

FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

4:32-35

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common. The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect. None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ Give thanks to the Lord
for he is good,
his love is everlasting.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St John

5: 1-6

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God; Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

**You believe in me, Thomas,
because you have seen me;
happy are those who have not seen me,
but still believe!
Alleluia!,**

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 20:19-31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

(Gospel reading continued overleaf...)

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

YEAR B - 6th/7th APRIL, 2024



The themes for the second Sunday of Easter set the tone for the entire Easter season. They are all directed toward mystagogical instruction, primarily of those baptised during the Easter Vigil, but also of the whole Christian community. The readings for this season provide us an extended meditation on the resurrection and on our own incorporation into it through the mysteries of initiation.

Most of us are like Thomas who looked for some tangible evidence of the resurrection. We do not find it any easier to live by faith than he did. However, when we do live by faith, we actually discover our capacity, as a Christian community, to reach out in care and support to others. Jesus extends his wounded hands to us as he did to Thomas, and the community is invited to touch his wounds as we touch the wounds of our world.

Although the blessings that we derive from the resurrection are clearly gifts from God, they are nonetheless gifts that came at a cost.

Dianne Bergant CSA

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9555 3557
Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9583 6161
Monday - Friday 9am – 3pm
Secretary: Vino Krishnan
Accountant: Maureen Ryan

OUR SCHOOLS:

Our Lady of the Assumption 9584 9488
Principal: Mr Richard Jacques
Email: principal@olacheltenham.catholic.edu.au
St Agnes' Primary School 9532 0344
Principal: Mr Lachlan Foott
Email: tfoot@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
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SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday	9:45 am
Saturday	9.30 am

i.e. following Mass (COVID-safe protocols apply)

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 two parishes 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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER YEAR B - 6th / 7th April, 2024

PRAYING FOR:

Wendy McCalaster, Hilary Keely,
...and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Thomas Byrne, Emmanuel Ajomale,
Filomena Perotte, Nathan De Abreu,
Neliya Edema, Mesake Ravu, Bill Smith,
Santina Gullo, William Kelly, Clare Cinaglia,
Enrico Alba, Benidecta Nombrado,
Maryann D'Rozario, Jane Farrugia,
Claude Stephen & Olivia Capule.

....and all whose anniversaries occur about
this time.

...and we keep in our prayers all who are
currently unwell.

Readings for this liturgical year from Advent 2023 to Christ the King 2024 are taken from Year B 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 support both the
Thanksgiving and Presbytery collections through
your generous contributions. Both OLA & St
Agnes are now registered for online contributions.

The **CDF Pay** link for **OLA, Cheltenham** is:
<http://bit.ly/CDFpayCheltenham>

The **CDF Pay** link for **St Agnes, Highett** is:
<http://bit.ly/CDFpayHighett>



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS

Daylight Savings ends this
Sunday 7th April. We turn our
clocks back 1 hour.

Save
the
Date

The dates and times for the upcoming Group
Discernment Sessions discussing the
forthcoming formal amalgamation of Highett &
Cheltenham parishes have been set. They are:


Session 1: 7–8.30pm on Thurs. 18th April

Session 2: 7–8.30pm on Thurs. 2nd May

The location for each of these meetings is yet to
be confirmed. **Please consult next weekend's
bulletin for the meeting venues.**

The invitation is open to all parishioners of OLA
and St Agnes', including the staff of both our
parish schools, and to all school families.

The detailed '**Implementation Plan**' for the
'**Reconfiguration of the Bayside Parishes**',
can be downloaded directly from the following
link: bit.ly/47JiBhr

 **Caritas AUSTRALIA** **PROJECT COMPASSION**
THANK YOU most
sincerely for your generous support of Caritas
Australia's Project Compassion 2024 Lenten
Appeal. If you have yet to return Project
Compassion donation boxes or envelopes, please
do so A.S.A.P., so we can finalise all parishioner
contributions to this year's appeal, and forward
them on to Caritas Australia. If you would still
like to make a donation to Project
Compassion 2024, you can do so by visiting
caritas.org.au/project-compassion, or by calling
1800 024 413.

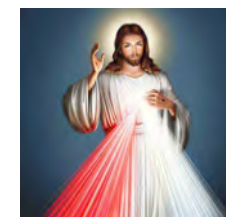


Gospel reading continued...

There were many other signs that Jesus worked
and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded
in this book. These are recorded so that you
may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of
God, and that believing this you may have life
through his name.



This Sunday 7th April,
you're invited to stay and join
fellow parishioners for a
cuppa **after the 9am & 11am**
Masses, in the OLA Church Meeting Room.



Divine Mercy Sunday

*"Jesus makes us see the wounds of our brothers
and sisters. In the midst of our own crises and
our difficulties, divine mercy often makes us
aware of the sufferings of our neighbour. We
think that we are experiencing unbearable pain
and situations of suffering, and we suddenly
discover that others around us are silently
enduring even worse things. If we care for the
wounds of our neighbour and pour upon them
the balm of mercy, we find being reborn within
us a hope that comforts us in our weariness."*

- Pope Francis



GOOD FRIDAY – COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY PLACES

Thank
you for your generous support of the
annual Holy Places collection taken up on Good
Friday. This year **\$1,799.75** was raised and
forwarded onto the Franciscan 'Holy Land
Commissariat' for the preservation of sacred
sites and churches, in and around the Holy Land.