

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

7:2-4, 9-14

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel. After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words, 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.' One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/ Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of John 3:1-3

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not

acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. Surely everyone who entertains this hope must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 5:1-12

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them: 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.'

† UPCOMING FUNERAL †

Funeral Mass for

Andelka (Angela) Mandic (RIP)

Wednesday 4th November at 11.15am

(Rosary prior to Mass: 10.45am)

at OLA Church



**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

ALL SAINTS - YEAR A

31st OCTOBER / 1st NOVEMBER, 2026



Given the extreme familiarity of this text, it may surprise some to learn that Sunday Mass-goers hear the gospel of the beatitudes no more than once every three years, and that is early in Year A. They only hear it a second time in the cycle when the festival of All Saints falls on a Sunday. Of course a number of the congregation are likely to have heard it read or sung at other celebrations they have attended, especially funerals. Presiders are sure to have read this passage out many times over. Their challenge is to proclaim it freshly, as if no-one had ever heard it before. There is no doubt about the importance of the passage as far as Matthew is concerned. It is the overture to the first of the five discourses that he gives to Jesus in memory of the five books of the Torah. The beatitudes are steeped in the tradition that Jesus absorbed from his family and townsfolk as he grew up. At the same time they open out on to a new future. Past wisdom and future promise combine in these paradoxical sayings whose meaning we can never exhaust. They carry an implicit warning: wrestling with them may leave us wounded like Jacob (Gen32:22-32)

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 Secretary: Vino Krishnan-Blair
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 & HIGGETT**
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.

ALL SAINTS - Year A 31st October / 1st November, 2026

PRAYING FOR:

Andelka (Angela) Mandic, Emiliano Loreto Sr,
Noel Evans, Bill Sulley,
and all who have died recently.

WE ALSO PRAY FOR:

Carlos & Guia Ramirez, Corazon & Carolina
Ramirez, Carlos San Juan, Rocksten Pereira, Mervyn
Patterson, Eldon Rozario, Victor D'Cruz, Sr Mary
Basil, Carmela Sofo, Samuel Bukasongo, Peter
Seymour, Benjamin Macasadia, William Dean,
Agueda Rubia, Henny de Jong, Teresita Arimes,
Bev Smith, Amelia Smith,
and all who we remember at this time.

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.

**CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME
GROUP MEETING** Sunday 8th November
2026 at 10.15am in Exodus Hall. Everyone
is most welcome to attend our last meeting
for 2026. Morning tea provided.



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.



This Sunday 1st November,
you're invited to stay and join
fellow parishioners for a cuppa
after the 9am & 11am Masses, in the OLA
Church Meeting Room.



MONTH OF NOVEMBER Remembering Our Dearly Departed

The Cross of Remembrance

You are invited to inscribe the names of your
dear loved ones who have died, on the
November cross placed near the altar in each of
our churches. These crosses will be in place
from 1st – 30th November.

November Offering envelopes are available in
the foyers of our churches and at the base of
each Remembrance Cross, for those who would
like Masses offered for deceased loved ones.

APPOINTMENT OF PARISH SECRETARY

I am very pleased to announce that Vino
Krishnan-Blair, will be returning to her former
role, that of Parish Secretary, commencing this
Wednesday. We are excited to have Vino on
staff, once again. Welcome back, Vino!

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE Please note:
the Parish Office will be **closed** this coming
Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd November, due
to the public holiday long weekend.

PLEASE NOTE: The **9am Mass** on
Saturday 7th November has been moved to St
Agnes Church, due to all the Fete activity in the
grounds of OLA Church and School.

OLA FETE
WE NEED YOUR HELP!
We are collecting
BAKED GOODS
FOR OUR CAKE STALL!
YOUR DELICIOUS DONATIONS HELP
MAKE OUR FETE A SWEET SUCCESS!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS
BEFORE SCHOOL ON
FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER 2026
OR TO THE CAKE STALL
ON THE MORNING OF THE FETE.

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!