

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

40:1-5, 9-11

‘Console my people, console them’ says your God. ‘Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for, that she has received from the hand of the Lord double punishment for all her crimes.’ A voice cries, ‘Prepare in the wilderness a way for the Lord. Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low, let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.’ Go up on a high mountain, joyful messenger to Zion. Shout with a loud voice, joyful messenger to Jerusalem. Shout without fear, say to the towns of Judah, ‘Here is your God.’ Here is the Lord coming with power, his arm subduing all things to him. The prize of his victory is with him, his trophies all go before him. He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast and leading to their rest the mother ewes.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R./ Oh, bless the Lord, my soul!

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

God’s grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the

glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good. When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

John said: He who is to come

is mightier than I;

He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit
and with fire.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL READING

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ, so John declared before them all, ‘I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.’ Now when all the people had been baptised and while Jesus after his own baptism was at prayer, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily shape, like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on you.’



CHRIST OUR LIGHT CATHOLIC PARISH

HIGHETT / CHELTENHAM

Parish Office:

9 Centre Dandenong Road,
Cheltenham, VIC. 3192

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9 Centre Dandenong Road, Cheltenham

St Agnes’ Church
25 Spring Road, Highett

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THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – YEAR C

11th/12th JANUARY, 2025



The gospel reading from Luke moves us from anticipation of the coming of the messiah to fulfillment of God’s promise. This theme of fulfillment is at the heart of the Christmas message. In the baptism narrative we see that Jesus has come into our midst, not only as a helpless infant, but as our anointed messiah. There is a dimension to this same gospel reading that opens us to a future yet to be fully realized in our lives. The one upon whom the Spirit descends has come to baptize us in that same Spirit. The reading from Titus is similar to the gospel. Both herald the appearance of Jesus and promise a future fulfillment for us. Renewed by the Spirit, we will be justified and become heirs in hope of eternal life. The readings clearly announce that: the Lord is coming; the Lord has come; the Lord will continue to come to and through us into the whole world. Under all of this rings the melody of God’s creative power as seen in the Psalm response. God promises to create something new in the wilderness of chaos. There the glory of the Lord will be revealed.

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
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.

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
YEAR C - 11th/12th JANUARY, 2025

PRAYING FOR:

Fr Babu Varghese Kattikattu MC,
Fr Denis Carabott MSSP, Michael Bell,
John Hayes,

and all those who died recently.

WE ALSO REMEMBER:

Cardinal George Pell, Corazon Ramirez,
Agostino Sofo, Mai Molloy, Kerry Seymour,
John Whitehouse, Peter Smith,
Ananda Krishnan, Evadne Boustead,
Kath Fowler, Connie Brooks,
Charles Lamplugh, Moya Milesi,
Nazzareno Zammit, Cornelio Rovira,
John Murray, Douglas Misso,
Dennis Alderton, William Smrdel,
Monica Harris,

...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:
universalis.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.

PUBLIC LECTURE Fr Robert McCulloch,
(originally from the parish of Cheltenham),
and Eric Siray, a Hospital Administrator,
will be speaking on their missionary and
educational work in Hyderabad, Pakistan.

When: 7pm on Monday 20th January

**Where: St Patrick's Parish Centre,
3 Mitchell Street, Mentone.**

The evening has been arranged by the
Knights of the Southern Cross, and all are
welcome.

To assist with catering you're asked to
advise either John Tetteroo M: 0432 649 659
or John Beruldsen E: johnberuldsen@gmail.com
or M: 0429 693 030.

ST AGNES' SCHOOL UPDATE The
works to resurface the school playground
with Astro-turf at St Agnes' school continue.
Unfortunately, due to this earlier
commencement of works, we have been
advised that the school playground will be
unavailable for parking over these weeks.
The timing of these works is out of our hands
and sadly will impact on available parking to
the rear of St Agnes' church, as the works
will not be completed until around mid-
January due to a delay in the provision of the
sand, which is used to stabilise the new
artificial surface. This upgrade is needed for
safety reasons because the asphalt area has
significantly deteriorated over time and is
very rough, causing considerable injury
when children fall. The school had hoped to
minimise any impact on the community;
however, the exact timing of the contractor's
work wasn't within our control. We
sincerely apologise for any inconvenience
this may cause. The Parents & Friends
Committee of the school have fundraised
\$65,000 to enable this improvement for the
children. This solution is the only cost-
effective and viable solution. Thank you for
your consideration.

- Lachlan Foott, Principal



The Jubilee Prayer

Father in heaven, may the *faith* you
have given us in your son, Jesus Christ,
our brother, and the flame of *charity*
enkindled in our hearts by the Holy
Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed *hope*
for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into
tireless cultivators of the seeds of the
Gospel. May those seeds transform
from within both humanity and the
whole cosmos in the sure expectation
of a new heaven and a new earth,
when, with the powers of Evil
vanquished, your glory will shine
eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken
in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for
the treasures of heaven. May that same
grace spread the joy and peace of our
Redeemer throughout the earth. To
you our God, eternally blessed, be
glory and praise for ever.

Amen.

www.iubilaem2025.va/en/giubileo-2025.html

Franciscus