

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

5:12-16

The faithful all used to meet by common consent in the Portico of Solomon. No one else ever dared to join them, but the people were loud in their praise and the numbers of men and women who came to believe in the Lord increased steadily. So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping-mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past. People even came crowding in from the towns round about Jerusalem, bringing with them their sick and those tormented by unclean spirits, and all of them were cured.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.

SECOND READING

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse **1:9-13. 17-19**

My name is John, and through our union in Jesus I am your brother and share your sufferings, your kingdom, and all you endure. I was on the island of Patmos for having preached God's word and witnessed for Jesus; it was the Lord's day and the Spirit possessed me, and I heard a voice behind me, shouting like a trumpet, 'Write down all that you see in a book.' I turned round to see who had spoken to me, and when I turned I saw seven golden lamp-stands and, surrounded by them, a figure like a Son of man, dressed in a long robe tied at the waist with a golden girdle. When I saw him, I fell in a dead faint at his feet, but he touched me with his right hand and said, 'Do not be afraid; it is I, the First

and the Last; I am the Living One. I was dead and now I am to live for ever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and of the underworld. Now write down all that you see of present happenings and things that are still to come.'

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**You believe in me, Thomas,
because you have seen me;
happy those who have not seen me,
but still believe!
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John **20:19-31**

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them.

(Gospel reading continued overleaf...)



**CHRIST OUR LIGHT
CATHOLIC PARISH**

HIGHETT / CHELTENHAM

Parish Office:

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Cheltenham, VIC. 3192

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25 Spring Road, Highett

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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C - 26th/27th APRIL, 2025



The themes for the second Sunday of Easter set the tone for the entire Easter season. They are all directed toward mystagogical instruction, primarily of those baptised during the Easter Vigil, but also of the whole Christian community. The readings for this season provide us an extended meditation on the resurrection and on our own incorporation into it through the mysteries of initiation.

Most of us are like Thomas who looked for some tangible evidence of the resurrection. We do not find it any easier to live by faith than he did. However, when we do live by faith, we actually discover our capacity, as a Christian community, to reach out in care and support to others. Jesus extends his wounded hands to us as he did to Thomas, and the community is invited to touch his wounds as we touch the wounds of our world.

Although the blessings that we derive from the resurrection are clearly gifts from God, they are nonetheless gifts that came at a cost.

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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR C - 26th / 27th APRIL, 2025

PRAYING FOR:

Pope Francis, Tony Crisp,
Jean Miller, Brian Huxtable,

and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Sylvia Dib, Adele Gori, Loata Ravu,
Elenoa Bukasongo, Carlito Colina,
Graham C. Daff,

...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.



**PROJECT COMPASSION
A HUGE THANK YOU for
your generous support of
Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2025
Lenten Appeal.** If you have yet to return Project
Compassion donation boxes or envelopes, please
do so A.S.A.P., so we can finalise all parishioner
contributions to this year's appeal, and forward
them on to Caritas Australia. If you would still
like to make a donation to Project Compassion
2025, you can do so by visiting:

caritas.org.au/project-compassion

...or by calling: 1800 024 413.



Next Sunday 4th May,
you're invited to stay and join
fellow parishioners for a cuppa
after the 9am & 11am
Masses, in the OLA Church Meeting Room.



BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND With
great joy the Church of God formally
welcomes **Isla, Ashton and Eamon**
who are to be Baptised this weekend.

**CAN YOU HELP? Nepean Welcoming
Immigrants and Newcomers with Dignity
(Nepean Wind)** is a group made up of
parishioners from our parish of Christ Our Light
and the parish of St Mary of the Cross, Mordialloc
/Aspendale. We are one of many community
groups all around Australia under the banner of the
Community Refugee Integration and Support Pilot
(CRISP). Our purpose is to welcome a refugee
household and to help them settle in Australia.

We are now in contact with the Syrian refugee
family (2 parents, 3 young daughters) who we will
be supporting. They will arrive in Australia at the
end of May. They are longing for peace, security
and opportunities. The immediate need is for
short-term rental accommodation for them (ideally
for about 6 weeks or more). After that they will be
able to make their own decisions about longer-
term rental. If anyone can offer short-term rental
accommodation or knows of someone who may
be able to help, we would be most grateful. Please
contact: Theresa Thomas (0400 126 010) or
Joan Kenny (0428 584 327).

Gospel reading continued...

'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to
Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are
my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my
side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas
replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to
him: 'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet
believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked
and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded
in this book. These are recorded so that you
may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of
God, and that believing this you may have life
through his name.



**SOLEMN PONTIFICAL
MASS FOR THE REPOSE
OF THE SOUL OF POPE
FRANCIS** Archbishop Peter
Comensoli invites the faithful
of the Archdiocese to attend a

Mass for Pope Francis on **Monday 28th April,**
Time: **1.00pm** Venue: **St Patrick's Cathedral,
East Melbourne.** Please note there will be no
reserved seating. For those unable to attend in
person, the Mass is to be livestreamed and
broadcast on Community Channel 31 (Channel
44 on digital television).

Divine Mercy Sunday

*'Jesus makes us see the wounds of our brothers
and sisters. In the midst of our own crises and
our difficulties, divine mercy often makes us
aware of the sufferings of our neighbour.
We think that we are experiencing unbearable
pain and situations of suffering, and we
suddenly discover that others around us are
silently enduring even worse things. If we care
for the wounds of our neighbour and pour upon
them the balm of mercy, we find being reborn
within us a hope that comforts us in our
weariness.'*

✠ Pope Francis