

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah 31:31-34

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Create a clean heart in me, O God.

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 5:7-9

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!**

**If you serve me, follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, my servant will also be.**

**Glory to you, Word of God,
Lord Jesus Christ!**

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 12:20-33

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them: ‘Now the hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you most solemnly, unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies, it remains only a single grain; but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest. Anyone who loves his life loses it; anyone who hates his life in this world will keep it for the eternal life. If a man serves me, he must follow me, wherever I am, my servant will be there too. If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him. Now my soul is troubled. What shall I say: Father, save me from this hour? But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name!’ A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours. ‘Now sentence is being passed on this world; now the prince of this world is to be overthrown. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I shall draw all men to myself.’ By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.



Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B - 16th/17th MARCH, 2024

"I tell you most solemnly, it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest."

John 12:24



Jeremiah presents the God of Israel as One who forgives and who is even prepared to forget the sins of the past. The people will be God's garden: the seed planted within them is God's Law. They will be God's own billboard: the law of forgiveness and mercy will be written in their hearts. John uses the 'eternal life' metaphor in much the same way as the other gospel writers use the 'reign of God' or 'kin-dom' image. To keep one's life for 'eternal life' has to do with living God's transformative vision for creation in the present so that it might one day be fully realised. In John's gospel, Jesus' death is also his being lifted up in glory. The moment of his death becomes the moment of drawing 'all' to himself. The 'all' includes all people, but is not restricted to the human community. It also allows for an ecological interpretation: in his death and exaltation, Jesus gathers the whole Earth community into the mystery of God's redemptive and transforming love.

Veronica Lawson RSM

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9555 3557
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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

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 OF LENT

YEAR B

16th / 17th March, 2024

PRAYING FOR:

Bill Morley,

... and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Elizabeth Fox, Donald D'Rozario,
Darren Edgar, Mary McGannon,
John McGannon, Julie D'Souza,
Charles Dib, Francis Fernandes,
Eamonn Molloy, Hazel Sweeney,
Frank Sweeney,

....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>



Caritas AUSTRALIA PROJECT COMPASSION 2024

The work of Caritas Australia is only possible with generous supporters and the dedication, passion and tenacity of local partners who implement the programs. They are the heroes on the ground working tirelessly behind-the-scenes every day to create a better future for their communities. Please give generously to Project Compassion through either the boxes or envelopes that are available in each of our church foyers, or by visiting caritas.org.au/project-compassion or calling 1800 024 413.

The detailed '**Implementation Plan**' for the '**Reconfiguration of the Bayside Parishes**', can be downloaded directly from the following link: bit.ly/47JiBHr

OLA CHOIR Come along and sing with us!! Easter Choir practice will continue at OLA each Sunday from 10am until Easter. All are most welcome. Enquiries: Tony 0468 453 156 or Helen 0432 866 039.



PARISH RENEWAL PROGRAM

For those who contribute to our parishes via envelopes, new sets of envelopes are available for collection from our respective church foyers.

Thank you once again for your ongoing practical and financial support for the mission of both our parishes.



OLA KNITTING GROUP

our amazing knitting group will be holding their stall at OLA this Sunday 17th March after the 9am and 11am Masses. All proceeds will go to the St Vincent De Paul Cheltenham Conference. Come along and support these wonderful, creative people. If you would like to join the group, come along on Tuesday 19th March at 1pm, in the Church Meeting Room. All are welcome. '*In the rhythm of the needles, there is music for the soul*'.

HOLY WEEK 2024 – Please find enclosed within this bulletin, a hard copy of the '**Holy Week Liturgical Timetable**' for both OLA and St Agnes' churches. The timetable can also be downloaded directly from both our parishes' websites.



HOLY WEEK LITURGICAL MINISTRIES / VOLUNTEERS

We are looking for volunteers for the various liturgical roles from Palm Sunday through Holy Week to Easter Sunday, as readers, special ministers, commentators and PowerPoint operators. A Sign-up sheet is available in each church's foyer.

HOLY THURSDAY WASHING OF FEET:

Please add your name and phone number to sign up sheet if you would like to be part of this ritual on **Holy Thursday, 28th March, at 7pm at St Agnes' church.**

† UPCOMING FUNERAL †

Funeral Mass

Wednesday 20th March at 11.00am (OLA)

Bill Morley (RIP)

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



FROM CO-DEPENDENCY

TO ADULT FAITH

There will be a talk at the Hampton RSL on **Wednesday, 20th March** for Spirituality in the Pub by **Robert Van Mourik**. Bookings are essential by Monday 18th March. Meals from 6.00pm, followed by the presentation at 7.30pm, conversation and conclusion about 9.00pm. Sharing a meal is an important part of the evening. For bookings and enquiries contact Sr Michele Kennan PBVM: michelekennan@presvic.org.au or mobile 0415 956 107, or Catriona: catriona3171@gmail.com or mobile 0419 109 830.