

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Exodus 22:20-26

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans. "If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him. "If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/ I love you, Lord, my strength.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 1:5-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we

started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will
come to them
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'



A GENTLE REMINDER:

When entering details of any 'Recently Deceased' relatives or friends, and/or any 'Anniversaries of Death', into each church's 'Family Book', **please include your own name and contact number**, in the box provided for this information. These details are required to meet our obligations under the Privacy Act. In recent weeks the majority of requests have not provided both the name and phone number of the person making the request.



**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

Website: www.christourlight.org.au

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

24th / 25th OCTOBER, 2026



Our religious tradition is founded on love. Actually, life itself is grounded in love. We may not always feel this love, but if we allow ourselves to reflect on life, we will realise this truth. We have been called into being by God's love; and we will only be happy if we live in that love. Thus, when we are directed to love God and love one another, we are not being asked to do something contrary to our nature. Rather, we are being told to live in accord with that nature. We come from God who is love, and so it is in our very nature to love and to be loved. We may sometimes think that it is easier to love God than to love others. It may actually be just the opposite. Other people are tangible. We can see and hear them, interact with them and so we show that we love God in the way we love our neighbour. Love, the foundation of the reign of God, is contagious. When we love others, the reign of God spreads throughout the world. The compassion that we show toward others is a form of evangelisation. It proclaims much louder than any words that the reign of God has been established.

Dianne Bergant CS

PARISH PRIEST:
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9532 1794
Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9583 6161
Monday - Friday 9am – 2.30pm
Parish Accountant: Maureen Ryan 0407 544 779
Counsellor: AnneMaree Eddy 0403 284 536

OUR SCHOOLS:
Our Lady of the Assumption PS 9584 9488
Principal: Mr Richard Jacques
Email: principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au
St Agnes' Primary School 9532 0344
Principal: Mr Thomas Hartney
Email: principal@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 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.

THIRTIETH SUNDAY - Year A 24th / 25th OCTOBER, 2026

PRAYING FOR:

Wilma Hodgson, Minette San Juan,
Ray Nilsson,

and all who have died recently.

WE ALSO PRAY FOR:

Micheleangelo Piccolo, Leo McGannon,
Daniela Hapin, Juan Gajo, Wendy Barlow,
Margaret Cassidy, John Joe McKenna,
Kathleen McLaughlin, Aquilina Malanog,
Bismarck Gonsalves, Carmel Ryan,

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

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.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no Communion
Service on Mondays throughout October.



MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026

We're invited to answer the call to
deepen our understanding of
synodality in parish life. More information is
available at:

melbournecatholic.org/synod2026

**SYNOD CORNER: Synodality is not
uniformity.** Different cultures, communities, and
parishes will live synodality in different ways.
Unity does not require sameness.

MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026 We extend our
gratitude to Adrian Foley, a parishioner of Christ
Our Light, who has been selected as one of 60 lay
representatives to participate in the Synod from
4th – 6th December. The Synod's purpose is to
help shape evangelical and missionary priorities
for the Archdiocese for years to come.

Cardinal Mario Grech, Secretary General of the
Synod of Bishops, and one of the architects of the
Church's synodal renewal, will address
participants on 3rd November. Adrian will kindly
keep us informed, re. news from the Synod.

† UPCOMING FUNERAL †

Funeral Mass for Wilma Hodgson (RIP)
Thursday 29th October at 11am
at OLA Church

THE HELDER CAMARA LECTURE 2026

On the 15th October **Professor Kim Daniels**, the
director of the Initiative on Catholic Social
Thought and Public Life at Georgetown
University in Washington, USA, delivered the
Helder Camara Lecture at Newman College
(University of Melbourne). It was entitled, '**AI,
Pope Leo and the future of human dignity**'. Her
particular focus was on the importance of
Catholic Social Teaching in the digital age,
especially surrounding the development of AI.
For a good summary of her presentation, visit the
Archdiocese's website:

melbournecatholic.org/news/helder-camara-lecture-ai-pope-leo-and-the-future-of-human-dignity



OLA Fete, Saturday 7th November 2026

If you would like to assist or want further
information, please contact either of our Fete
Co-Chairs: **Kim (0413 038 753)** or **Rachel
(0413 348 768)**, or get in touch via email:

fete@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au.

Thank you so much for your continued
generosity and support!

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE OF VICTORIA

Women's Breakfast – '*Coffee & Croissants with Annie*'. Join us for a special 'in conversation' as Fr Nathan Rawlins speaks with **Annie Carrett**, Chancellor of the Archdiocese of Melbourne, about 'Faith, Work & Life'

When: **Thursday 12th November 2026**

Time: **7.30am-8.45am**

Where: Victoria Hotel, Art Deco Victoria Room
215 Little Collins Street, Melbourne

Cost: \$45 (includes Continental Breakfast)
\$35 for League Members
\$30 for Students

TryBooking: www.trybooking.com/DPTZE