

## FIRST READING

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

2:14, 22-33

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him: I saw the Lord before me always, for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. So my heart was glad and my tongue cried out with joy: my body, too, will rest in the hope that you will not abandon my soul to Hades nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. You have made known the way of life to me, you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Lord, you will show us the path of life.

## SECOND READING

### A reading from the First Letter of St Peter

1:17-21

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously

careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:  
make our hearts burn with love  
when you speak.

Alleluia!

## GOSPEL READING

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

24:13-35

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when

...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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## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR A 18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2026



These two men give me great heart. Like them I find myself sometimes full of 'had hopes' Jesus explains in this journey that God's plan wasn't the same as the disciples, that in fact their 'had hopes' were unreal. God's plan went way beyond mere political freedom which his disciples had wanted.

They know of Jesus' death, they have heard about the empty tomb and the declaration that, 'he is alive'. But intellectual information is not the basis of faith. Jesus comes to these two men, unrecognised. They could not see God in the recent events. Jesus opened their eyes to the possibility that God could be present even in suffering and death. They shift from intellectual information, to an inner conversion of heart. This change of heart is the basis of faith, and in this new faith perception, their eyes were opened to see that the stranger was Jesus.

It is not easy to let go 'had hopes' and to surrender what I want for what God wants, and yet this is the transformation or conversion that is needed if we are to walk within God's path. What heartens me in this story is that while disciples may walk out on Jesus, but he doesn't give up on them(us). Jesus joins these two deserters and gradually in mulling things over in his presence they are able to let go their plans and turn around towards Jerusalem to re-join the salvation story.

Mary Coloe PBVM

**PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT**  
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9532 1794  
Email: [Alan.Fox@cam.org.au](mailto:Alan.Fox@cam.org.au)

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** 9583 6161  
Monday - Friday 9am – 3pm  
Secretary: Julie Binstead  
Accountant: Maureen Ryan

**OUR SCHOOLS:**  
**Our Lady of the Assumption PS** 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 Thomas Hartney  
Email: [principal@sahighett.catholic.edu.au](mailto: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.

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER – Year A**  
**18<sup>th</sup> / 19<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2026**

**PRAYING FOR:**

Theresa Williams, Mitchel Agullo,  
Ian Wright, Maxcy Castelino, Peter Lay,  
*and all who died recently.*

**WE ALSO PRAY FOR:**

Jane Farrugia, John Martin,  
Thomas Byrne,

*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](http://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.



**MELBOURNE SYNOD 2026**

We're invited to answer the call  
to deepen our understanding of  
synodality in parish life.

For more information on the Synod please visit:

[melbournecatholic.org/synod2026](http://melbournecatholic.org/synod2026)

**SYNOD CORNER**

**Where does the word “Synod” come from?**

The word *Synod* comes from the Greek  
*syn-hodos*, meaning “walking together on the  
road.”

This reminds us that the Christian life is never  
meant to be lived alone. Faith is a shared  
journey, where we support one another, listen  
to one another, and discern together how best  
to follow Christ.

**† FUNERALS THIS WEEK †**

**Funeral Mass for Peter Lay (RIP)**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 11am  
(at OLA Church)

**Funeral Mass for Theresa Williams (RIP)**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 11.30am (Rosary 11am)  
(at St Agnes' Church)

**BASP Online Trivia Night**

Fri 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026

Supporting the Brigidine Asylum Seekers  
Project ([basp.org.au](http://basp.org.au)).

Gather some friends at your place for a fun  
Friday night and create a team,  
*or* co-operate with a distributed team.

Details and booking at, email enquiries to  
[basp trivia@gmail.com](mailto:basp trivia@gmail.com)

**FAITH FORMATION TALK:** ‘Symbolism  
and Scripture’ with Fr Jerome Santamaria:  
Wednesday 22 April 2026, 7.30pm–8.30pm.  
Give your faith a boost with faith formation  
talks. RSVP by Friday 17 April 2026 to  
[Jessica.Earle@cam.org.au](mailto:Jessica.Earle@cam.org.au)

**GOSPEL READING continued...**

they did not find the body, they came back to tell  
us they had seen a vision of angels who declared  
he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb  
and found everything exactly as the women had  
reported, but of him they saw nothing.’

Then he said to them, ‘You foolish men! So slow  
to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it  
not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so  
enter into his glory?’ Then, starting with Moses  
and going through all the prophets, he explained to  
them the passages throughout the scriptures that  
were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they  
were going, he made as if to go on; but they  
pressed him to stay with them. ‘It is nearly  
evening’ they said ‘and the day is almost over.’ So  
he went in to stay with them. Now while he was  
with them at table, he took the bread and said the  
blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them.  
And their eyes were opened and they recognised  
him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then  
they said to each other, ‘Did not our hearts burn  
within us as he talked to us on the road and  
explained the scriptures to us?’

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem.  
There they found the Eleven assembled together  
with their companions, who said to them, ‘Yes, it  
is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to  
Simon.’ Then they told their story of what had  
happened on the road and how they had recognised  
him at the breaking of bread.



**HELPING KIDS THRIVE:  
Developmental Changes and  
Digital Wellbeing**

When: 7-8pm, Tues. 28<sup>th</sup> April,  
Online webinar.

A faith-centred webinar to help parents and  
caregivers of children aged 12 and under better  
understand key stages of childhood and  
adolescence, how current culture impacts, set  
healthy digital boundaries and respond with  
confidence and care. For further details please  
scan the above QR code.