

FIRST READING

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah
20:10-13**

Jeremiah said: 'I hear so many disparaging me, "Terror from every side! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All those who used to be my friends watched for my downfall, "Perhaps he will be seduced into error. Then we will master him and take our revenge!" But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero; my opponents will stumble, mastered, confounded by their failure; everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be theirs. But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with justice, who scrutinise the loins and heart, let me see the vengeance you will take on them, for I have committed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of evil men.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ Lord, in your great love,
answer me.**

SECOND READING

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Romans 5:12-15**

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. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law. Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!
The Spirit of Truth will bear witness
to me, says the Lord,
and you also will be my witnesses.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew 10:26-33**

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops. 'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows. 'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

GOSPEL FOCUS

Fear

When scripture uses the term fear, it tends to fall into one of two meanings. When used in the context of 'do not be afraid' or 'fear not', it is a command to not be daunted by the woes and trials that the world imposes. The other use tends to be a command that we should fear God. In this context, the word does not mean to be frightened of God but rather to show proper reverence. To fear God is to stand in wonder and awe rather than to cower and hide. So, fear God, but do not be afraid!

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

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Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

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TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 24th / 25th JUNE, 2023

"So there is no need
to be afraid; you
are worth more than
hundreds of sparrows."

Matthew 10:31



The demands of discipleship can be very difficult. The strength that is needed to continue on the chosen path despite its hardships can come only from God. Paul assures us that the gracious gift that God offers us is far greater than the transgressions brought on by sin. This gracious gift is Jesus Christ himself. The gift exceeds anything for which we might have hoped. He is the comfort that will carry us through our disappointments. He is the strength that will enable us to endure the misunderstanding and hardship that come with discipleship. We are called to acknowledge him before the world, and we are promised that if we do, he will acknowledge us before God. There is light even in the midst of darkness. There is hope even in the midst of suffering.

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: principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au
St Agnes' Primary School 9532 0344
Principal: Mr Lachlan Foott
Email: 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.

TWELFTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
Year A - 24th / 25th June, 2023

PRAYING FOR:

Gosia Palak, Rocco Migliorese,
John Nebreda, Anne Butler,
David O'Donovan, Monica Touhy,
... and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Monica Alderton, Grace Andrews,
Phoebe Wilson, Pat Molloy, John Lambert,
Derek Lambert, Moli Bukasongo,
Slavica Madarevic, Doreen Stevens,
Alexander Stevens,
....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
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 will
next meet on Tuesday 27th June at
1pm in the Church Meeting Room.
All are most welcome. The upcoming **Knitting
Stall** will be held at OLA on Sunday 2nd July
after the 9am and 11am Masses. All Blankets
\$20 with proceeds to SVDP Winter Appeal.



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL 2023
WINTER APPEAL** The
Cheltenham St Vincent de Paul
Conference is requesting donations of money
(cash/credit card) & non-perishable food, in
support of this year's Winter Appeal. Thanks to
your past generosity our volunteers have been
able to provide much appreciated help to the
needy in our area. Our volunteers will be in the
Foyer of OLA church **this weekend, the 25th of
June**, to receive your donation. Thank you for
your generous support.



**“THE VOICE: YES – OUR
RESPONSE TO THE
ULURU STATEMENT OF
THE HEART”** Fr Frank
Brennan SJ will give a talk at the
Hampton RSL on Wednesday,
12th July for Spirituality in the Pub. Bookings are
essential by Thursday 30th June. Meals from
6.00pm, followed by Fr Frank's presentation at
7.30pm, conversation and conclusion about
9.00pm. Sharing a meal is an important part of
the evening. For bookings and enquiries contact
Michele michelekennan@presvic.org.au or mobile
0415 956 107, or Catriona devlinc@bigpond.com
or mobile 0419 109 830.

**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’*.

Dates: Thursdays 29th June and 27th July
Venue: via Zoom (link will be provided)
Enquiries: Kate Stilwell: office@css.org.au
Book here: trybooking.com/events/landing/1052799



Next 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.



The **OLA GARDENING GROUP** will have
a working bee on **Saturday 1st July at 10 am**.
Bad weather has prevented the group from the
June gathering! If you have an hour to spare
on that Saturday, the group would appreciate
your help. Bring gloves and your favourite
tools. Your help would be most appreciated.
Contact John Tetteroo at 9583 4628.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

There will be a special collection for the
intentions of the Holy Father this weekend.
The Peter's Pence offerings are designated to
support the Holy Father's apostolic and
charitable activities in favour of the
universal Church and the entire world.
Helping the Holy Father exercise his
universal mission, you join with others
across the world in supporting urgent
projects including emergency assistance to
those in need due to natural disasters,
communities impacted by coronavirus,
conflict, oppression and disease. Our
generosity allows the Holy Father to respond
to those suffering with love and compassion.
Each donation, small or large, also has a
powerful symbolic value – it is a concrete
sign of communion with the Holy Father.

