

## FIRST READING

### A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

2:14, 36-41

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: 'The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ.'

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, 'What must we do, brothers?' 'You must repent,' Peter answered 'and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself.' He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, 'Save yourselves from this perverse generation.' They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.**

## SECOND READING

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

2:20-25

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and

live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my sheep, and mine know me.**

**Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING

### A reading from the holy Gospel according to

**John 10:1-10**

Jesus said: 'I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers.' Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

'I tell you most solemnly,  
I am the gate of the sheepfold.  
All others who have come  
are thieves and brigands;  
but the sheep took no notice of them.

I am the gate.  
Anyone who enters through me will be safe:  
he will go freely in and out  
and be sure of finding pasture.  
The thief comes  
only to steal and kill and destroy.  
I have come  
so that they may have life  
and have it to the full.'



**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

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## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A

25<sup>th</sup>/ 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2026



In the Gospel of John, we do not find parables in the traditional sense. They are not a literary device that John employs, but this text is as close an approximation to a parable as we have. The contrast he draws between the shepherd who enters the fold by the gate and the thieves and brigands who seek to enter another way is really about leadership. There are good leaders and bad leaders. The good leader of God's people must come to them through Jesus, who is the gate. The thieves and brigands will only lead the people to fear and confusion, where they will be scattered. Perhaps John is addressing a situation in his community where those who are seeking leadership are not following the voice of Jesus but seeking their own aggrandisement or following their own agenda. Such people will ultimately lead the flock to destruction, but Jesus gives life in abundance to all who know his voice and follow him as shepherd.

- *The Summit.*

**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.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – Year A**  
**25<sup>th</sup> / 26<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2026**

**PRAYING FOR:**

Bernadette Herft, Nathaniel Isacs,  
Monica D'Souza, Angelina Marvida,  
Anna Greaves, Raelene West,  
Basia Klaskala

*and all who died recently.*

**WE ALSO PRAY FOR:**

Pope Francis, Norman Dodgson,  
Carman Zahra, Sylvia Dib, Adele Gori,  
Elenora Bukasongo, Daniel Paoli,  
Brian Huxtable, Marie-Louise Cotter,  
John Martin, Olga Evans, Fr Pat O'Gorman,

*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 Synodality is not new.**

Synodality is not a modern invention. From the  
earliest days of the Church, Christians gathered  
to pray, listen, and discern together. In the Acts  
of the Apostles, the Church faced difficult  
questions and resolved them not through  
power struggles, but through prayer, dialogue,  
and trust in the Holy Spirit.



**Caritas**  
AUSTRALIA

**PROJECT  
COMPASSION**

**A MESSAGE FROM CARITAS**

**Thank you** so much again to the entire  
Cheltenham/Highett Catholic Parish  
community for choosing to Unite Against  
Poverty through Caritas Australia's Project  
Compassion. Together, you walked in powerful  
solidarity with vulnerable people around the  
world, helping to create real, lasting change.

Thanks to parishes like yours, more young  
people like 13-year-old Sisilia from Tanzania  
will be able to access tools they need to build  
brighter, more sustainable futures for  
themselves and their families.

To help you see the impact of their compassion  
in action, we're thrilled to share a special thank  
you letter from Sisilia herself. Simply visit:

[www.caritas.org.au/resources/project-compassion/thank-you-letter-from-sisilia-parish](http://www.caritas.org.au/resources/project-compassion/thank-you-letter-from-sisilia-parish)

**Project Compassion**

Cash received tax deductible receipts have been  
issued. Those paying by credit cards will be  
issued receipts directly from Caritas (Project  
Compassion) next month.

Any queries please contact our Parish  
Accountant: Maureen on 0407 544 779.



**Next weekend** we have the **CatholicCare  
Victoria Sunday Appeal** (previously held  
during the month of August).

CatholicCare Victoria is the Church's mission  
in action - empowering communities and  
building strength and resilience, to enable  
everyone to reach their full potential and live  
life to the full.

Please donate to the CatholicCare Victoria  
Sunday Appeal.

You can donate using the appeal envelopes  
available next weekend, or donate online at:

[catholiccarevic.org.au](http://catholiccarevic.org.au)

or call (03) 99672515.



**Next Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May**, you're  
invited to stay and join fellow  
parishioners for a cuppa after  
the 9am & 11am Masses, in  
the OLA Church Meeting Room

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR  
VOCATIONS** Today is the **World Day of  
Prayer for Vocations.**

Pope Leo tells us: *Listen to the voice of the  
Lord who invites you to a full and fruitful life,  
calling you to put your talents to use and to  
unite your limitations and weaknesses with the  
glorious cross of Christ.*

Let us pray for all young people in our  
community, and in our families and circle of  
friends. May our prayers help them to be open  
to the Lord's call to consecrated life or  
priesthood.

**A prayer request:** You might know of a  
young person in the parish, in your family or  
an acquaintance whom you think would make  
a good priest or religious. Why not pray for  
them by name on a regular basis? Sometimes  
the Lord uses us as his instruments to  
encourage vocations.