

## FIRST READING

**A reading from the prophet Zephaniah  
2:3; 3:12-13**

Seek the Lord all you, the humble of the earth, who obey his commands. Seek integrity, seek humility: you may perhaps find shelter on the day of the anger of the Lord. In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people, and those who are left in Israel will seek refuge in the name of the Lord. They will do no wrong, will tell no lies; and the perjured tongue will no longer be found in their mouths. But they will be able to graze and rest with no one to disturb them.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ Happy the poor in spirit;  
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!**

## SECOND READING

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul  
to the Corinthians 1:26-31**

Take yourselves, brothers, at the time when you were called: how many of you were wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many were influential people, or came from noble families? No, it was to shame the wise that God chose what is foolish by human reckoning, and to shame what is strong that he chose what is weak by human reckoning; those whom the world thinks common and contemptible are the ones that God has chosen – those who are nothing at all to show up those who are everything. The human race has nothing to boast about to God, but you, God has made members of Christ Jesus and by God's doing he has become our wisdom, and our virtue, and our

holiness, and our freedom. As scripture says: if anyone wants to boast, let him boast about the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!  
Rejoice and be glad;  
Your reward will be great in heaven.  
Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL READING

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

Seeing the crowds, he went onto the mountain. And when he was seated his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for the kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

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 children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of righteousness, for the kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

Blessed are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven'.



**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.olacheltenham.org.au

**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY / 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY, 2026**



The sermon of the mount was directed toward the establishment of the reign of God, the type of behaviour or values that Jesus advocates is frequently the opposite of that espoused by society at large. This fact offers us a way to understand the challenges set before us in the beatitudes. Perhaps the way to interpret them is to look first at the blessings promised. We may see that the behaviour that Jesus is advocating is at odds with what society would say will guarantee the blessing that we seek. It is clear that each and every beatitude invites us to turn our standards and our way of life upside down and inside out. At the heart of Jesus' teaching was the promise of a new age when society would be reshaped so that all would gain access to the blessings that life has to offer.

*Dianne Bergant CSA*

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: Vino Krishnan Blair  
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 IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A - 31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY / 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY, 2026

##### PRAYING FOR:

Jason Jaeger, Giulia Oppedisano,  
Lilliana Cassar,  
*and all those who died recently.*

##### WE ALSO PRAY FOR:

Dorothy Longmuir, Patricia Longmuir,  
Daniela Hapin, Tom Lillis,  
Mary Ellen Murphy, Pacifico Chan,  
Lucja Odrowaz, Maurie Corkill,  
Antonio Cesario, Malcolm D'Souza,  
Austin Francis,  
*...and all who we remember at this time.*  
*...and we keep in our prayers all 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.



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



**OLA KNITTING GROUP** will  
next meet on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February  
at 1pm in the Church Meeting  
Room. All are most welcome.  
Donations of wool would be much  
appreciated.



#### Recollection and Reflection Day

Join us for a Day of Recollection - a peaceful  
retreat to deepen your connection with God  
through prayer, meditation, and reflection.  
Take time away from daily routines to nurture  
your faith, gain clarity, and renew your  
purpose. Activities include guided meditations,  
spiritual readings, and personal prayer time.  
Book now and nurture your soul in this sacred  
day of quiet reflection. Facilitated by Clare  
Shearman.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March from 9.30am - 3pm.  
Cost: \$180 excl. GST | \$198 incl. GST

To book please visit:

[mmsm.org.au/retreats/recollection-reflection-day-melb/](http://mmsm.org.au/retreats/recollection-reflection-day-melb/)



**ONLINE INTERLINEAR  
STUDY BIBLE** Here is a  
helpful online resource for  
the study of Sacred  
Scripture, and the understanding of these texts  
in their original languages, namely Hebrew  
and Greek.

Those wanting to grasp the significance of  
specific quotes or phrases can benefit by also  
examining the texts in their first languages,  
both in a literal and interpretive sense.

[studybible.info/interlinear](http://studybible.info/interlinear)



**COL GARDENING  
GROUP** There will be a  
'Working Bee' on  
Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> February  
from 9.45am. Anyone  
able to assist, either casually or more  
regularly, would be most welcome.  
Ordinarily we spend around an hour or so on  
these days. For further information contact  
John Tetteroo on 0432 649 659. Thank you  
in anticipation of your presence.



#### SPECIAL JUBILEE YEAR

Pope Leo XIV has proclaimed a  
special Jubilee Year coinciding  
with the 800th anniversary of the  
death of St Francis of Assisi. According to  
the decree, Pope Leo has established that  
from 10 January, following the closing of the  
Church's Jubilee Year, until 10<sup>th</sup> January  
2027, a special Year of St Francis may be  
proclaimed, in which every Christian,  
'following the example of the Saint of  
Assisi, may himself become a model of  
holiness of life and a constant witness of  
peace'. To read more on the decree:

[melbournecatholic.org/news/pope-proclaims-jubilee-to-mark-800th-anniversary-of-st-francis-death](http://melbournecatholic.org/news/pope-proclaims-jubilee-to-mark-800th-anniversary-of-st-francis-death)

