FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Wisdom **6:12-16**

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them. Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates. Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you. She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/ My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians **4:13-18**

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Be watchful and ready:
You know not when
the Son of Man is coming.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew **25:1-13**

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five of them were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said, "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

BAPTISM

BAPTISMS THIS WEEKEND
With great joy the Church of God formally welcomes: **Vera, Caden, Clara, Georgie, Alex** and **Mateo,** who are to be Baptised this weekend.

CHRIST OUR LIGHT CATHOLIC PARISH

HIGHETT / CHELTENHAM

Parish Office:
9 Centre Dandenong Road,
Cheltenham, VIC. 3192

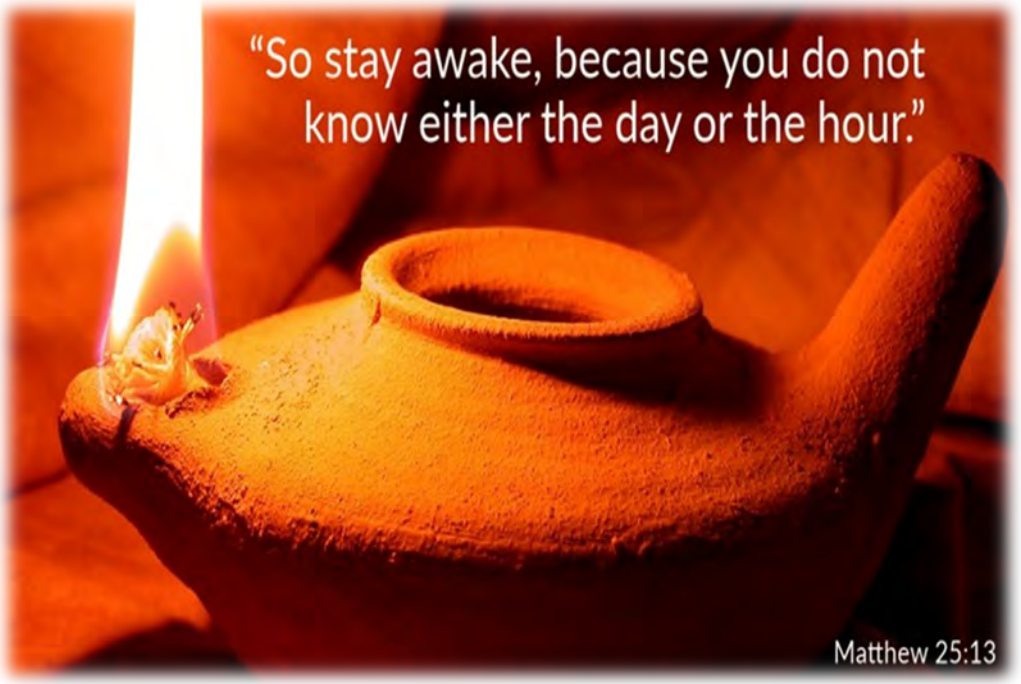
Our Lady of the Assumption Church
9 Centre Dandenong Road, Cheltenham

St Agnes' Church
25 Spring Road, Highett

Telephone: (03) 9583 6161
Email: col@cam.org.au
Website: www.christourlight.org.au

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A

7th / 8th NOVEMBER, 2026



The strange allegory of the foolish and wise bridesmaids is the focus of today's gospel reading. The bridegroom is coming, and at night, but where is the bride? She is ever waiting for his late arrival. The mysterious sense of time and place, and the feelings of anticipation and tension, colour this story. The Kingdom of God is near but we never know when the call to enter the Heavenly Banquet will come. Summer is near. At last it feels as if the season of light and heat has returned. We approach the end of another Church Year. Our gospels look ahead to the end of time. We are invited to ponder the mystery and place of wisdom, the focus of our first reading, in our journey through time. Like a dry weary land without water, do we thirst for God, as the Responsorial Psalm confidently proclaims? Do we have enough oil in our lamps to welcome the Lord when he comes?

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 & 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.

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year A
7th / 8th November, 2026

PRAYING FOR:

Fr Brendan Lane, Oliver Sequeira,

Joan Clarke,

and all who have died recently.

WE ALSO PRAY FOR:

Malcolm Devenport, Elvie McKinley, Mark Tan, Geoff Miller, Michelangelo Piccolo, Marco Paoli, Daniel Paoli, Nunziata Re, Piotr Volkel, Jan de Jong, Don Walford, Diane Hydo, John Howden, Barbara Mills, Frances Max, Hilary Quyn, David Barrile,

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.
Our group is also having a picnic lunch at the **Briars Wildlife Sanctuary, Mt Martha**. Everyone is welcome to join us.
BYO picnic lunch.
Meet at the Briars Information Centre **Sunday 22nd November 2026 at 11.30am**.
Please contact Phillip Steele on phillipsteele1@gmail.com for more information.

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 and hope.
A synodal Church believes that renewal is possible, even in difficult times. Hope is not naïve optimism—it is trust in God's faithfulness.

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.

THE BETHANY WAY: Will you let Christ form you? Applications are now open to join the 2027 intake of the Archdiocese of Melbourne's flagship formation initiative.
Whether you are a leader, parent or just someone who wants to see where God is calling them, find a deeper way of being formed at the feet of Christ the Teacher.

Enquiries: proclaim@cam.org.au

For further information and to apply:
melbournecatholic.org/bethanyway

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.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL You are invited to a playful and witty portrayal of Charles Dickens' classic story combining favourite music performed by Gilbert & Sullivan Opera Victoria.

When: Saturday 28th November
Time: 2pm (doors open 1.30pm)
Where: Brigid Hall, OLA Primary School
Tickets: $40 (adult)
$35 (cardholder)
$15 (child)

Book now to secure your seats at:
trybooking.com/DRGHM

For more information, contact Monica 0417 216 187
Or email: programs @mbf.org.au

CHRIST OUR LIGHT PARISH WEBSITE: We are excited to announce the launch of our newly redesigned parish website:
christourlight.org.au

Please be aware the website is a living document and remains a work in progress. A special thanks to Jacob John, a parishioner, who has helped with the transition from two old parish websites to the new one. Hopefully, our new digital home will help parishioners stay connected.