

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Genesis

12:1-4

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.' So Abram went as the Lord told him.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R./ Lord, let your mercy be on us,
as we place our trust in you.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy

1:8-10

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you,

Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the

Father's voice is heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you,

Lord Jesus Christ!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

17:1-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'



**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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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

28th FEBRUARY/ 1st MARCH, 2026



Jesus' Transfiguration puts our sacrifices in context, reminding us that Lent is more than a season of self-denial. The only reason we deny ourselves anything or commit ourselves to actions of service for these 40 days is to grow more deeply in love with the God who loves us into life. Penance is not meant to attack our self-esteem, it's intended to help us sort out what really matters, to cast some light in the darkness of our lives and to focus on the relationship which gives meaning and purpose for this world and the next. The God of Mount Tabor is not interested in each of us feeling isolated as we fulfil the letter of a legal code. He wants all of us to have hearts that listen to the Gospel of love so that we can gain the power to transform the world through the sacrifices of our daily lives. On a much gentler scale, Sunday Mass is meant to be a weekly mountaintop experience for us where we hear God call us by name and confess his love for us; where we feel re-energised for the commission we have to bear his light to the world. In this context anything we can do this Lent that helps remove the blocks in our full response to his love, must be worth the effort.

Richard Leonard SJ

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHETT
Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9532 1794
Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9583 6161
Monday - Friday 9am – 3pm
Secretary: (tba)
Accountant: Maureen Ryan

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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
YEAR A - 28th FEBRUARY / 1st MARCH, 2026

PRAYING FOR:

Pat Collins, Felix Cejas Jr, Kevin Curry,
and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO PRAY FOR:

Adam Wanless, Frank Anile,
Jadwiga Zolkos, Tom Duke, Brian Bluett,
Margaret Masters, Fr Martin Leach,
Jack Holloway, Joanne Clifford,
Lawrence Mooney, Guy Vincent,
Kerry King, Bernadette Cutajar,
Agnes D'Souza, Jack Giffney, Lina Gori,

... 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

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

CHRIST OUR LIGHT SOCIAL LUNCH

The next Parish Social Lunch will be held on Thursday, 5th March, at 12 noon, at the Highett RSL. All are most welcome. Please RSVP by Tuesday 3rd March to: Tricia Hickey: 0421 275 853 or Adrian Foley: 0497 780 233. Looking forward to seeing you!



PROJECT COMPASSION 2026 invites us to reflect on the stories of those whose lives have already been transformed through our kindness and support and is a powerful reminder of what our collective generosity can help to achieve. Sisilia is a 13-year-old girl living in remote Tanzania. Life has been difficult for Sisilia since her father died when she was just a baby, leaving her mother to care for her and her siblings alone. To help the family, Sisilia would walk long distances each day to collect water. The water was dirty, causing frequent illness, and the walks left Sisilia exhausted and struggling to focus on her studies. Thanks to Project Compassion, water taps have now been installed in Sisilia's school and village, meaning it takes her just minutes to collect clean, safe water. She now has more time to focus on her studies to fulfil her dream of one day becoming a pilot.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or online at: projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we Unite Against Poverty this Lent.

POSITION VACANT

Parish Office Administrator
/ Parish Secretary

Christ Our Light Parish
Highett / Cheltenham

We are currently seeking a Parish Office Administrator / Parish Secretary to provide essential administrative support, manage parish records and communications, assist with liturgical provisions, and help keep the parish office running smoothly.

If you, or any one you know, would like more information about this important role in our parish, including a 'Position Description', please visit the Archdiocese's Job Vacancies. Applications close: 11th March, 2026.

melbournecatholic.org/job-vacancies/parish-administration-officer-parish-secretary



CHRIST OUR LIGHT
PARISH - LENTEN
STATIONS OF THE
CROSS

Each Friday of Lent through to the 27th of March, at 6.30pm, there will be a Lenten Way of the Cross in Our Lady of the Assumption Church. All are most welcome.

✦ SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2026 ✦

Christ Our Light Parish offers sacramental preparation for Reconciliation (Grade 3 and above), First Eucharist (Grade 4 and above) and Confirmation (Grade 6 and above) for students attending non Catholic schools. All sessions occur on select Mondays from 4-5pm in the Meeting Room of Our Lady of the Assumption Church. If you are interested and want more information, please contact the Parish Office on: 9583 6161.