

## FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis

18:20-32

The Lord said, 'How great an outcry there is against Sodom and Gomorrah! How grievous is their sin! I propose to go down and see whether or not they have done all that is alleged in the outcry against them that has come up to me. I am determined to know.'

The men left there and went to Sodom while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. Approaching him he said, 'Are you really going to destroy the just man with the sinner? Perhaps there are fifty just men in the town. Will you really overwhelm them, will you not spare the place for the fifty just men in it? Do not think of doing such a thing: to kill the just man with the sinner, treating just and sinner alike! Do not think of it! Will the judge of the whole earth not administer justice?' The Lord replied, 'If at Sodom I find fifty just men in the town, I will spare the whole place because of them.'

Abraham replied, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this to my Lord, I who am dust and ashes. But perhaps the fifty just men lack five: will you destroy the whole city for five?' 'No', he replied 'I will not destroy it if I find forty-five just men there.' Again Abraham said to him, 'Perhaps there will only be forty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'for the sake of the forty.'

Abraham said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry, but give me leave to speak: perhaps there will only be thirty there.' 'I will not do it' he replied 'if I find thirty there.' He said, 'I am bold indeed to speak like this, but perhaps there will only be twenty there.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the twenty.' He said, 'I trust my Lord will not be angry if I speak once more: perhaps there will only be ten.' 'I will not destroy it' he replied 'for the sake of the ten.'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Lord, on the day I called for help,  
you answered me.

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the  
Colossians 2:12-14

You have been buried with Christ, when you were baptised; and by baptism, too, you have been raised up with him through your belief in the power of God who raised him from the dead. You were dead, because you were sinners and had not been circumcised: he has brought you to life with him, he has forgiven us all our sins. He has overridden the Law, and cancelled every record of the debt that we had to pay; he has done away with it by nailing it to the cross.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!  
You have received the Spirit which  
makes us God's children,  
and in that Spirit we call God  
our Father.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Luke 11:1-13

Once Jesus was in a certain place praying, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said, 'Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.' He said to them, 'Say this when you pray: "Father, may your name be held holy, your kingdom come; give us each day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive each one who is in debt to us. And do not put us to the test."'

...Gospel reading continued overleaf



CHRIST OUR LIGHT  
CATHOLIC PARISH

HIGHETT / CHELTENHAM

Parish Office:

9 Centre Dandenong Road,  
Cheltenham, VIC. 3192

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

St Agnes' Church  
25 Spring Road, Highett

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## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C 26<sup>th</sup>/ 27<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2025



The readings invite us to reflect on prayer. Whether our prayer be praise, contrition, thanksgiving or petition, it always recognises our need for God. In the gospel Jesus instructs us to ask for what we need. He assures us that God is more than willing to give us what we need. However, for this to happen we must turn to God and humbly acknowledge our need. The most obvious characteristic of prayer depicted in the readings for this Sunday is persistence. They show that it is not so much that we persist in prayer in order to change God's mind as it is that we persist in order to discover what God's mind might be. The salutariness of prayer is often found in the change that it effects in us, not in God. By persevering in genuine prayer we may come to acknowledge that all things are in God's hands, and that we can rest content to leave them there, trusting that the situation will be cared for as God sees fit. Prayer can change the one who prays and also the one for whom the prayer is offered if only human need is recognised and divine solicitude is acknowledged.

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 PS 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 [OLA Church] 9:45 am  
Saturday [OLA Church] 9.30 am

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.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C -  
26<sup>th</sup> / 27<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2025

**PRAYING FOR:**

Brian McMahon, George Radic,  
Desmond Collins, Peter Jones,  
Noeline Hager, Katarina Milicevic,

*and all those who died recently.*

**WE ALSO PRAY FOR:**

Josephine Jouaneau, Christine Phelan,  
Francesca Sofo, Andrew Murphy,  
Tony Trigona, Arthur Goepfert,  
Elizabeth Bala, Marie Wilson, Eileen Rate,  
Margaret Kelly, Mary Joseph Emmanuel,  
Lois Hickey, Jack Hickey,

*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  
2024 to Christ the King 2025 are taken from  
Year C in the Lectionary cycle.**

Should you wish to view the Scripture  
Readings for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical  
Calendar) please visit:  
[universalis.com/australia.melbourneP/1000/Mass](http://universalis.com/australia.melbourneP/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 generously support our  
parish i.e. through their contributions to both our  
Thanksgiving and Presbytery collections. With the  
assistance of the Archdiocese we are currently working  
on refining the facility for parishioners to contribute to  
Christ Our Light Parish via an online portal.



Next Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August, you're  
invited to stay and join your fellow  
parishioners for a cuppa **after the  
9am & 11am Masses**, in the Meeting Room.



**UPCOMING FUNERAL (OLA)**

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July at 11am

**Brian McMahon (RIP)**

*May the souls of all our faithful departed,  
rest in peace.*



**HEART OF LIFE - LET THE  
HEART LISTEN**

This 12-week  
formation program is designed for  
individuals engaged in listening to and  
supporting others on their life journeys through  
listening, presence, and support.

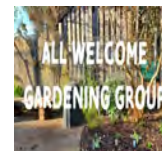
This program is an invitation to:

- Enter into personal transformation by connecting with the deeper mysteries of your own heart.
- Open your heart in compassion—cultivating meaningful connections with others.
- Deepen your relationship with your Divine Companion, especially in the most vulnerable moments of your life.

This online-only experience invites you into a space of deep transformation and connection.

The next program will be held on Thursday evenings from 6pm to 9pm, starting on Thursday, 31<sup>st</sup> July. For more information visit:

[heartoflife.melbourne/spiritual-formation/let-the-heart-listen-program](http://heartoflife.melbourne/spiritual-formation/let-the-heart-listen-program)



**COL GARDENING GROUP**

There will be a 'Working Bee'  
on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> August from  
10am, (...weather permitting).  
Anyone able to assist, either  
casually or more regularly, would be most  
welcome. For further information contact John  
Tetteroo on 0432 649 659. Thank you in  
anticipation of your presence.



This week we will hear  
about JoCare, a  
community care/outreach  
initiative. Please refer to the insert in this  
week's bulletin for further information.



**Gospel reading continued...**

He also said to them, 'Suppose one of you has a friend and goes to him in the middle of the night to say, "My friend, lend me three loaves, because a friend of mine on his travels has just arrived at my house and I have nothing to offer him"; and the man answers from inside the house, "Do not bother me. The door is bolted now, and my children and I are in bed; I cannot get up to give it to you." I tell you, if the man does not get up and give it him for friendship's sake, persistence will be enough to make him get up and give his friend all he wants.

'So I say to you: Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For the one who asks always receives; the one who searches always finds; the one who knocks will always have the door opened to him. What father among you would hand his son a stone when he asked for bread? Or hand him a snake instead of a fish? Or hand him a scorpion if he asked for an egg? If you then, who are evil, know how to give your children what is good, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'