

## FIRST READING

### A reading from the prophet Malachi

**1:14-2:2. 8-10**

I am a great king, says the Lord of hosts, and my name is feared throughout the nations. And now, priests, this warning is for you. If you do not listen, if you do not find it in your heart to glorify my name, says the Lord of hosts, I will send the curse on you and curse your very blessing. You have strayed from the way; you have caused many to stumble by your teaching. You have destroyed the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts. And so I in my turn have made you contemptible and vile in the eyes of the whole people in repayment for the way you have not kept to my paths but have shown partiality in your administration. Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us? Why, then, do we break faith with one another, profaning the covenant of our ancestors?

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ In you, Lord, I have found my peace.**

## SECOND READING

### A reading from the First Letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

**2:7-9. 13**

Like a mother feeding and looking after her own children, we felt so devoted and protective towards you, and had come to love you so much, that we were eager to hand over to you not only the Good News but our whole lives as well. Let me remind you, brothers, how hard we used to work, slaving night and day so as not to be a burden on any one of you while we were proclaiming God's Good News to you. Another reason why we constantly thank God for you is that as soon as you heard the

message that we brought you as God's message, you accepted it for what it really is, God's message and not some human thinking; and it is still a living power among you who believe it.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!  
You have one Father,  
your Father in heaven;  
you have one teacher:  
the Lord Jesus Christ.  
Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**23:1-12**

Addressing the people and his disciples Jesus said, 'The scribes and the Pharisees occupy the chair of Moses. You must therefore do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do: since they do not practise what they preach. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but will they lift a finger to move them? Not they! Everything they do is done to attract attention, like wearing broader phylacteries and longer tassels, like wanting to take the place of honour at banquets and the front seats in the synagogues, being greeted obsequiously in the market squares and having people call them Rabbi. 'You, however, must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi, since you have only one Master, and you are all brothers. You must call no one on earth your father, since you have only one Father, and he is in heaven. Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers, for you have only one Teacher, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant. Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

## Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

**Parish Office:** 9583 6161

9 Centre Dandenong Road, Cheltenham. 3192

**Email:** [Cheltenham@cam.org.au](mailto:Cheltenham@cam.org.au)

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



**Parish Priest:** Fr Alan Fox  
**Psychologist:** AnneMaree Eddy

## St Agnes' Parish Highett

**Parish Office:** 9532 1794

1 Locinda Street, Highett. 3190

**Email:** [Highett@cam.org.au](mailto:Highett@cam.org.au)

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



**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**YEAR A - 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2023**

**"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled;  
but whoever humbles himself will be exalted."**



Matthew 23:12

By virtue of their baptism, all Christians are called to discipleship, which includes active participation in the mission of the church. In today's first reading however, Jesus' condemnation, along with the condemnation of the priests should be a warning to all who in any way exercise leadership. We must always be on our guard lest the trappings of leadership ensnare us and we fail in our responsibilities toward God and the community we serve. There is a mode of leadership that reflects the very meaning of authority. This way of leadership authors life. It is characterised by the striking image of a nursing mother who both gives and sustains life. Those who exercise leadership in this way create a community where life is fostered, not stifled, where talents serve all of the members, and the talents of all of the members are invited to serve. Such a community not only nurtures its members, it is itself the author of life in the world.

*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: Vino 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: [lfoott@sahighett.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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

**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.

**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2023**

**PRAYING FOR:**

Elaine Thomson, Emma Mallozzi,  
Lorraine Lack, Joyce Debernard,  
Benedicta Adeponle, Felicity Rhodes,  
Junior Lawrence,

*... and all those who died recently.*

**WE ALSO REMEMBER:**

Aniela Regulska, Antonino Fucile,  
Antonia Fucile, Francesco Fucile,  
Giuseppe Fucile, Maria Salanitri,  
Salvatore Fucile, Grazia Castro,  
Carmelo Fucile, Giovanni Fucile,  
Marco Paoli, Daniel Paoli, Ian Welling,  
Nancy Foley, Vjekoslav Madarevic,  
Slavica Madarevic, Adam Madarevic,  
William Dean, Monina Garcia, Rain Isturis,  
Frances Max, Charles Farrugia,  
Mervyn Patterson, Eldon Rozario,  
David Barrile,

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

*...and we keep in our prayers all who are  
currently unwell.*

**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>

**† UPCOMING FUNERAL †**

Funeral Prayers  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 11.00am (OLA)  
**Leo Gerald Healey (RIP)**

*May his soul and the souls of all our faithful  
departed, rest in peace.*



**MONTH OF NOVEMBER  
Remembering Our Dearly Departed**

**The Cross of Remembrance**

You are invited to inscribe the names of your dear loved ones who have died. A cross is located near the Altar in each of our churches.

November Offering envelopes are available in our church foyers and at the Remembrance Crosses, for those who would like Masses offered for deceased loved ones.



**This Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November**, you're invited to stay and join fellow parishioners for a cuppa **after the 9am & 11am Masses**, in the OLA Church Meeting Room.

**THE RECENT SYNOD IN ROME** has concluded and the work to carry forward the fruits of the assembly will begin in earnest. Decisions will be made about how we as the local Church will continue the Synod's work over the next twelve months. The Synod calls us to become a listening Church, a discerning Church and a faithful, trusting, mission-oriented Church: in the deepest sense of the word we are becoming a 'synodal' Church. The Archbishop of Perth, Timothy Costelloe SDB, who was a participant in the Synod, offers his thoughts on 'Walking Together'. You may be interested to read his weekly blog: [perthcatholic.org.au/Our\\_Archdiocese-Archbishop-Latest\\_News](http://perthcatholic.org.au/Our_Archdiocese-Archbishop-Latest_News)

**CATHOLIC MISSION SUNDAY APPEAL**  
**Thank you.** \$2,255.25 was raised across both our parishes, and sent on to Catholic Mission.

**BAYSIDE AREA PARISHES – NEW CONFIGURATION** Archbishop Comensoli has written 'To the priests and parishioners of the greater Bayside area', detailing the reconfiguration of the parishes in our area. This letter, with a map, can be downloaded here:

[olacheltenham.org.au/news/](http://olacheltenham.org.au/news/)

There are also a few printed copies available.



**PRISON SUNDAY 2023**

The Australian Catholic Bishops commenced Prison Sunday in 2016, during the Year of Mercy introduced by Pope Francis. Today we remember prisoners and their families, victims of crime, their communities and all those working in the criminal justice system, including prison staff and chaplains of the major religious denominations, including Catholic. CatholicCare Victoria's prison chaplains visit every prison in Victoria, offering emotional, spiritual and sacramental support to residents. Chaplains listen, connect, and comfort people who may otherwise feel lost or abandoned. They arrange weekly Mass, help new arrivals adjust to their surroundings, and advocate for their needs. Please pray for everyone connected with the prison system this weekend, that they may receive our respect, compassion and justice. You can donate to CatholicCare Victoria at:

[www.catholiccarevic.org.au/donations](http://www.catholiccarevic.org.au/donations)

**GROWING VITAL PARISHES: Vision, Leadership and Collaboration: A regional gathering with Ron Huntley.** Based in Canada, Ron Huntley works internationally with Church leaders to achieve fruitful parish missionary renewal. When: **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023**, from 7–9pm at **St Peter's Church, 844 Centre Rd, East Bentleigh**. Though ticketed, this gathering is free to attend.



Bookings are essential as numbers are limited: Go to the following Trybooking link: [www.trybooking.com/CMUOP](http://www.trybooking.com/CMUOP) or scan the QR Code.