

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

33:14-16

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I am going to fulfil the promise I made to the House of Israel and the House of Judah: ‘In those days and at that time, I will make a virtuous Branch grow for David, who shall practise honesty and integrity in the land. In those days Judah shall be saved and Israel shall dwell in confidence. And this is the name the city will be called: The Lord-our-integrity.’

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

3:12-4:2

May the Lord be generous in increasing your love and make you love one another and the whole human race as much as we love you. And may he so confirm your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless in the sight of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus Christ comes with all his saints. Finally, brothers, we urge you and appeal to you in the Lord Jesus to make more and more progress in the kind of life that you are meant to live: the life that God wants, as you learnt from us, and as you are already living it. You have not forgotten the instructions we gave you on the authority of the Lord Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Lord, show us your mercy and love,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
21:25-28. 34-36

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There will be signs in the sun and moon and stars; on earth nations in agony, bewildered by the clamour of the ocean and its waves; men dying of fear as they await what menaces the world, for the powers of heaven will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand erect, hold your heads high, because your liberation is near at hand.

‘Watch yourselves, or your hearts will be coarsened with debauchery and drunkenness and the cares of life, and that day will be sprung on you suddenly, like a trap. For it will come down on every living man on the face of the earth. Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.’

PREPARE
the Way
OF
the Lord



**CHRIST OUR LIGHT
CATHOLIC PARISH**

HIGHETT / CHELTENHAM

Parish Office:

9 Centre Dandenong Road,
Cheltenham, VIC. 3192

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9 Centre Dandenong Road, Cheltenham

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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR C

30th NOVEMBER / 1st DECEMBER, 2024



The readings of the First Sunday of Advent set the stages for our reflections on the entire season. They contain a number of promises, all pointing to peace and fulfilment. The promises reveal a loving and provident, a merciful and forgiving God. These are promises full of hope. The coming of the Lord is clearly a time of expectation, not of fear and trembling. Although the earlier tradition about the Day of the Lord included punishment of the wicked, the focus here is on redemption. The time of expectation may be preceded by apocalyptic signs in the heavens and dismay on earth, but this cosmic shift will bring fulfilment, not destruction. The love and providence, the mercy and forgiveness of God will be made manifest. An Advent way of life exhorts us to ‘wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Saviour Jesus Christ’. This way of life is both simple and profound. It does not necessarily require unusual behaviour on our part, but it calls us to live the usual unusually well. It affects the everyday events of life; it directs the way we interact with people; it informs the attitudes that colour our judgments and motivations. It is as ordinary as the birth of a child; it is as extraordinary as the revelation of God.

Dianne Bergant CSA

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9555 3557
Email: 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
St Agnes' Primary School 9532 0344
Principal: Mr Lachlan Foott
Email: 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.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C -
30th NOVEMBER / 1st DECEMBER, 2024

PRAYING FOR:

Agnieszka Czech, Bianca Jones,
Holly Bowles, John White,
Mark Holland, Arturo Gomez,
Selim Messawarati (40 days),
... and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Mick Richards, Norma Bride, Carol Harold,
Grazia Marino, Samuel Bukasongo,
William O'Reilly, Andrew Zolkos,
Marco Paoli, Daniel Paoli,
Gwenoline D'Souza, Mervyn D'Souza,
Noreen Carroll, Harold Carroll,
Gerald Richards, Kevin Maloney,
Mary McElwee, Beryl Holloway,
Kath Devine, Patrick Pereira,
...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

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 3rd December at 11 am (St Agnes')
Agnieszka Czech (RIP)

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

PLEASE NOTE: Due to the 11am Funeral
Mass for Agnieszka Czech, there is **no 9am
Mass at St Agnes' Church**, this coming
Tuesday 3rd December. Tuesday's 6pm
Mass at OLA church will be celebrated as
scheduled. Apologies for any inconvenience.



**OLA ST VINCENT DE PAUL
Christmas "Giving Tree"**

On 7th
December OLA St Vincent De
Paul Conference volunteers will
pack/deliver some 90 Christmas Food
Hampers to our needy families plus Retailers
Gift Cards (not toys) for their 82 children. If
you wish to help, please take an envelope from
around the tree and return it with your Gift
Card enclosed, by this Sunday, 1st December,
if possible. Many thanks, Rob Hamilton.



**ST AGNES' ST VINCENT DE
PAUL CONFERENCE**

are also
seeking donations of retail gift cards
for distribution to families in need in
the Highbett / East Hampton area. Please consider
taking a envelope from the 'Giving Tree' in the
foyer of St Agnes' church, and depositing it with
your gift card in the 'St Vincent de Paul Poor Box'
at the back of St Agnes' church.

Thank you, Tricia Hickey



**COL GARDENING
GROUP**

There will be
a 'Working Bee' on
Saturday next, 7th
December from 10am.
Anyone able to assist, either casually or more
regularly, would be most welcome. Ordinarily
we spend around an hour or so on these days.
For further information contact John Tetteroo
on 0432 649 659. Thank you in anticipation of
your presence.



This Sunday 1st December,
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 Next
weekend on 8th December, our
wonderful knitting group will be
holding their **Christmas Stall at
OLA after the 9am and 11am Masses**. Please
support our wonderful knitters, as all proceeds go
to St Vincent De Paul.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS Come, join us to
sing Carols before and during Christmas Eve
Mass. We will begin a short weekly practice
session at 10am in the Church from Sunday 8th
December until Christmas. All are most
welcome! For enquiries contact:
Helen: 0432 866 039 or Tony: 0468 453 156

OLA PIETY STALL 2025 Columban Art
Calendars @ \$10 each are available for sale after
the 9am and 11am Masses.

OLA FETE 2024 – Raffle Results

1st Prize

\$500 voucher at PT Leo + \$500 voucher at Alba
Hot Springs - **Janmay**

2nd Prize

Weber BBQ - **Rachel Davidson**

3rd Prize

iPad & Gaming Headphones- **Joe Bellizia**

Big thanks to everyone who supported the Raffle.

PARISH COUNTING Many thanks to our
volunteer counters. Your time is very much
appreciated. The 2025 roster is under preparation.
For further information about assisting with
counting, please contact John Tetteroo on 0432
649 659 or Maureen Ryan on 0407 544 779. New
counters are very welcome.