You will not die! God knows in fact that on the day you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like gods, knowing good and evil.' The woman saw that the tree was good to eat and pleasing to the eye, and that it was desirable for the knowledge that it could give. So she took some of its fruit and ate it. She gave some also to her husband who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they realised that they were naked. So they sewed fig-leaves together to make themselves loin-cloths.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

5:12, 17-19

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. If it is certain that death reigned over everyone as the consequence of one man's fall, it is even more certain that one man, Jesus Christ, will cause everyone to reign in life who receives

the free gift that he does not deserve, of being made righteous. Again, as one man's fall brought condemnation on everyone, so the good act of one man brings everyone life and makes them justified. As by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man's obedience many will be made righteous.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!**

No one lives on bread alone,

But on every word

that comes from the mouth of God. ,

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
king of endless glory!**

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

4:1-11

Jesus was led by the Spirit out into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, after which he was very hungry, and the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves.' But he replied, 'Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.' The devil then took him to the holy city and made him stand on the parapet of the Temple. 'If you are the Son of God,' he said, 'throw yourself down; for scripture says: He will put you in his angels' charge, and they will support you on their hands in case you hurt your foot against a stone.' Jesus said to him, 'Scripture also says: You must not put the Lord your God to the test.' Next, taking him to a very high mountain, the devil showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. 'I will give you all these', he said, 'if you fall at my feet and worship me.' Then Jesus replied, 'Be off, Satan! For scripture says: You must worship the Lord your God, and serve him alone.' Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him.

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

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Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

St Agnes' Parish Highett

Parish Office: 9532 1794

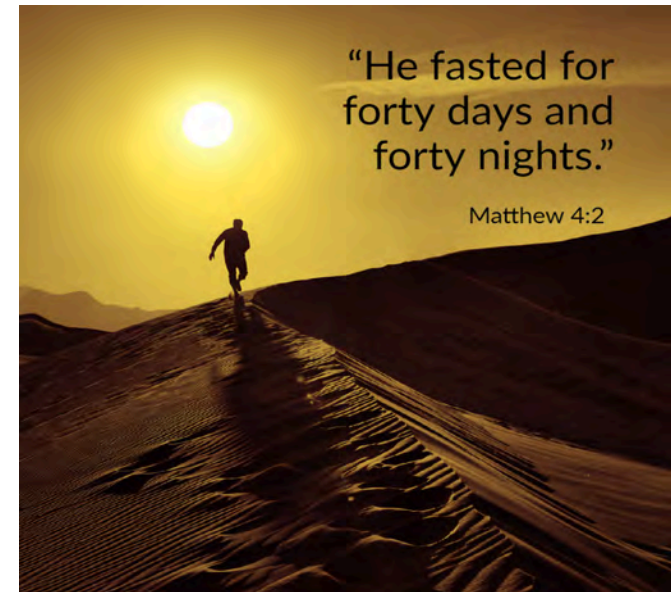
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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A - 25th/ 26th FEBRUARY, 2023



At the beginning of Lent we are invited to acknowledge honestly and realistically our fundamental human weakness. Despite our weaknesses, the situation within which we find ourselves is not hopeless. Somewhere deep within ourselves we know that we are not helpless prisoners of our limitations. God has not deserted us to our guilt. The form that God's compassion takes is outlined in the reading from Romans. It is in the death and resurrection of Jesus that we see the extent of this divine compassion. Its scope is first measured by the yardstick of human sinfulness, and then it outstrips those dimensions. God's gracious gift far exceeds the effects of human transgression. As we look to Jesus, we see humanity at its best, tempted but not overcome. There will certainly always be human limitations, human weaknesses that will open the door to temptation. But Jesus shows us that we are not thereby doomed. Jesus is a model for our own journey to new life. *Dianne Bergant CSA*

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 – 3pm
Secretary: Vino Krishnan
Accountant: Maureen Ryan

