

## FIRST READING

### A reading from the book of Wisdom

6:12-16

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ My soul is thirsting for you,  
O Lord my God.

## SECOND READING

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

4:13-18

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in

the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Be watchful and ready:  
you know not when  
the Son of Man is coming.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL READING

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

25:1-13

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour."

## Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

Parish Office: 9583 6161

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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

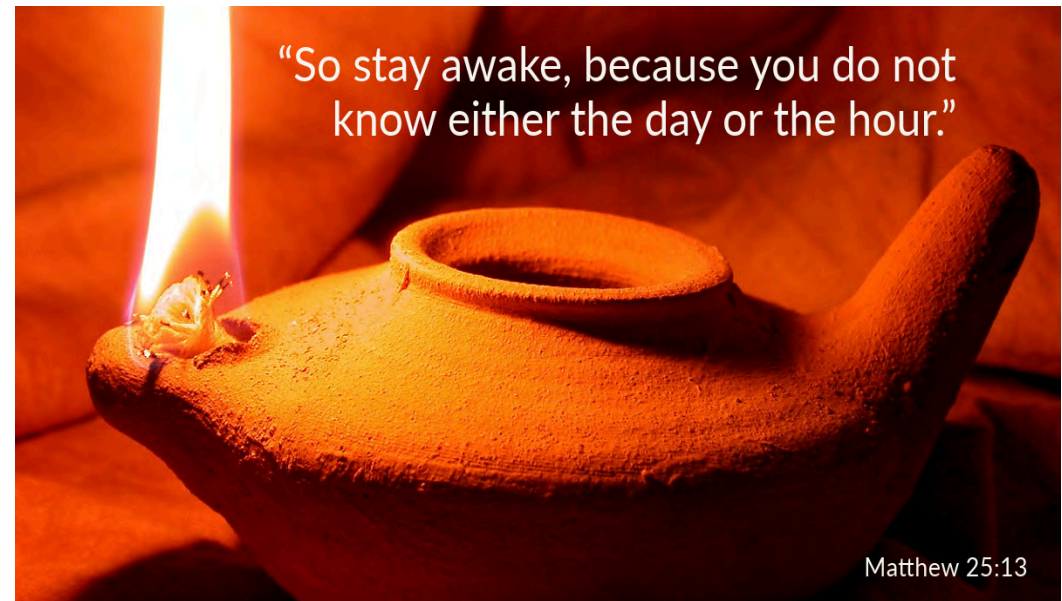
1 Locinda Street, Highett. 3190

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## THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2023



The strange allegory of the foolish and wise bridesmaids is the focus of today's gospel reading. The bridegroom is coming, and at night, but where is the bride? She is ever waiting for his late arrival. The mysterious sense of time and place, and the feelings of anticipation and tension, colour this story. The Kingdom of God is near but we never know when the call to enter the Heavenly Banquet will come. Summer is near. At last it feels as if the season of light and heat has returned. We approach the end of another Church Year. Our gospels look ahead to the end of time. We are invited to ponder the mystery and place of wisdom, the focus of our first reading, in our journey through time. Like a dry weary land without water, do we thirst for God, as the Responsorial Psalm confidently proclaims? Do we have enough oil in our lamps to welcome the Lord when he comes?

**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-SECOND SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME  
11<sup>th</sup> / 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2023**

**PRAYING FOR:**

*... all those who died recently.*

**WE ALSO REMEMBER:**

Dominic D'Souza, Domenico Testa,  
Geoffrey Miller, Russo Frances,  
Merle Calistan, Eliot Monero,  
Madie de Robbilar, Lorna Melia,  
Allan Fry, Geraldine Grimes,  
Eileen Charters, Henry Costin,

*....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>



**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.



The Annual Collection for **Catholic  
Deaf** will be taken up at all Masses  
next weekend. Your donation  
supports the outreach of the broader  
Archdiocese to those with hearing  
impairments through the work of the John Pierce  
Centre.



**BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND**  
With great joy the Church of God  
formally welcome those to be  
Baptised this weekend: Eva  
Polzella, James Henderson &  
Savannah Hernandez-Wijeyawardena.

**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'. His weekly thoughts  
on the work of the Synod is available online:

[perthcatholic.org.au/Our\\_Archdiocese-Archbishop-  
Latest\\_News](http://perthcatholic.org.au/Our_Archdiocese-Archbishop-Latest_News)

**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.



**OLA KNITTING GROUP** will  
next meet on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>  
November at 1pm, in the Church  
Meeting Room. All are most  
welcome.

**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.

**ONLINE RESOURCES:** The following  
websites may be of some interest to you...



**NEW PILGRIM PATH** a  
repository for online spiritual  
resources, that you may be  
interested in. Daily Prayer, Poems, Music,  
Inspiration, Online Courses and Retreats. For  
more information visit: [newpilgrimpath.ie](http://newpilgrimpath.ie)



**DAILY PRAYER WEBSITE**  
Jesuit Communications offer Daily  
Prayer, an online portal with a  
number of links to prayers, Gospel  
reflections, prayer articles, and other resources:  
[pray.com.au](http://pray.com.au)