

## FIRST READING

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah**  
**20:10-13**

Jeremiah said, I heard so many whispering about me, 'Terror on every side! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!' All those who seemed at peace with me were watching for me to slip, 'Perhaps he will be tricked into error. Then we shall get the better of him and then we can take our revenge!' But the Lord is at my side like a mighty hero. So my opponents will stumble and will not prevail. Utterly shamed by their failure, their eternal disgrace will not be forgotten. Lord Sabaoth, you who test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; I shall see your vengeance on them, for I have revealed my cause to you. Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for he delivers the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

## SECOND READING

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans**  
**5:12-15**

Therefore, just as through one man sin came into the world, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race in so far as everyone has sinned – sin already existed in the world before there was any law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Nonetheless death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sin was not after the model of Adam's transgression, who prefigured the one who was to come. Yet the free gift is not like the offence. If death came to many through the offence of one man, how much more plentiful has been the grace of God and the free gift in the love of the one man Jesus Christ coming to so many!

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**  
**The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me,**  
**says the Lord,**  
**and you also will be my witnesses.**  
**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**  
**10:26-33**

'So do not be afraid of them. Everything now covered up will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the housetops. Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? And yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father. Of you, even the hairs on your head have been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me in the presence of others, I will acknowledge in the presence of my Father in heaven. But whoever denies me in the presence of others, I will deny in the presence of my Father in heaven.



**RETURNING COMMUNION PYXES** Any parishioner who previously volunteered to minister Holy Communion to the sick, and still have in their possession, a parish pyx, are asked to kindly please return to the Parish Office or to one of our churches' sacristies. Thank you.

## ✠ FUNERAL THIS WEEK ✠

Funeral Prayers for **Helen Limb (RIP)**  
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June at 12noon  
(at OLA Church)



## 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

Telephone: (03) 9583 6161

Email: [col@cam.org.au](mailto:col@cam.org.au)

Website: [www.olacheltenham.org.au](http://www.olacheltenham.org.au)

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## TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR A

### 20<sup>th</sup>/ 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE, 2026

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'Do not fear', 'Do not be afraid...' Jesus recognises that there will be much that will cause his disciples to be afraid but tries to get them to distinguish appropriate from inappropriate fear. There is a false fear and a true fear. Disciples need not fear those who can kill the body, because their entire physical existence is held within the hands of God and is precious in God's sight: if God values the life of sparrows sold two for a penny, marking when they fall to the ground, how much more does the heavenly Father value and protect the lives of believers, worth more than hundreds of sparrows! Those who stand firm in witness to the Gospel and the values it enshrines, even to the point of death, can be confident that their ultimate fate lies in the hand of God and will one day be vindicated. The only valid fear for disciples should be that of falling out of God's favour and so of losing, not one's body, but one's soul. This is a Gospel which illustrates the adage that Christianity is comforting but not comfortable. Matthew presents Jesus as insisting that the Gospel is not something to be talked about and lived behind closed doors. It – and the values it enshrines – demands public witness and proclamation.

**Fr Brendan Byrne, SJ**

**PARISH PRIEST:**

Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9532 1794  
 Email: [Alan.Fox@cam.org.au](mailto:Alan.Fox@cam.org.au)

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

9583 6161  
 Monday - Friday 9am – 3pm  
 Secretary: Julie Binstead  
 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 Thomas Hartney  
 Email: [principal@sahighett.catholic.edu.au](mailto:principal@sahighett.catholic.edu.au)

**MASS TIMES – CHELTENHAM & HIGETT****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 parish 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.

**TWLEFTH SUNDAY-Year A**

20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE, 2026

**PRAYING FOR:**

Mary Jenkins csb, Carnil Cincotta,  
 Lia Carnalina, Lio Camelo,  
 Joey Ocampo, Des Mowat  
 Bernadette O'Gorman,

*and all who died recently.*

**WE ALSO PRAY FOR:**

Monica Alderton, Louise Fennessy  
 Pat Cashin, Maureen Kealy, Leo Barry  
 Ernie Crowden, Marie Campion,  
 Edward Driscoll, Agnes McNamara,  
 Fr Danilo Maniwan, Rita Ball,  
 Grace Andrews, Phoebe Wilson,  
 Kevin Kelly, Earl Edwards

*and all who we remember at this time.*

*...as we also keep in our prayers  
 all those who are currently unwell.*

**Readings for this liturgical year from  
 Advent 2025 to Christ the King 2026 are  
 taken from Year A 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](http://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 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.

**MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026**

We're invited to answer the call to deepen our understanding of synodality in parish life. Timeline for Synod consultation: This month will see the gradual release of the Synod theme papers, with June and July being Consultation and dialogue months for our faith communities. For more information on the Synod please visit: [melbournecatholic.org/synod2026](http://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026)

**SYNOD CORNER: What Synodality is not.**

Synodality is not about changing doctrine according to popular opinion. The faith handed down through the centuries is not negotiable. What synodality seeks to renew is how we live, communicate, and embody that faith in changing times.

**FIRST EUCHARIST MASSES**

We extend our best wishes and congratulations to all the children receiving the Eucharist for the first time this weekend. May Jesus, our Bread of Life, nourish and sustain them, and us, as together we gather in thanksgiving at His Table. My sincere gratitude to St Agnes and Our Lady of the Assumption school staffs, catechists and to all the parents for their support. Fr Alan.

**PARENT AND CARER SERIES:**

How AI is influencing new online risks for children and young people. Free webinar: Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> June, 7:00-8:00pm online. Please register here: [register.gotowebinar.com/#register/1629792246893231964](http://register.gotowebinar.com/#register/1629792246893231964)

**PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION.** There will be a special collection for the intentions of the Holy Father next weekend 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> June. Peter's Pence offerings are designated to support the Holy Father's apostolic and charitable intentions.

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS WINTER 2026** edition available. Please pick up your copy.

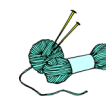
**ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

**WINTER APPEAL.** A big thank you for all who generously contributed to the 2026 Winter Appeal. There is still an opportunity to donate online via:

[donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/winter-appeal-vic](http://donate.vinnies.org.au/appeals-vic/winter-appeal-vic)

**2026 PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH APPEAL**

occurred last weekend and a big thank you to all who contributed. The parish raised \$1,982.05 via cash and credit card donations. There is still time to donate. Please scan the QR code or visit: [www.catholicmission.org.au/unity](http://www.catholicmission.org.au/unity)

**KNITTING GROUP**

We wish to acknowledge the Knitting Group who generously raised \$700.00 from their stall. These proceeds were donated to SVDP a contribution. Greatly appreciated and great effort by all who contributed their time and talents.

**HEART OF LIFE: RETREAT IN****EVERYDAY LIVING** 5 x

Wednesdays – 12<sup>th</sup> Aug- 9<sup>th</sup> Sept, in person or via zoom. Cost: donation. Retreat in daily life with spiritual accompaniment from final-semester Spiritual Direction candidates. Participants commit to daily prayer and receive weekly spiritual accompaniment for 1 hr/wk. Exploring the theme Becoming. The retreat is open to everyone. A chance to pause, notice, and deepen your awareness of God's presence in your everyday life. Register via email [info@heartoflife.melbourne](mailto:info@heartoflife.melbourne) or Phone 9809 1101.