FIRST READING

A reading from the Second Book of the 4:8-11. 14-16 **Kings**

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.' One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said. 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life. But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him anymore. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider vourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia! You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light. Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. 'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me: and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me. 'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward. 'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'



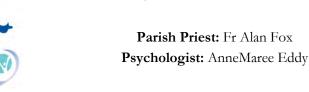
This Sunday 2nd July, you're invited to stay and join fellow parishioners for a cuppa after the 9am & 11am Masses, in the OLA Church Meeting Room.

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

Parish Office: 9583 6161

9 Centre Dandenong Road, Cheltenham. 3192

Email: Cheltenham@cam.org.au Website: www.olacheltenham.org.au



St Agnes' Parish Highett

Parish Office: 9532 1794 1 Locinda Street, Highett. 3190 Email: Highett@cam.org.au

Website: www.sahighett.org.au



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 1st / 2nd JULY, 2023



The cost of discipleship cuts right to the core of our beings, it lays bare the very structures of kinship. Baptism recreates us as children of God; through it we are given a new life and born into a new family. The bonds of discipleship are now even stronger than the bonds of blood. Discipleship requires our very lives. As disciples we can no longer put ourselves first. We must be willing to spend ourselves and to be spent, to serve others in the day to day unfolding of life. We may find such commitment very demanding, but that is part of the cost of discipleship. God promises that if we lose our lives in this way, we will really gain them. If we are unselfish in the way we share ourselves with others, we will be enriched through our generosity. If we spend ourselves and are spent in our service of others we will be filled with blessings unimaginable.

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 6161Monday - Friday9am - 3pmSecretary:Vino KrishnanAccountant: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: Ifoott@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:

[St Agnes Church]	9.00 am
[OLA Church]	6.00 pm
[OLA Church]	9.15 am
[OLA Church]	9.15 am
[St Agnes Church]	9.00 am
[OLA Church]	9.00 am
	[OLA Church] [OLA Church] [OLA Church] [St Agnes Church]

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.

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year A -1st/2nd July, 2023

PRAYING FOR:

Nora Hammon, Josip Buhanec, Jane Healey, Rosa Trantino, Hazel Harold, Casey Levers, Gary Liddell, Philip Gurry, Patrick Barry, Earl Edwards,

... and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Neliya Edema, Salvatore Di Pietro, Leo Barry, Joseph Rocha, James Brooks, Anthonius Tetteroo, Eileen Dillon, Robert O'Connor, Nellie Andrews, Cynthia Rocha, Mick Sullivan, Mavis D'Souza,

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

Readings for this liturgical year from Advent 2022 to Christ the King 2023 are taken from Year A in the Lectionary cycle

Should you wish to view the Scripture Readings for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical Calendar) please visit:

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.

UPDATE ON COVID RESTRICTIONS:

General Guidelines from the Archdiocese (Update #62: 26 November, 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

OLA KNITTING GROUP The Knitting Stall will be held at OLA this Sunday 2nd July after the 9am and 11am Masses. All Blankets are \$20 with proceeds going to SVDP 2023 Winter Appeal.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES VICTORIA AND CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES AUSTRALIA invite you to join them in a Webinar Series on the:

'Indigenous Voice To Parliament – Moments for healing this country'.

Date: Thursday 27th July

Venue: via Zoom (link will be provided) Enquiries: Kate Stilwell: office@css.org.au Book here: trybooking.com/events/landing/1052799

NAIDOC WEEK (2-9 July 2023) provides an opportunity for all Australians to join in celebrating the culture and aspirations and hopes of Indigenous and Torres Strait Islanders. And to listen to their voice. The theme of NAIDOC Week this year reaches out to all Australians as we prepare for the Referendum on the Voice. It invites us to reflect on and respect Our Elders. This is a cause that joins First Nations peoples and other Australians in a celebration each of our own roots and in respect for our own wise persons. It draws our attention to the wisdom figures who represent the deepest, purest streams of our culture and not its gutters. They also hold the living truth of our history. NAIDOC Week is about more than protest and a demand for respect. It is about making a more just and decent Australia in which all people can be proud of the society that they have built, in which justice, equality and a fair go are not just words but are expressed in the way people are treated. That is a shared pride. It is what our Elders want. They contributed richly to the Uluru Statement from the Heart. We should honour them by ensuring that the Referendum is passed.

Fr Andrew Hamilton SJ

† UPCOMING FUNERAL MASS †

Thursday 6th July at 11.00am (OLA) **Nora Hammon (RIP)**

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

A total of \$968.15 was raised across both parishes for the Peter's Pence collection last weekend. Thank you for your generosity and support of the Holy Father's universal mission.



HEART OF LIFE CENTRE FOR SPIRITUAL & PASTORAL FORMATION

TREASURING OUR LATER YEARS

Saturday 5th August 2023, 10am-4pm.

Ageing offers new possibilities in my life now: spirituality; what is giving my life meaning?; relationships; gratitude; death – mystery; intimacy and delight in God's presence. This popular reflection day is led by Sr Nicole Rotaru RSM.

WINDOWS ONTO GOD

Saturday 29th July 2023, 10am-3pm.

The windows explored are incarnation, darkness, abundance and self- acceptance. Incarnation, seen in the broad sense of God being in the world, takes in the joy of being alive. With this joy, there is the experience of darkness, which is also part of our human reality. Abundance picks up the theme of incarnation. It reminds us that God is lavish with her/his gifts and wants us to enjoy them. Self-acceptance is linked to these themes since it means accepting both the darkness and the light in ourselves. An interactive event allowing time for reflection and sharing, facilitated by Br Tim Lockwood cfc.

Cost \$60 (BYO lunch).

Book via: www.heartoflife.melbourne

Heart of Life Centre for Spiritual & Pastoral Formation, Rear 41 Stanhope Street, Malvern,

Email: info@heartoflife.melbourne

Telephone: (03) 9890 1101.