

FIRST READING

**A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus
26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23**

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

SECOND READING

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul
to the Corinthians 15:54-58**

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory?

Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, Alleluia!
Shine on the world like bright stars;
you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Luke 6:39-45**

Jesus told a parable to his disciples, 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'



**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

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EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C

1st / 2nd MARCH, 2025



Get the heart – the fundamental attitude – right, Jesus seems to be saying in the Gospel, and all else will follow. The opening commands not to judge and not to condemn are already bound up with this. They raise the issue of just how difficult it is for people to have the kind of understanding that would really allow them to make judgments of others. The illustrations of one blind person leading another and of attempting to remove the speck in a neighbour's eye when one has a log in one's own are, again, as is so often the case with Jesus' image and illustrations, exaggerated and humorous. It is so hard to know what is in one's own heart – to recognise the 'plank' that may be there, inhibiting right vision and right judgment. Yet, even with such impediment, we are still so confident that we can see and set about rooting out the failings of others. If God, who really does see the heart, acts with such generosity, understanding and compassion, then that – not judgment and condemnation – should surely be the model for human interaction.

Brendan Byrne SJ

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
Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

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: foott@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 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.

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YR C - 1st/ 2nd MARCH, 2025

PRAYING FOR:

Marie Mireille Soumarie, Evelyn Amboy,
Jacqueline How Sok, Louise Connolly,
Jack Dignan, Marjorie Lee,
and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Adrian Mouritz, Rita Giugni, Absalon Layos,
Joan Marr, Brian Bluett, Jack Holloway,
Joanne Clifford, Agnes D'Souza, Lina Gori,
James (Jim) Phelan,

...and all who we remember at this time.

*...additionally, we keep in our prayers all
who are currently unwell.*

Readings for this liturgical year from Advent
2024 to Christ the King 2025 are taken from
Year C in the Lectionary cycle.
Should you wish to view the Scripture
Readings for Daily Mass (Australian Liturgical
Calendar) please visit:
universals.com/australia.melbourneP/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.



LENTEN GROUPS Sign-up sheets for the
2025 Lenten Program are available in the
respective church foyers. In this year's program,
MANY PATHS LEAD TO EASTER, Fr
Andrew Hamilton SJ will explore the many
paths we take on our Easter journey, inviting us
to let memory be our guide.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES Lent begins
this coming **Wednesday 5th March**. Masses
will be celebrated at **9.15am at OLA
Church**, and **7pm at St Agnes' Church**.

Our transition into **LENT** signals a move
from summer into autumn. The evenings
grow cooler, giving way to darker mornings.
And there is a stillness about autumn that
encourages a quietening of the spirit—
perhaps bringing with it an invitation to
cultivate a Lenten spirit.

From the moment we hear the cry from the
Book of Joel on Ash Wednesday, 'No, no—
it is the Lord who speaks—come back to me
with all your heart, fasting, weeping,
mourning' (2:12), we are invited to immerse
ourselves in a different world, a different
way of being, a time for us to strip away the
excess of our lives enabling us to be more
attentive to God's presence.

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are three
practical strategies that, if we accept the
invitation, will help us return to God. The
liturgical elements of Lent have come from
careful reflection on the Scriptures and the
deep desire to keep alive the mystery that is
celebrated. From the earliest times in Jewish-
Christian history, there has been a yearning
to prepare for the feast of the Resurrection of
Christ or the Pascha (Passover). The rituals
and symbols associated with Lent enable us
to engage more deeply in this change-of-
heart time.

PROJECT COMPASSION
SUNDAY - March 2, 2025
Caritas AUSTRALIA

This Lent, we are called to
Unite Against Poverty through Caritas
Australia's Project Compassion. By taking
home a Project Compassion donation box or
envelope, you'll be answering the Gospels' call
to care for our global family and walk alongside
the most vulnerable.

Your generous support this Lenten season will
enable Caritas Australia to provide life-
changing support to communities facing
poverty, food insecurity, lack of education, and
water shortages, while building resilience
against future challenges. Together, through
faith and action, we can bring compassion and
opportunity to those most in need. You can
support Project Compassion 2025 through the
donation boxes or the envelopes provided.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

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



This Sunday 2nd March, you're
invited to stay and join fellow
parishioners for a cuppa **after the
9am & 11am Masses**, in the OLA Church
Meeting Room.



Next Saturday 8th March,
you're invited to stay and join
fellow parishioners for a cuppa
after the 6pm Mass, in St Agnes' Church Foyer.

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thousand classic Christian books. Discover,
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