

FIRST READING

**A reading from the first book of the Kings
3:5. 7-12**

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Lord, I love your commands.

SECOND READING

**A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans
8:28-30**

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth;
You have revealed to little ones
the mysteries of the kingdom.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
13:44-52**

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

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Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 29th / 30th JULY, 2023

**"The kingdom
of heaven
is like treasure
hidden in
a field which
someone
has found."**

Matthew 13:44



The treasure is the kingdom of heaven. It is the prize that gives meaning to the present, and its fullest delight which is the joy that we experience when we realise that the treasure is ours, draws us into the future. The reign of God is the fulfilment of our deepest desires and our fondest hopes. Nothing in the world can compare with it, and that is why we are willing to sacrifice everything to attain it. The treasure that we find is really an extraordinary gift that is given. We need not work to attain the kingdom, nor can we earn it in any way. It is given to us by God. All we have to do is accept it. Solomon chose to be of service to others. In this he is a model for disciples to follow. We have discovered the treasure in the field; we have found the pearl of great price. What we have been given, we must now give to others. In giving we will lose nothing. In fact, we gain an abundance of blessings. All things work for good, and God is glorified in all. Such is the character of the kingdom of God.

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: 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.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
Year A - 29th / 30th July, 2023

PRAYING FOR:

Lorraine Lack, Jean Ganther,
Romeo Rovira, Steve Rathe, Francis Yang,
Tony Corcoran,
... and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Jorge Chacon, Angeles Esquivel,
Margaret Kelly, Cecilio Rivera,
Helmut Arias, Lily Dunne,
Emir Nunes Moreira, Trevor Rowland,
Mary Emmanuel, Marco Paoli, Sheila Fury,
Marie Wilson, Paul Flood, Ruby Holloway,
Dorothy George, Maureen Noonan,
Tom Whitelaw,

....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.

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>

 **RCIA** *Are you curious about
the Catholic Faith?*
*Are you interested in
becoming a Catholic? Are you keen to support
people on their journey of Faith?* Shortly, our
Parish team will be beginning a Journey of Faith
for those in our community interested in
becoming a Catholic. It is a journey of
discernment with a group, and usually reception
next Easter. We are open to all needs! The
'process' is called - The RCIA ~ The Rite of
Christian Initiation for Adults. It is comprised of
those wishing to be baptised as Catholics, those
wanting full communion with the Catholic
Church but baptised in other faiths and those
community members aiming to deepen their
faith. If you are interested please contact Moira
at 9583 4628. We also need members of our
Parish community to be involved, thank you.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL
HAMPTON REGIONAL
COUNCIL – 2023 FESTIVAL
MASS AND GATHERING



Incorporating the celebration of 70 years of
St Agnes Highett Conference.

When: Saturday 12th August
Time: 6pm
Where: St Agnes' Church, Highett

RSVP: by Friday 4th August to Patricia
Hickey at patriciahickey54@gmail.com.

Please note: your RSVP is essential to assist
us with planning and catering. This inspiring
event which celebrates our year in service
will include Mass, the Commissioning of St
Vincent de Paul Society Presidents,
Commissioning and Recommissioning of St
Vincent de Paul Society Members, Associate
Members and Volunteers and the
Presentation of Long Service badges and
acknowledgment of Emeritus Vincentians.
Supper provided.

All families, friends and fellow parishioners
are invited to come along.

IMPORTANT PARISH CONSULTATIONS
Archbishop Peter has invited both our parish
communities to participate in a process of
consultation and discernment re. the future
configuration of our region of the
Archdiocese. Two consultation sessions are
planned. The first of these is scheduled for
**Tuesday 22nd August from 7pm – 9pm in
OLA church.** The second meeting will be a
morning meeting at St Agnes' church on a
date still to be confirmed. We hope the
Archdiocese can confirm the day and time of
the second consultation in the coming days.
Please keep an eye out for this in next
weekend's bulletin. Please consider being a
part of one of these sessions, so that the
diverse needs and hopes of our parishioners
can be heard, and subsequently inform future
decision making, not only at the local level,
but also at the Archdiocesan level. I hope as
many parishioners as possible will participate
in this consultation process, so I strongly
encourage you to come along to one of these
sessions. – Fr Alan



Next Sunday 6th August, you're
invited to stay and join fellow
parishioners for a cuppa **after the 9am & 11am
Masses**, in the OLA Church Meeting Room.

ST AGNES/OLA PARISH SOCIAL LUNCH



The next combined
Parish Social Lunch
will be at **12 noon on
Thursday, 3rd August**,
at the **Highett RSL**. All are most welcome.

Please RSVP by Monday 31st July to:
Karen Mitri: 0411 354 670 or 9553 0350
or via email: karen.mitri@gmail.com

To view **Margo McCormick's 100th Birthday**
celebration photos taken last
weekend, go to the following
shared page on Google Drive:



https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-4wH46v_9k9c-QSDawrmMK_WIGHbuXZQ?usp=sharing