

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

5:1-7

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ The vineyard of the Lord
is the House of Israel.**

SECOND READING

**A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the
Philippians**

4:6-9

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally,

brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt
from my Father.**

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

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

21:33-43

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

...continued overleaf

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

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Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

St Agnes' Parish Highett

Parish Office: 9532 1794

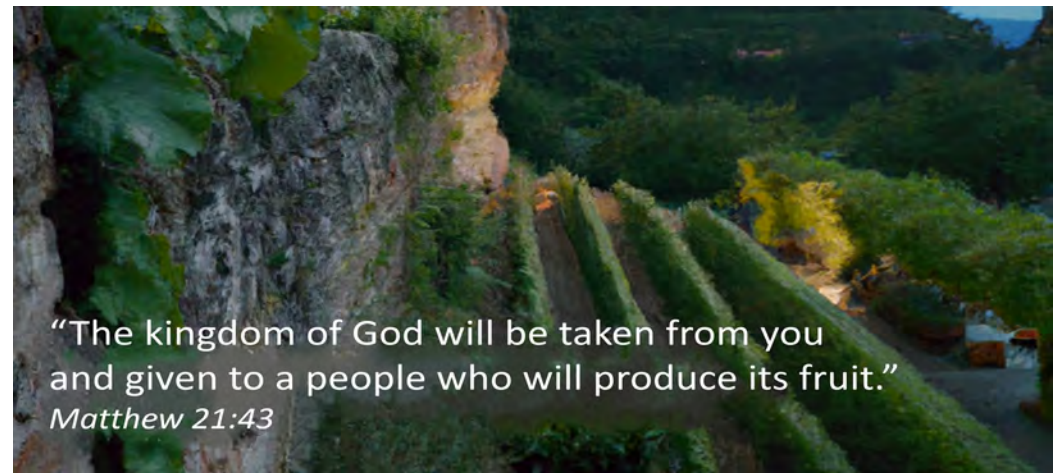
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**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A - 7th / 8th OCTOBER, 2023**



The reign of God must be tended and protected from what might endanger it, so that it may produce abundant and delectable fruit. In the gospel account, the vine does indeed produce an abundant crop. In fact, it is the very productivity of the vineyard that sets the stage for the treachery described. We can see ourselves in both uses of the vineyard metaphor. There are times when, regardless of what God seems to be doing for us, we simply rebel against God's plans. We stand in defiance. There are other times when we, who are disciples of Jesus, act as if the kingdom is ours. We might even marginalise or force out others with whom we do not agree, so that we have sole control. When we consider the justice of God, it is important that we place it within the right context, lest we create a picture of God that is false and misleading. It is because of God's tender love for the vineyard that treachery cannot be tolerated. If we have produced unacceptable fruits, it is for our own good that God steps in and dismantles the structures that enabled us to produce bad fruit. It is appropriate that God would snatch the vineyard from our grasp and entrust it to one who will faithfully carry out God's plans.

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-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 7th / 8th October, 2023

PRAYING FOR:

Shirley Duncan, Darlene Usher,
Angela Settineri, Villamena Ryan,

... and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Jacob Castillo, Philomena Alderton,
Daniel Paoli, Sabina Delbalso,
Maureen Reidy, Paul Gamble,
Lillian Fowler, Michael McGurn,
Molly Kelly, Nancy Waterstone,
Serge Jasmin, Sam Carter, Bill Clark,
Max Raimbert, Francoise de los Angeles,
Rain Istoris,

*....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>

**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>

2024 OLA FETE CHAIR OR CO-CHAIRS

Biannually we look forward to our famous fun
filled OLA Fete. We have tentatively booked
the **2024 Fete** 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.



OLA SCHOOL REUNION
Pupils and Staff (1956-1963) are
cordially invited to a school reunion
luncheon at the Tudor Inn on
Sunday 22nd October at 12.30pm. Partners
are welcome. For enquiries, please contact
Sr Margaret Pelly on 9584 5585.

REFERENDUM: a Voice to Parliament Next
Saturday Australia will vote in a Referendum to
amend its Constitution to include a First Nations
Voice to Parliament. On Friday 13th October,
8.30-9.30am Catholic Social Services will
convene an online prayer event ahead of the
Referendum, entitled One Journey, Together.
This will be an opportunity to pause, and to reflect
on our hopes for the referendum, reconciliation
more broadly and for what will follow. Register
online at: trybooking.com/events/landing/1125059

GOSPEL READING *continued...*

Now when the owner of the vineyard comes,
what will he do to those tenants?' They
answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a
wretched end and lease the vineyard to other
tenants who will deliver the produce to him
when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them,
'Have you never read in the scriptures: It was
the stone rejected by the builders that became
the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is
wonderful to see? 'I tell you, then, that the
kingdom of God will be taken from you and
given to a people who will produce its fruit.'



BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND

With great joy the Church of God
formally welcomes: Leo Lomacchio
and Camilla Fabian, whose
Baptisms we celebrate this weekend.



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

A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

SEASON OF CREATION We hope you have
appreciated the liturgies and actions (songs,
prayers of the faithful, messages in Fr Alan's
homilies, prayers after Mass, lectern quilts, tree
plantings, BASP collection) during the Season of
Creation 2023 which ended on 4 October with
the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. Pope Francis
released **Laudate Deum** (Praise God), his update
to **Laudate Si**, this week, see tinyurl.com/22m79re6.
This Saturday, before Mass at 6.00pm, we will
plant a tree at St Agnes to thank God for creation.

The quilted banner on the lectern at St Agnes'
church will remain in place as a continuing
reminder of God's flow of justice, peace and
mercy. The twin quilt in Our Lady's church will
now be sent to the National Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council palliative
care project. Details at [Palliative Care Packages
natsicc.org.au/palliative-care-packages.html](https://natsicc.org.au/palliative-care-packages.html).

Margaret – Care for Our Common Home Group