

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Moses said to the people: 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ If today, you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 7:32-35

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The

married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!
A people in darkness
have seen a great light:
A radiant dawn shines
on those lost in death.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 1:21-28

Jesus and his followers went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the Sabbath came Jesus went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit, and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

Parish Office: 9583 6161

9 Centre Dandenong Road, Cheltenham. 3192

Email: Cheltenham@cam.org.au

Website: www.olacheltenham.org.au



Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox
Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

St Agnes' Parish Highett

Parish Office: 9532 1794

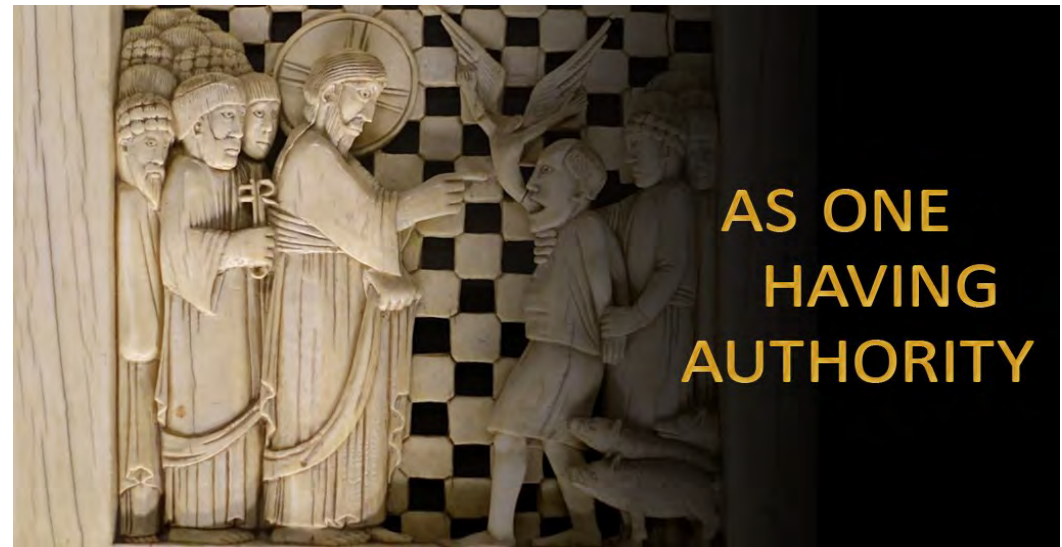
1 Locinda Street, Highett. 3190

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FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B - 27th / 28th JANUARY, 2024



Discipleship requires a change in us. We want to change because in so many ways we are being strangled to death by demons. We are caught in dysfunction and sin; we live in the midst of the battle between good and evil, the struggle of human finitude and failure. We are plunged into the throes of human suffering and pain, and there seems to be no escape. When we are released by Jesus from the demons that possess us, we are freed from the stranglehold of evil and liberated to live far less encumbered and divided lives. No Earthly reality will possess us, neither relationships nor obligations nor even religious practices. Rather, we will be possessed by Christ who liberates us for the reign of God. Therefore, whether married or unmarried, whether in the midst of the community or at its margins, we will be able to heed the voice of God in our hearts and to recognise Jesus in our midst.

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

27th / 28th January, 2024

PRAYING FOR:

Gerhard Henning, Carmelo Degilio,
Marie Snell, Charo de Jesus,
Maree Cameron,

... and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Dominic Usher, Maria Visentin,
Norma Sevilla, Maurie Corkill,
John Driscoll, Thomas Smith, Joe Ingles,
Mary Andrews, Kevin Andrews,
Pauline McIntyre, Gregory O'Connor,

*....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

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 **Olivia Crohan** who is to
be Baptised this weekend.



Next Sunday 4th 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 10th 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, 6th 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 or
Mob: 0497 780 233.

NEW SCHOOL YEAR COMMENCES

We wish all the children and staff of both our
parish schools, along with all families
associated with our schools, every blessing
for the year ahead as classes commence this
coming week. We pray that all who
contribute to the children's education will
continue to nurture them in faith and in love.



OLA KNITTING GROUP will
next meet on Tuesday 6th 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, 8th
February, at 12 noon**,
at the **Highett RSL**. All are most welcome.
Please RSVP by Monday 5th February to:
Karen Mitri: 0411 354 670 or 9553 0350 or via
email: 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

'PRAYER IS LIFE' PODCAST SERIES.

In a year that has been dedicated to prayer by Pope
Francis, in preparation for the Church's Jubilee
Year in 2025, Majellan Media has launched a
new podcast series featuring Fr David Hore
CSsR. Topics include new ways of praying,
simplifying prayer, how God presents to us in
our daily lives, the challenges of praying, God's
need for our love, how we know if we are
praying properly, and tips on how families can
be more fully engaged in prayer. To listen go to:
majellan.media/prayer-is-life-podcast/