OUR SCHOOLS:
Our Lady of the Assumption 9584 9488
Principal: Mr Richard Jacques
Email: rjacques@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au
St Agnes' Primary School 9532 0344
Principal: Mr Lachlan Foott
Email: foott@sahighett.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES – CHELTENHAM & HIGHETT
SATURDAY VIGIL & SUNDAY MASSES:
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 SERVICE (except Public Holidays)
Monday [OLA Church] 9.15 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Wednesday 9:45 am
Saturday 9.30 am
i.e. following Mass (COVID-safe protocols apply)

BAPTISMS: Contact Parish 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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
Year A - 25th / 26th February, 2023

PRAYING FOR:

Yoeun Meas, Barry Brennan,

...and all those who have died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Carmela del Rossi, Stephen Exton,
Giuseppe Ceravolo, Carlo Ceravolo,
Daniel McGannon, Jim Carbon, Tom Duke,
Brigita Dalgleish, Darren Edgar,
Richard Anthony Payne, Kenny King,
Richard John Payne, Bernadette Cutajar,
Mary & Joseph Dunkley, Patrick Pereira,
Eleftherios Koptidis, Jack Holloway,

...and all who we remember at this time.
...and we keep in our prayers all who are currently unwell.

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.

UPDATE ON COVID RESTRICTIONS: General Guidelines from the Archdiocese (Update #61: 12th October, 2022) are available online at:

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>

Readings for this liturgical year from
Advent 2022 to Christ the King 2023 are
taken from Year A in the Lectionary cycle
universalis.com/australia.melbourne/1000/Mass



LENTEN PROGRAMME

2023: The programme we will be following this year is

God is on the Journey, Too by Christopher Monaghan CP. Groups have begun meeting, however any parishioner still interested in participating in this year's Lenten Programme, is asked to contact the parish office on: 9583 6161 or send us an email: cheltenham@cam.org.au.



After losing her father when she was just 10-years-old, **Laxmi** was at risk of falling further into extreme poverty. But with the support of our partner Caritas Nepal, Laxmi joined a child's club, became a leader in her school and is now a mentor to other children in her village.



Please consider donating to **Project Compassion 2023**. Together, we can help vulnerable communities face their challenges today and build a better tomorrow **For All Future Generations**.

You can donate through Project Compassion donation boxes/envelopes available from your parish, by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling 1800 024 413.

Thank You!

Barbara & Bill Torley would like to thank everyone for their cards, good wishes and thoughts on their move to Tassie.

We are settling in well and enjoying having the family so close.
- Barb & Bill



Next Sunday 5th March, you're invited to stay and join fellow parishioners for a cuppa **after the 9am & 11am Masses**, in the OLA Church Meeting Room.



Congratulations to Nora Hammon on her 100th Birthday. Warm wishes from all your friends at OLA.



SECURITY OF THE OLA GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS

Due to an increase in onsite visitors at Our Lady of the Assumption both in the evenings and over the weekends, and that some have been engaging in unsafe practices, in consultation with the police, our neighbours and members of our community, we have decided to lock the pedestrian gates whenever the school is closed with the exception of at Mass times. We apologise for any inconvenience but please know that this decision has been made for the safety and wellbeing of all in our community. Thank you for your understanding and support.

DISPLAY OF THE LAST 70 YEARS OF OLA PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

With our building works on the original school now complete, we are looking to create a display of the last 70 years of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School. We would love to hear from any parishioner who would like to contribute a favourite photo or memory, or why OLA holds a special place in your life. Please contact me via the School Office on: 9584 9488. – *Richard Jacques – Principal (OLA)*



SYRIAN EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

Bishop Robert Rabbat, the Melkite Catholic Eparch, through the Melkite Charitable Foundation (MCF), is desperately seeking funds to support the victims of the Syrian earthquake. Please consider donating to the **Syrian Earthquake Appeal**. Contributions can be made to:

MCF DGR Account Ref: Syrian Appeal

BSB: 062784 Account: 100011493

Donations are tax deductible and for a receipt please email: mcf@melkite.org.au

Phone: (02) 9750 5514 for more information.