

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel 17:22-24

The Lord says this: 'From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar.

Every kind of bird will live beneath it, every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches. And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow, who withers green trees and makes the withered green.

I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ Lord, it is good
to give thanks to you.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 5:6-10

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!
The seed is the word of God,
Christ is the Sower;
all who come to him will live for ever.
Alleluia!**


GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark 4:26-34

Jesus said to the crowds, 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.



**Refugee
Week**
Coordinated by
Refugee Council of Australia
Sunday 16th June – Saturday 22nd June, 2024

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

Telephone: 9532 1794

1 Locinda Street, Highett. 3190

Email: Highett@cam.org.au

Website: www.sahighett.org.au



ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B - 15th / 16th JUNE, 2024



In many ways, parables are brain-teasers. Jesus states that the reign of God is like seed that takes root and grows and produces in secret places within human reality. In fact it is usually found in places where one would least expect to find it – among the poor and despised, in the hearts of those who suffer, in the lives of the persecuted. The potential of the reign of God is often contained in what appears to be inconsequential. Yet it thrives in its own mysterious ways. The parables of Jesus forced his hearers to stretch their imaginations and to make connections that they might not ordinarily make. The presumption was that those who followed Jesus were always willing or able to do this.

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: tfoot@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.

ELEVENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR B – 15th / 16th June, 2024

PRAYING FOR:

Rita Thomasioz (Mother of Vino Krishnan),
Fr Brendan Dillon PE, Michael McGannon,

John Imlach,

...and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Edna Monteiro, Fr Peter Cross,
Monica Alderton, Julie Caprackas,
Tomas Aviles, Cirilo Nombrado,
Moli Bukasongo, Harold & Noreen Carroll,
Vjekoslav Adam Madarevic,
June McKinnon,

....and all who we remember at this time.

...additionally, 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>



2024 PROPAGATION OF
THE FAITH APPEAL

This weekend, you're invited
to partner with the Church in
Mongolia to help deliver essential services to
people who need it most. Lack of access and
social stigma mean that some of the most
vulnerable people are not getting the support
they require.

The **House of Mercy** will provide a haven for
many people, including those affected by
homelessness and domestic violence. Without
your partnership, people in need will go
without the assistance they require.

During **World Mission Sunday**, we are called
to **'Invite others to the banquet'**, and we
invite you to share the warmth of God's love
with our brothers and sisters who need it most
in Mongolia. You can support this work by
using the appeal envelope, or by going online
at catholicmission.org.au/mongolia.

Your gift will also assist many other Church
programmes around the world. Thank you.



St Vincent de Paul Winter Appeal
23rd and 30th June

St Vincent de Paul are having their Winter
Appeal. This is the major appeal made by the
local conference to generate funds to enable us
to support local needy families.

In this past year we made over 530 home visits
to more than 130 local households, providing
assistance to approximately 300 adults and 200
children. The support given includes food,
food vouchers, Vinnies vouchers (for clothing
and furniture), fuel cards and assistance with
utility costs and educational expenses.

The Winter Appeal remains our major source
for funds, enabling us to do this good work on
behalf of you, our fellow parishioners.

Over the next couple of weekends, 23rd / 30th
June, conference members will be in the foyer
at Masses over the above-mentioned dates to
collect and provide receipts for donations made.

OLA FETE - 23rd November 2024 The fete
is fast approaching, and we could use your
help! The fete's Donation & Sponsorship
team are currently seeking donations /
sponsorship for the silent auction / raffle. If
you run a business/or know anyone who
does, or work for a company who would like
to donate (or would just like to donate an
item yourself) we'd be extremely grateful.
There is an official sponsorship letter
outlining what we are fundraising for –
copies of this can be found in the OLA
Church foyer.

We are also looking for people to help us
distribute the fundraising letters in the local
community. If you can spare some time to
assist us this would be greatly appreciated.
For further information, please contact
Antonella Taranto biv_is@hotmail.com or **Liz**
Dawson liz.grace.dawson@gmail.com or please
call OLA School Office on 95849488. The
more donations / sponsorships we have – the
more successful the fete will be! Thank you.



OLA COMMUNITY PANTRY
is now located at the end of the
Wilson Street exit to our car park.
Created & designed by the
amazing Grade 3/4 students, this
pantry is a symbol of our
community spirit. Offering a helping hand to
those in need, we gratefully accept donations
of non-perishable food items. Together,
through your generosity and the creativity of
our young leaders, we can build a stronger
and more supportive community for
all. *Please take what you need & give what
you can.*

NEW PARISH IDENTITY
HIGHETT - CHELTENHAM

A sincere thank you to all those who
submitted suggestions re. a name for our newly
forming parish. All submissions have now
been forwarded to the Archbishop for review,
and for his decision on our new parish name.