

## FIRST READING

### A reading from the prophet Micah

5:1-4

The Lord says this: You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, the least of the clans of Judah, out of you will be born for me the one who is to rule over Israel; his origin goes back to the distant past, to the days of old. The Lord is therefore going to abandon them till the time when she who is to give birth gives birth. Then the remnant of his brothers will come back to the sons of Israel. He will stand and feed his flock with the power of the Lord, with the majesty of the name of his God. They will live secure, for from then on he will extend his power to the ends of the land. He himself will be peace.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ Lord, make us turn to you;  
let us see your face  
and we shall be saved.**

## SECOND READING

### A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 10:5-10

This is what Christ said, on coming into the world: You who wanted no sacrifice or oblation, prepared a body for me. You took no pleasure in holocausts or sacrifices for sin; then I said, just as I was commanded in the scroll of the book, 'God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will.' Notice that he says first: You did not want what the Law lays down as the things to be offered, that is: the sacrifices, the oblations, the holocausts and the sacrifices for sin, and you took no pleasure in them; and then he says: Here I am! I am coming to obey your will. He is abolishing the first sort to replace it with the second. And this will was for us to be made holy by the offering of his body made once and for all by Jesus Christ.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**I am the servant of the Lord:  
may his will for me be done.  
Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 1:39-45

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'



### 2025 – Preparing for the Year of Jubilee

Jubilee years are a time of newness. They have been celebrated throughout the history of the Church, but their roots go back to the Old Testament, when the Israelites were commanded to celebrate a jubilee every 50 years.

With the beginning of the Jubilee Year on Christmas Eve 2024, Pope Francis invites everyone to have 'an intense experience of the love of God that awakens in hearts the sure hope of salvation in Christ'

For more information visit:

[www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025.html](http://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en/giubileo-2025.html)



## 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)

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR C

21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER, 2024



The incarnation takes place in human history, thus affirming the fundamental goodness of human life and concerns, and sanctifying them even further. The child comes from simple people, from a place that is relatively insignificant, thus underscoring God's preference for what is ordinary. The body that was offered for our salvation, the body that consecrated us through having been offered up, was the body that grew in the womb of Mary. The extraordinary salvific deed of God was accomplished through his coming into the world as one of us. The obedience that Christ played out through his body fulfilled for us the promises made by God. We stand on the threshold of fulfilment, the fulfilment of an event that has already taken place. We ritually re-enact it so that we never take it for granted, so that we never forget that it is in and through human history that the marvellous deeds of God are accomplished.

*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  
Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

**OUR SCHOOLS:**  
**Our Lady of the Assumption** 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.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**YEAR C - 21<sup>st</sup> / 22<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER, 2024**

**PRAYING FOR:**

Fr Len Thomas PE,  
Jesus Sevilla, Norma Doyle, Robert Jelleff,  
Jon Syjongtian, Allen Abraham,

... and all those who died recently.

**WE ALSO REMEMBER:**

Sarah Jackson, Laleine Sevilla,  
Felicity Williams, Margaret Dean,  
Sr Eugenie Zimaris FMM, Absalon Layos,  
Adrian Sier, Beryl Holloway,  
Ray Holloway, Kath Devine, Craig Blair,  
Patrick Carew, Antoinette Nime,  
Frank Siracusa,

... 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.



**CHRISTMAS CAROLS** An Invitation for  
YOU to come and sing Christmas Carols  
with our OLA Choir at 7.30pm before and  
during Christmas Eve Mass on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>  
December.



**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE 2024**

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve**  
**6pm Mass** St Agnes' Church, Highett  
**8pm Mass** OLA Church Cheltenham  
[Carols from 7.30pm]

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day**  
**9am Mass** OLA Church Cheltenham  
**11am Mass** OLA Church Cheltenham

**PUBLIC LECTURE** Fr Robert McCulloch,  
(originally from the parish of Cheltenham),  
and Eric Siray, a Hospital Administrator,  
will be speaking on their missionary and  
educational work in Hyderabad, Pakistan.

**When: 7pm on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January**

**Where: St Patrick's Parish Centre,  
3 Mitchell Street, Mentone.**

The evening has been arranged by the  
Knights of the Southern Cross, and all are  
welcome.

To assist with catering you're asked to  
advise either John Tetteroo M: 0432 649 659  
or John Beruldsen E: [johnberuldsen@gmail.com](mailto:johnberuldsen@gmail.com)  
or M: 0429 693 030.

**ST AGNES' SCHOOL UPDATE** The works  
to resurface the school playground with Astro-  
turf at St Agnes' school have now begun.  
Unfortunately, due to this earlier  
commencement of works, we have been  
advised that the school playground will be  
unavailable for parking over the next few  
weeks. The timing of these works is out of our  
hands and sadly will impact on available  
parking to the rear of St Agnes' church on  
Christmas Eve, as the works will not be  
completed until the new year due to a delay in  
the provision of the sand, which is used to  
stabilise the new artificial surface. This upgrade  
is needed for safety reasons because the asphalt  
area has significantly deteriorated over time and  
is very rough, causing considerable injury when  
children fall. The school had hoped to minimise  
any impact on the community; however, the  
exact timing of the contractor's work wasn't  
within our control. We sincerely apologise for  
any inconvenience this may cause. The Parents  
& Friends Committee of the school have  
fundraised \$65,000 to enable this improvement  
for the children. This solution is the only cost-  
effective and viable solution. Thank you for  
your consideration.

- Lachlan Foott, Principal

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE** Please note:  
the COL Parish Office will  
close for the Christmas/  
Summer holiday period from  
12pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>  
December. The office will open  
only on a limited basis over the ensuing  
week due to parish staff taking leave. The  
regular office hours of 9am – 3pm will  
resume from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2024.  
Should you need to get in touch, please  
phone the Presbytery on: 9555 3557. This  
number connects through to my mobile  
phone. Please leave a message and a contact  
number if I'm unable to answer your call, and  
I'll get back to you as soon as possible.



Thank you, Fr Alan