

FIRST READING

**A reading from the prophet Zephaniah
3:14-18**

Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel, shout aloud! Rejoice, exult with all your heart, daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has repealed your sentence; he has driven your enemies away. The Lord, the king of Israel, is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear. When that day comes, word will come to Jerusalem: Zion, have no fear, do not let your hands fall limp. The Lord your God is in your midst, a victorious warrior. He will exult with joy over you, he will renew you by his love; he will dance with shouts of joy for you as on a day of festival.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

**R/: Cry out with joy and gladness:
for among you is the great and
Holy One of Israel.**

SECOND READING

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians 4:4-7**

I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord; I repeat, what I want is your happiness. Let your tolerance be evident to everyone: the Lord is very near. There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia!
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring Good News
to the poor.
Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING

**A reading from the holy Gospel
according to Luke 3:10-18**

When all the people asked John, 'What must we do?' he answered, 'If anyone has two tunics he must share with the man who has none, and the one with something to eat must do the same.' There were tax collectors too who came for baptism, and these said to him, 'Master, what must we do?' He said to them, 'Exact no more than your rate.' Some soldiers asked him in their turn, 'What about us? What must we do?' He said to them, 'No intimidation! No extortion! Be content with your pay!' 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. His winnowing-fan is in his hand to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.' As well as this, there were many other things he said to exhort the people and to announce the Good News to them.

**Anniversaries of Death - Christmas 2021
through January 2022:** In preparation for the Summer Bulletin covering Christmas through to the end of January, you are invited to enter the names of those whose anniversaries occur during this period, and who you'd like remembered in prayer, into the Memorial Folder located in the foyer of OLA church.

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

Telephone: 9583 6161

9 Centre Dandenong Road, Cheltenham. 3192

Email: Cheltenham@cam.org.au

Website: www.olacheltenham.org.au



Parish Priest: Fr Alan Fox

Pastoral Worker: Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

St Agnes' Parish Highett

Telephone: 9532 1794

1 Locinda Street, Highett. 3190

Email: Highett@cam.org.au

Website: www.sahighett.org.au



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR C

11th / 12th December, 2021



Although John himself lives an austere life removed from the ordinary pursuits of people, he does not ask his inquirers to dissociate themselves from their own lives or occupations. Rather, he challenges them to continue where they are, but to carry out their daily responsibilities with concern for others, with honesty and integrity. The expectation that filled the people was eschatological; they were looking for the Christ, the 'anointed one'. John was not this one. His baptism with water was a ritual of repentance and cleansing; Christ's baptism of the Spirit will purge and transform, and his coming will be a time of judgment, when the wicked will be separated like chaff from the wheat and will be thrown into the fire. John's ministry calls for the change of heart required of those who would be saved from this distress.

© Dianne Bergant CSA

PARISH PRIEST: CHELTENHAM / HIGHTT

Fr Alan Fox BH: 9583 6161 / AH: 9555 3557

Email: Alan.Fox@cam.org.au

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 9583 6161

Mon., Tues. Thurs. & Fri. 9am – 3.30pm

Wednesday 9.45am – 12 noon

Parish Secretary: Fatima De Ponte-Gill

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: lfoott@sahighett.catholic.edu.au

MASS TIMES – CHELTENHAM & HIGHTT

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

Monday [OLA Church] 9.15 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturday 9.30 am

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

BAPTISMS:

Contact the 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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

– YEAR C

11th & 12th December, 2021

PRAYING FOR:

Matthew De Gregorio, Serge Jasmin,

Elizabeth Thomas, Edmund Hoy,

Amalija Papiga,

...and all who died recently.

We also remember:

Teresa Malho, Kevin Fennessy,

Robert Jelleff, Sarah Jackson, Livia Polgar,

Daniel Cohonner, Joseph Tranquille, Liliane

Tranquille, Claude Tranquille, Craig Blair,

Philomena Walsh,

....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

2021 to Christ the King 2022 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.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.

UPDATE ON COVID RESTRICTIONS:

General Guidelines from the Archdiocese (Update

#53: 18th November 2021) are available online at:

<https://melbournecatholic.org/covid-19-guidelines>

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>

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE 2021

Friday 24th December - Christmas Masses

6pm Mass St Agnes' Church, Highett

8pm Mass OLA Church Cheltenham

Saturday 25th December - Christmas Masses

9am Mass OLA Church Cheltenham

11am Mass OLA Church Cheltenham

6pm Mass St Agnes' Church, Highett

Sun. 26th December - Feast of the Holy Family

9am Mass OLA Church Cheltenham

11am Mass OLA Church Cheltenham

Please note that the Parish Office will close on Friday 24th December, and re-open on Monday 10th January, 2022. Should you need to get in touch please telephone the **Presbytery** on: **9555 3557**.



ST AGNES' PARISH - VINNIES

CHRISTMAS APPEAL – This

Saturday 11th December 2021,

during the **6pm Mass at St Agnes'**, envelopes will be available for the **Vinnies Christmas Appeal 2021**. Your donation will go towards assisting local families and singles, we visit throughout the year.

'You Can Help End the Pain of Poverty'

Please consider donating to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal. If any parishioner is interested in joining St Agnes' St Vincent de Paul Conference, please contact Tricia Hickey on T: 9589 2608. St Agnes' Conference meets every 2nd & 4th Tuesday evening of the month at St Agnes' church.



QR CODES - Mandatory use of the

Victorian Government QR Code

Service continues: We are still required

to use this service. You're asked to use the **Service Victoria App** on a capable digital device, to register your attendance This app, once configured correctly, will display both a confirmation of one's check-in to our places of worship, and a link to a person's COVID-19 Digital Certificate, as proof of vaccination. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.



OLA ST VINCENT DE PAUL

CHRISTMAS 'GIVING TREE' –

THANKYOU! On behalf of St

Vincent De Paul, we would like to thank parishioners who generously donated gift cards to help those in need this Christmas.

COMMUNION TO THE SICK – We are

once again permitted to minister Holy Communion to parishioners in their homes, so if you know of anyone who would like to receive Communion, please contact Chris at the Parish Office, or on: 0415 150 688.

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF

MELBOURNE – Five priests were ordained

last **Saturday 4th December** in an Ordination Mass that had been postponed due to Victoria's extended lockdown. More than a thousand people gathered at St Patrick's Cathedral for the ordinations of:

Fr Alexander Chow

Fr Hoang Dinh

Fr Jaycee Napoles

Fr Joseph Nguyen

Fr Samuel Pearson

It was the first time in months that our Cathedral had hosted such a large event, with some in attendance having travelled from interstate and overseas for the Ordination Mass. Please keep these newly ordained priests in your prayers.



ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL &

CATHEDRAL BRASS present:

'Festive Music for Christmas' on

Wednesday 15th December 2021

between 7–8pm, at St Patrick's

Cathedral, East Melbourne (Corner of Cathedral Place and Gisborne Street), Performing many Christmas favourites, including Gabrieli, Bach, Handel and Mendelssohn. Conductor: Brett Kelly and Organist: Anthony Halliday. Children under 15 are free. Tickets are \$25.00 each and can also be purchased at the door. For full program details, bookings & enquiries, please visit:

www.trybooking.com/BVJPD