

## FIRST READING

### A reading from the prophet Malachi

3:1-4

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ Who is this king of glory?  
It is the Lord!**

## SECOND READING

### A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

2:14-18

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**This is the light of revelation to the nations,  
and the glory of your people Israel.  
Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING

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

2:22-40

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.' As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

*(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

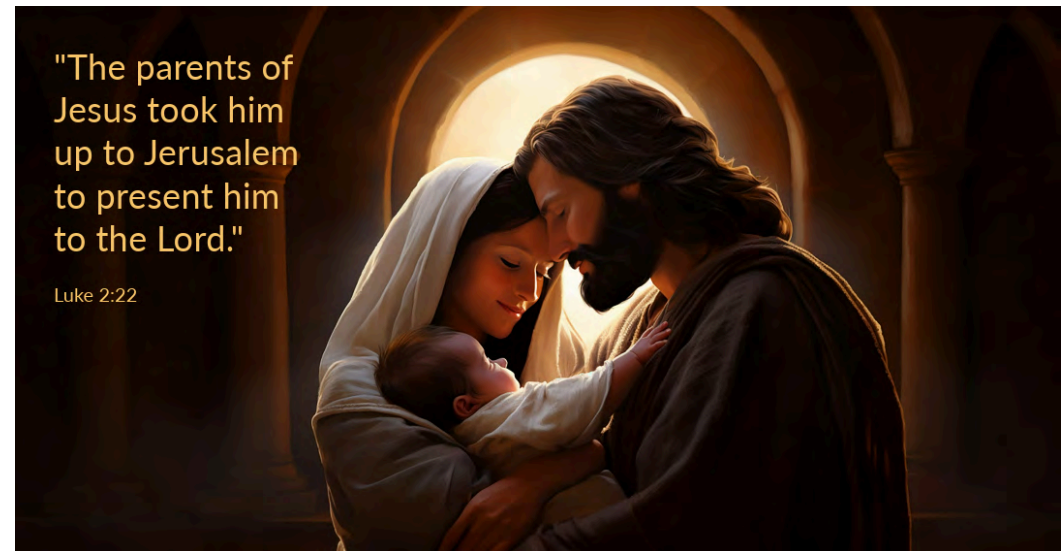
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## THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

**1st / 2nd FEBRUARY, 2025**



**"The parents of  
Jesus took him  
up to Jerusalem  
to present him  
to the Lord."**

Luke 2:22

Traditionally this is the fortieth day of Christmas. Though the Christmas season closed with the Epiphany, the Presentation brings us back to some of the Christmas themes. The temple is not merely a building where believers gather to worship God. It is sacred because it is the dwelling place of God on earth. Therefore, the coming of God to the temple was always a time of great anticipation and excitement. It promised blessing and rejoicing. It took the eyes of the old man and the faith of an old woman to recognise that the Lord had indeed come into the temple. Ritually, it was the child who was redeemed. In fact, it is the world that will be redeemed by this child. He is the light that shines in the darkness of the world; he will enlighten all people, Jew and Gentile alike. This feast shares the theme of universality so prominent on the feast of the Epiphany. The king of glory opens the portals for the entire universe to enter.

*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: [foott@sahighett.catholic.edu.au](mailto:foott@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.

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**  
1<sup>st</sup>/ 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025

**PRAYING FOR:**

Pasqualina Mazzitelli, Nicole Thompson,  
Michael McEvoy, Bernadette Plumbridge,  
William Thomas,

*and all those who died recently.*

**WE ALSO REMEMBER:**

Rita Thomazios, Norma Sevilla,  
Pacífico Chan, Dorothy Longmuir,  
Patricia Longmuir, Lucja Odrowaz,  
Holly Brennan, Joseph Franza Snr,  
Joseph Franza Jr,

*...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.

† **UPCOMING FUNERAL MASS** †

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 12 pm (OLA)  
Rosary prior to Mass at 11.30am

**Pasqualina Mazzitelli (RIP)**

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



**This Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>  
February**, you're invited  
to stay and join fellow  
parishioners for a cuppa  
**after the 9am & 11am Masses**, in the OLA  
Church Meeting Room.



**OLA KNITTING GROUP**  
will next meet on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>  
February at 1pm in the Church  
Meeting Room. All are most  
welcome. Donations of wool  
would be much appreciated.



**CATHOLIC MISSION** would like to thank  
the Christ Our Light Parish community for  
**your generous contribution of \$1,902.00**  
to last year's World Mission Day Appeal.  
Your support empowers Cardinal Giorgio  
Marengo and Brother Andrew in Mongolia  
to deliver life-saving care, vital resources,  
and education to those in need.

Your generosity strengthens the Church's  
mission in 1047 mission dioceses worldwide,  
transforming lives and uplifting entire  
communities. Through your partnership,  
Christ's love reaches those most in need,  
bringing hope and renewal.

Thank you for answering His call and being a  
beacon of light to others.

*Gospel reading continued...*

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter  
of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well  
on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had  
been married for seven years before becoming a  
widow. She was now eighty-four years old and  
never left the Temple, serving God night and  
day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at  
that moment and began to praise God; and she  
spoke of the child to all who looked forward to  
the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the  
Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their  
own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child  
grew to maturity, and he was filled with  
wisdom; and God's favour was with him.



**THE SYNOD ON SYNODALITY AND  
THE AUSTRALIAN CHURCH - WHERE  
TO NOW?** All are invited to take part in a report  
back and discussion session about the global  
Synod and its implications for the Australian  
Church, to be held via Zoom at **7.30 pm** on  
**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025.**

The presentations will focus on the final session  
of the universal Synod in October 2024 and its  
report For a Synodal Church. The presenters are  
two Synod participants: Bishop Shane  
Mackinlay and Dr Sandie Cornish (yet to be  
confirmed for this date). As well as relating their  
experiences of the final meeting, the  
presentations and discussion will highlight key  
issues such as the role of women in the Church,  
the diversity of opinions across the global Church  
and the scope for local autonomy. A key question  
is how the Australian Church will implement the  
results of the Synod and address unresolved  
issues. Free registration here at  
<https://www.trybooking.com/CYOTK>.