

## FIRST READING

### A reading from the prophet Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Remember your mercies. O Lord.

## SECOND READING

### A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Philippians 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus: His state was divine, yet he did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave, and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death

on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice,  
says the Lord;  
I know them, and they follow me.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL READING

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.

## Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

Parish Office: 9583 6161

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Website: [www.olacheltenham.org.au](http://www.olacheltenham.org.au)



Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

## St Agnes' Parish Highett

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TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR A - 30<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER / 1<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER, 2023



A Mighty River

Amos 5: 24

Let Justice  
and Peace Flow  
Season of Creation 2023

WEEK 5

We are called to discipleship, and it is an invitation that is to be accepted freely. As is the case with life itself, options are placed before us all the way along the road. We are invited to choose in favour of the reign of God, or we are free to ignore the invitation. However, the invitation always remains open to us, because God's desire for our acceptance is persistent and enduring. The real choice set before us today is the imitation of Christ. The specific characteristic of Christ today is his humility. Since demanding one's rights can undermine the loving quality of community, Jesus' humility is offered for our imitation. It is very clear that whichever aspect of discipleship we examine, some aspect of community is also present. To be a disciple of Jesus is to follow him humbly as a member of a believing community.

Dianne Bergant CSA

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: Vино Krishnan  
Accountant: Maureen Ryan

#### OUR SCHOOLS:

Our Lady of the Assumption 9584 9488  
Principal: Mr Richard Jacques  
Email: [principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au)  
St Agnes' Primary School 9532 0344  
Principal: Mr Lachlan Foott  
Email: [foott@sahighett.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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.

#### TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 30<sup>th</sup> September / 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2023

##### PRAYING FOR:

Pauline Rice, Alistair Folley, Tony Donnell,  
... and all those who died recently.

##### WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Brian Hodgson, Moyha Bettess,  
Frank Forbes, Bill Wilson,  
Celie McDonald, Karlo Zufic,  
Dorothy Ryan, Fausta Saguimpa,  
Jack Wishart, Jack Moloney,  
James Robinson, Florence Driscoll,  
Norma O'Connor, Dorothy Gurnett,  
Francisco Garcia, Elisea Garcia,

....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](http://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>



This Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> 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, 5<sup>th</sup> October**,  
at the **Highett RSL**. All are most welcome.  
**Please RSVP by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October** to:  
Karen Mitri: 0411 354 670 or 9553 0350  
or via email: [karen.mitri@gmail.com](mailto: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 23<sup>rd</sup>  
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 27<sup>th</sup>  
October. You're welcome to speak with me in  
person or via email. Thanks, Richard Jacques.  
[principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au).



##### WEDDING AT ST AGNES'

We extend our congratulations  
and best wishes to:

*Fedora Fernandez*

&

*Adriano Galesso Alves*

who celebrated their wedding at St Agnes'  
Church this weekend.

**PARISH CONSULTATION SESSION  
REPORT** Thank you to all of you who  
contributed to the recent consultation  
process about the reconfiguration of Bayside  
Catholic Mission and adjoining parishes. A  
report has been prepared by the Office of the  
Vicar General, that summarises the  
discussion from all of the sessions. It can be  
downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/46rLYgk>



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

**THE SEASON OF CREATION** We are now  
at the final weekend of this year's Season of  
Creation which will conclude on 4 October, the  
feast of St Francis of Assisi. We can be happy and  
filled with hope because there are so many of us  
around the world celebrating in unity for our  
common home. Let us carry our renewed  
relationship with God, each other and our world  
into the days ahead. Let us continue to reflect on  
the theme for this year's Season of Creation: **Let  
Justice and Peace Flow**. Pope Francis reminds  
us that "like a river basin with its many tiny and  
larger tributaries, the Church is a communion of  
countless local Churches, religious communities  
and associations that draw from the same shared  
waters. Each source adds its unique and  
irreplaceable contribution, until all flow together  
into the vast ocean of God's loving mercy. In the  
same way that a river is a source of life for its  
surroundings, our synodal Church must be a  
source of life for our common home and all its  
inhabitants. In the same way that a river gives life  
to all kinds of animal and plant life, a synodal  
Church must give life by sowing justice and  
peace in every place it reaches." (From Pope  
Francis' Message for the World Day of Prayer for  
Care of Creation 2023).

**OLA KNITTING GROUP** will next meet on  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 1pm in the Church  
Meeting Room. All are most welcome.