

## FIRST READING

**A reading from the book of Genesis**  
**12:1-4**

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.' So Abram went as the Lord told him.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we  
place our trust in you.**

## SECOND READING

**A reading from the Second Letter of St Paul  
to Timothy**  
**1:8-10**

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**  
**From the shining cloud**  
**the Father's voice is heard:**  
**this is my beloved Son, hear him.**  
**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

## GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Matthew**  
**17:1-9**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

## Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

**Parish Office:** 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

**Psychologist:** AnneMaree Eddy

## St Agnes' Parish Highett

**Parish Office:** 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)



## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A – 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2023



Jesus' Transfiguration puts our sacrifices in context, reminding us that Lent is more than a season of self-denial. The only reason we deny ourselves anything or commit ourselves to actions of service for these 40 days is to grow more deeply in love with the God who loves us into life. Penance is not meant to attack our self-esteem, it's intended to help us sort out what really matters, to cast some light in the darkness of our lives and to focus on the relationship which gives meaning and purpose for this world and the next. The God of Mount Tabor is not interested in each of us feeling isolated as we fulfil the letter of a legal code. He wants all of us to have hearts that listen to the Gospel of love so that we can gain the power to transform the world through the sacrifices of our daily lives. On a much gentler scale, Sunday Mass is meant to be a weekly mountaintop experience for us where we hear God call us by name and confess his love for us; where we feel re-energised for the commission we have to bear his light to the world. In this context anything we can do this Lent that helps remove the blocks in our full response to his love, must be worth the effort.

*Richard Leonard SJ*

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

#### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT Year A - 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

#### PRAYING FOR:

Simon Wright, Veronica McGuire,  
Doone Gillespie,  
*...and all those who have died recently.*

#### WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Kevin Linehan, Paul McDonnell,  
Gus Valent, Kit Martin, Marge Rosevear,  
Paul Smiles, Paul Chadwick,

*...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: 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2022) are available online at:

[melbournecatholic.org/covid-19-guidelines](http://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](http://universalis.com/australia.melbourne/1000/Mass)



Tereesa is a Gamilaroi woman from Western Sydney who struggled with homelessness while raising her four children. Through the Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation's Young Mums and Bubs Group, Tereesa was able to reconnect with her culture and create a better future for her children.



#### 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](http://caritas.org.au/project-compassion), or by calling 1800 024 413.



#### This Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March,

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



**OLA KNITTING GROUP** will next meet on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March at 1pm in the Church Meeting Room. All are welcome. The next **Knitting Stall** will be held at OLA on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March after the 9am and 11am Masses. All proceeds will go to the St Vincent De Paul Cheltenham Conference.



#### UPCOMING FUNERALS

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March  
(OLA Church)  
**Doone Gillespie (RIP)**  
11am Funeral Mass



#### 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 Eparchy, 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](mailto:mcf@melkite.org.au)

Phone: (02) 9750 5514 for more information.



REMEMBER  
CELEBRATE  
IMAGINE



CATHOLIC  
THEOLOGICAL  
COLLEGE



UNIVERSITY  
OF DIVINITY

Enrolments are still open for Semester 1 at **Catholic Theological College**.

We have many areas of study that may be of interest such as *John Henry Newman and the Church in the Nineteenth Century, Pastoral Leadership for a Safe Church and many online options*

For more information contact:  
[registrar@ctc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@ctc.edu.au) or visit [ctc.edu.au](http://ctc.edu.au)