

## FIRST READING

### A reading from the book of Wisdom

9:13-18

What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind. It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth, laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens? As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.**

## SECOND READING

### A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

9-10. 12-17

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for

ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Let your face shine on your servant,  
and teach me your laws.**

**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

14:25-33

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. ‘If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

‘And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, “Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish.” Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.’



**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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**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**YEAR C - 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2025**

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**Garden of Peace**

Isaiah 32:14-18

**PEACE  
WITH CREATION**  
**SEASON OF CREATION 2025**

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Once again, we come together as a global family to start preparing for the Season of Creation 2025—a time of deep prayer, action, and advocacy to care for our common home. From September 1, the World Day of Prayer for Creation, to October 4, the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, we will unite in hope and commitment to restore peace with Creation. Isaiah paints a stark image of a world wounded by human injustice, a creation crying out for peace. This vision resonates deeply with us: our planet is suffering, and yet, we believe in the promise of renewal and restoration. Our call is to be active agents of change — praying, acting, and transforming our way of living in communion with creation and the Creator. As Pope Francis reminded us during the Jubilee of Volunteering: “In the deserts of poverty and loneliness, all those small gestures are helping to make a new humanity blossom in the garden that is God’s dream, always and everywhere, for all of us.” This Season of Creation, let us walk together in metanoia (repentance), to build peace, to restore our relationships, and to help God’s creation blossom.

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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: [tfoot@sahighett.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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 [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.

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C  
6<sup>th</sup> / 7<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2025**

**PRAYING FOR:**

Doris Callaghan, Anne Joseph,  
Kevin Burke, Tony Barlow,  
*and all those who died recently.*

**WE ALSO PRAY FOR:**

Albert Tanzimat, Ivan Herft, Mina Herft,  
Maureen Stent, John Razga, Diane Smiles,  
Anthony Cutajar, Carlo Giugni, Cyril Blair,  
Margaret Benham, John Moller,

*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.



**This Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September,**  
you're invited to stay and join  
fellow parishioners for a  
cuppa after the 9am & 11am  
Masses, in the OLA Church Meeting Room.  
This also gives us the opportunity to celebrate  
**Father's Day** with our Dads.



**ARCHBISHOP'S CAMPAIGN 2025**  
Thank you to all parishioners who  
generously donated to this appeal in  
support of the vital ministries of our  
Archdiocese. To date a total of \$1,326.15 has  
been raised. If you would still like to donate,  
envelopes are available on the tables in each  
of our church foyers. Thank you, again.



**PEACE WITH CREATION** SEASON OF CREATION  
SEASON OF CREATION 2025  
One way of  
entering into the spirit of the Season of Creation  
is to make use of the Daily Devotions for the  
Season of Creation, put together by the  
Queensland Churches Environmental Network.  
You can download the document here: [SoC QCEN  
Devotions](#) It is also available as the free 'Season of  
Creation' app in both Apple & Google Play. Each  
day, has a reflection, prayer, image and poem.  
As part of our response to the cry of the earth and  
the cry of the poor, we will be collecting cleaning  
products for refugees and asylum seekers who are  
supported by the Brigidine Asylum Seekers  
Project (BASP) on the weekends of 20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup>  
September and 27<sup>th</sup> / 28<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you  
in advance for your generous support.

**† UPCOMING FUNERAL MASS (OLA) †**

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am  
**Doris June Callaghan (RIP)**  
*May her soul and the souls of all our faithful  
departed, rest in peace*



**PARISH STEWARDSHIP** For those who  
contribute to our parish via 'Envelopes', **new  
boxed sets of Thanksgiving / Presbytery Giving  
envelopes** are available for collection in each  
church foyer. Thank you most sincerely, once  
again, to all who offer their ongoing practical and  
financial support for the mission of our parish.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY  
MENTONE REGIONAL COUNCIL  
FESTIVAL MASS AND GATHERING**

The Festival Mass for St Vincent de Paul  
Conferences in the Mentone region will be held at  
**6pm, Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September at Our Lady of  
the Assumption Church, Cheltenham.** All  
members of Christ Our Light Parish are most  
welcome to attend the Mass.

**PRAYER FOR THE SEASON OF CREATION**

God of all life,  
We thank you for the gift of creation,  
For the water that keeps us alive,  
For our food and shelter,  
All of which come from  
the generosity of the Earth.

We thank you for the very air we breathe  
Which we share with every creature.  
May we take good care of the Earth  
as our common home takes care of us.

May we work for justice for those  
most hurt by damage to our environment.  
May we enjoy the beauty of nature  
and pray that it be treated  
with deeper respect.

Jesus asked us to learn  
from the lilies of the field  
and the birds of the air.  
We ask this in his name. Amen.

- Michael McGirr