

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

55:6-9

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ The Lord is near to all who call him.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians

1:20-24. 27

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

20:1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

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TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A - 23rd / 24th SEPTEMBER, 2023

'WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES'



A Mighty River

Amos 5: 24

**Let Justice
and Peace Flow**
Season of Creation 2023

WEEK 4

Today's gospel reading shows how the graciousness of God can be easily mistaken for injustice. On the one hand, it does not seem fair to pay all of the labourers the same wage regardless of the amount of time they worked. On the other hand, they all received exactly the amount for which they had contracted. Therefore, there was no injustice. In the owner's payment we find the shift in perspective that we have come to expect in Jesus' parables. He demonstrates the eschatological reversal: the last shall be first. The real paradox is seen in his generosity, which supersedes his justice. It is clear that justice and grace do not always fit well together. This parable shows that the reign of God is based on the latter, not the former.

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: lfoott@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
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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.

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 23rd / 24th September, 2023

PRAYING FOR:

Sr Anne Boyd CSB,
... and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Rosalia Nombrado, Teodoro Misajon,
Lurline McDonald, Mary Evans,
Bede Gilmore, Clara Rappai, Anne Noone,
Jack Stiglitz, Livia Polgar, Sam Carter,
Phylis Smith, James Davidson,
Fr John Rate MSC, Zachary Gleeson,
John Boyle, Francis Boyle.

....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>



Next Sunday 1st October,
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, 5th October**,
at the **Highett RSL**. All are most welcome.
Please RSVP by Monday 2nd October to:
Karen Mitri: 0411 354 670 or 9553 0350
or via email: karen.mitri@gmail.com

2024 OLA FETE CHAIR OR CO-CHAIRS

Biannually we look forward to our
famous fun filled OLA Fete. We have
tentatively booked the Fete for 2024 on
Saturday 23rd November. To ensure this
special event can take place, we are calling on
(a) member/s of our community to lead the
Fete Committee for 2024. In the 2022 Fete
two people co-chaired this great event and
shared the workload. This can be a fun way of
raising thousands of dollars for our OLA
community. Our last Fete raised enough
money to purchase the furniture in the new
Library. We will need to confirm that we have
a lead person or team of leaders by Friday 27th
October. You're welcome to speak with me in
person or via email. Thanks, Richard Jacques.
principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au.

BRIGIDINE ASYLUM SEEKERS PROJECT (BASP)

This weekend we conclude
the appeal for donations of certain types of food
and cleaning products for refugees and asylum
seekers. Please leave donations in the box/basket
labelled **BASP Food & Cleaning Products.**,
that are located in each of our church foyers For
more information, please contact Adrian Foley at
ade.foley@gmail.com or on mobile 0497 780 233.
Thank you.



**Let Justice
and Peace Flow**
Season of Creation 2023

A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

THE SEASON OF CREATION is an
opportunity for each of us to reflect on where our
heart is – are we trapped in fear or selfishness, or
are we grateful for everything around us? The
Season invites us to reflect on how blessed we
are, and to support God's creation in every way
we can. Pope Francis challenges us to see things
this way: "...there is a clear link between the
protection of nature and the building of a just and
equitable social order. There can be no renewal
of our relationship with nature, without a
renewal of humanity itself." (Nairobi, Kenya,
2015).

TREE PLANTING To commemorate this
year's Season of Creation and our commitment to
caring more deeply for God's Creation, we will
plant a beautiful indigenous tree in the OLA
church grounds after the 9am Mass this Sunday,
24th September. Everyone is most welcome to
gather after Mass for this short tree planting
ceremony! In coming weeks, similar tree
plantings will take place in the grounds of St
Agnes church, and OLA and St Agnes primary
schools. Keep an eye out for more details. Thank
you to Bill and Wilma Pimm for their generous
donation of the four indigenous trees.



PLEASE NOTE: The
Parish Office at OLA will
be **closed on Friday 29th
September**, for the Grand
Final Public Holiday.

**A REMINDER: DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS BEGINS NEXT
WEEKEND.** Our clocks go
forward one hour at **2am** on
Sunday 1st October, 2023.

