

## FIRST READING

**A reading from the book of Job 7:1-4. 6-7**

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages, months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

## SECOND READING

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 9:16-19.22-23**

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**He bore our sickness,  
and endured our suffering.  
Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:29-39**

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' He answered, 'Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.' And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.



## 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)



## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B - 3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2024



"Let us go elsewhere,  
to the neighbouring  
country towns,  
so that I can preach  
there too, because  
that is why I came."

Mark 1:38

Suffering comes to everyone. It can take such a hold of us that the happiness of the past is swallowed up, the beauty of better days is forgotten, and the hope of a brighter future is imperilled. Life ceases to be an adventure and takes on the guise of drudgery. At such times suffering appears to be our permanent fate, and life seems too short for suffering to run its course. If we become identified with our distress, we will be tormented. Jesus knew the harshness of life, because he was one of us. He saw it in the lives of those he loved, and he was touched by their torment. He came to release people from the demons that possess them, from the illness that undermined their lives. He came to bring the reign of God, the reign of peace and fulfilment. He came to heal the broken-hearted, to bind up their wounds.

*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
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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.

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR B**

**3<sup>rd</sup> / 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2024**

**PRAYING FOR:**

Keith Tobrady, Frank Carter, Cesar Zalazar,  
Frank Cloney, Laurie Brewer,

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

**WE ALSO REMEMBER:**

Mirek Andrysik, Timothy Dodgson,  
Eileen McLoughlin, Noel Scott, Greg Scott,  
Geoff McKinley, Grazia Cincotta,  
Concetta Cincotta, Gerard Cimiotti,  
Pacífico Chan, Lucia Odrowaz,  
Femili Turkalj, Don Clifford,  
Austin Francis, Malcolm D'Souza,

*....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  
2023 to Christ the King 2024 are taken from  
Year B 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>



**BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND**

With great joy the Church of God  
welcomes **Charlotte Nicholson** who  
is to be Baptised this weekend.



**This Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February**  
you're invited to stay and join  
fellow parishioners for a  
cuppa **after 9am & 11am Masses**, in the OLA  
Church Meeting Room..



**The OLA GARDENING  
GROUP** will have a working  
bee on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> of  
February from 10am and usually  
finish before 11.30am. If anyone is available, or  
would like to be a regular volunteer, please  
contact John Tettersoo (9583 4628). Many thanks  
in anticipation.



**COMMUNITY REFUGEE  
SPONSORSHIP**

**INFORMATION SESSION**

The Australian government is  
trialling a new refugee  
sponsorship program, where  
community groups sponsor a  
refugee family to come and live in Australia. A  
small group of people from Our Lady of the  
Assumption & St Agnes' Parishes, along with St  
Mary of the Cross Parish, Mordialloc &  
Aspendale, are hoping to sponsor a refugee family,  
however more members are needed before  
proceeding.

**Ms Shabnam Safa from Community Refugee  
Sponsorship Australia** will introduce the  
**Community Refugee Integration and  
Settlement Pilot (CRISP)** program in the  
Meeting Room of:

**Our Lady of the Assumption Church,  
9 Centre Dandenong Road**

**at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> February.**

If you would like to attend, please add your name  
to the list in each of our church foyers. Thank you.  
Enquiries: Adrian Foley [ade.foley@gmail.com](mailto:ade.foley@gmail.com) or  
Mob: 0497 780 233.



**OLA KNITTING GROUP** will  
next meet on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February  
at 1pm, in the Church Meeting  
Room. All are most welcome.

**ST AGNES/OLA PARISH SOCIAL LUNCH**



The next combined  
Parish Social Lunch will  
be at **on Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup>  
February, at 12 noon**,  
at the **Highett RSL**. All are most welcome.  
**Please RSVP by Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February** to:  
Karen Mitri: 0411 354 670 or 9553 0350 or via  
email: [karen.mitri@gmail.com](mailto:karen.mitri@gmail.com)

**PARISHES OF THE BAYSIDE AREA:**

**RECONFIGURATION** If you would like  
to read the detailed '**Implementation Plan**'  
for the 'Reconfiguration of the Bayside  
Parishes', including the overall schedule for  
the realignment of parish boundaries, and the  
further amalgamation of existing parishes  
into the new configuration of the 4 parishes  
that will make up the Bayside area, the  
document can be downloaded directly from  
the following link: [bit.ly/47JiBhR](http://bit.ly/47JiBhR)



**A MESSAGE FROM  
ARCHBISHOP COMENSOLI**

With the commencement of Fr  
Martin Tanti SDB as Parish Priest of  
St Mary's Hampton, Immaculate  
Heart of Mary Hampton East, and  
Sacred Heart Sandringham on 31<sup>st</sup> January, we  
are now ready to begin the next phase leading to  
the amalgamation of the new northern, western  
and eastern parish clusters. Coming together as a  
new community requires honouring the past,  
discerning as one where the Holy Spirit is calling  
us today and invoking the courage to embrace  
new ways of being and doing things together.  
Please be assured of my continued prayers and  
blessings on each of you as we work together to  
create a more vibrant and vital expression of  
mission in the greater Bayside region.

+ Archbishop Peter A. Comensoli