

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah33:14-16;Psalm24:4-5,8-9,10,14;Thessalonians3:12-4:2;Luke21:25-28,34-36

NEXT WEEK: Baruch5:1-

9;Psalm125;Phillippians1:4-6,8-11;Luke3:1-6

PURIFIERS:

2nd December: Janette Bywaters

9th December: Patricia Campbell

RECENTLY DECEASED: Peter Wallis, Mary Rush, Lawrence Crellin, Grace Marino.

ANNIVERSARIES: Nance Ring, Percy Rate, Leonie Cole, Edward Colwell, Manus Molloy and Family, John Haggarty, Edward Robinson, Filip Seville, Kevin Fennessy, Ron French, Beeta Papalie, Ralph Roughsedge, John Smiles, Kathleen Devine.

ARE YOU NEW TO OLA PARISH?

Please take a copy of our Welcome Kit which includes a copy of our Parish History, then tell us about yourself by completing our new parish census card with all relevant details.

PLEASE FILL IN THE FAMILY BOOK:

You are invited to write in the names of those you would like us to include in our prayers. When entering names of deceased loved ones we ask parishioners to please **PRINT**, and add your name and phone number even if the deceased is not a family member.

BAPTISMS/WEDDINGS:

Baptisms are celebrated at 12.15 pm most Sundays of the year with 4/5 weeks' notice required for bookings. Any Catholic is very welcome to use OLA Church for their marriage celebration, six mths notice or longer would be appreciated. 95836161.

THE PIETY SHOP: Come support our Piety Shop, and be greeted by our amazing volunteers after mass. Columban calendars, cards and beautiful gifts available for Christmas. Our Stations of the Cross DVD/Booklet would make a great Christmas present. All proceeds go to our St Vincent De Paul Conference.

BAPTISM WELCOME:

6.30pm: Jamie Wan, son of JoAnn and James)

We, the people of OLA, acknowledge and pay respect to the Boonwurong people of the Kulin Nation, the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we stand.

Liturgy Times:

Monday Dec 3

9.15am Communion Service

Tuesday Dec 4

9.15 am Mass (No evening Mass)
School picnic

Wednesday Dec 5

9.15 am Mass

Thursday Dec 6

9.15 am Mass

Friday Dec 7

10.15 am Mass (of healing) (St Ambrose)

Saturday Dec 8

9.00 am Mass (Immaculate Conception)

6.30 pm Mass (2nd of Advent)

Sunday Dec 9

9.00 am Mass

11.00 am Mass

Confessions:

Wednesday 9.40am

Saturday 9.30am & 6.00pm

FAITH SHARING DISCUSSION GROUP:

Meet each Thursday at 2pm in the Parish House. All are very welcome.



ADVENT TAIZE PRAYER:

2.00pm in the church, each Thursday
in Advent. ALL WELCOME

PSALM REFLECTION:

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Which of the Lord's ways are hard for
you to follow?

Later today spend some time praying to
be shown the way.



Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Cheltenham

Parish House:9583 6161 Parish School:9584 9488

Email: Cheltenham@cam.org.au

www.olacheltenham.org.au

Parish Priest: Fr. Peter Matheson

Pastoral Associates: Frances North and Christine Dunne

Psychologist: AnneMaree Eddy

1st Sunday of Advent Year C (December 2, 2018)

The political spotlight has quickly switched from Victoria to Canberra this past week and now seems to follow the Prime Minister to Argentina and the G20 Summit. Jerusalem is also never far from the political spotlight of the world. But it was over the little town of Bethlehem a few kilometres south of Jerusalem that was in the spotlight of angels and shepherds years ago when the Christ child was born.

The purple cloths and vestments, and the presence of the Advent wreath, introduce us to another season of Advent when in a sense we journey through the deserts again with the Magi following the star to Christmas morning. During Advent we look back, and we look forward. We look back to when the Christ child was born of Mary and we wait in silence and peace preparing to celebrate that special birthday once again. And we look forward in anticipation, in silence and peace, to the Lord's second coming when he returns as the Lord of all creation to gather us into the Father's kingdom.

In today's gospel (from Luke) Jesus invites us to watch, stay awake, and stand with confidence before the Son of God despite the distress all around. Certainly the people of the Rockhampton and Gladstone areas of Queensland have experienced incredible stress these last days with the catastrophic bushfires. And on Wednesday the people of Sydney were swamped with a month's rainfall in a couple of hours which flooded the city. Distress continues to happen around us whether it comes from these unnatural "natural" disasters, or from continuing tension between China, Russia, the USA, Europe, Brexit, and even local political issues.

Jeremiah looks ahead to the coming saviour of Israel who will practise honesty and integrity. St Paul encourages the Thessalonians to keep progressing in the kind of life we are all meant to live: the life that God wants. Advent can be a beautiful time of each day gradually making God a part of our lives, so that by the end of this journey of Advent Christ can be born in us. It inspires again that beautiful hope in "Desiderata": "Therefore be at peace with God ... and whatever your labours and aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life, keep peace in your soul."

Fr.Peter

ADVENT COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION

Will be celebrated on Wednesday, 19th December, at 7.30pm.

ALL WELCOME

CHRISTMAS CAROLS, OLA TODAY , 5.00 PM:

The Cheltenham Christian Churches will be holding their Christmas carol service this year at OLA instead of the normal venue at Southern Community Church of Christ. The Kingston Council will conduct their carols a week later. Hence there will be co clash. The carols will go for just over an hour. So please keep the date and evening free to help us entertain all and sundry this year. It will mark for us the beginning of the Advent season of 2018.

CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE: 2019 Study Tour: 'Footsteps of Faith': Encountering the Christian Tradition. 19 September – 15 October 2019. Ireland England, and Italy. Tour Leaders: Rev. Dr Max Vodola, Dr Frances Baker rsm, and Rev. Prof. Austin Cooper omi AM. Details on College website at www.ctc.edu.au/studytours
Information Session: Sat. 24 Nov. 11.00 – 1.00 pm RSVP: jenny.delahunt@ctc.edu.au

PARISH COUNSELLING: Providing free short term counselling. Contact Parish Office for appointments.

REMINDER: PARISH CHRISTMAS DRINKS: 12th December at 7.30pm – ALL WELCOME
Letters of appreciation and invitation for our marvellous volunteers are in the foyer for collection. ***Please don't forget to pick up your invite after mass. Thank you.***

MINISTRY SIGN UP SHEETS FOR 2019: Please complete the form for next year, we also welcome new parishioners to assist with the many ministries we have through the parish. Thank you most sincerely for your wonderful support.



THANK YOU: on behalf of the craft stall I would like to thank you very much the wonderful parishioners that had donated, sewed and made wonderful handmade/craft items. Also, to Sr. Sue's family for donating her beautiful Christmas cards (keeping her spirit alive) and also for supplying the many craft supplies.

We were so grateful. Thank you - Dian Kett.

KNITTING STALL: Come along this weekend and purchase some wonderful creations from our world famous knitting group. Loads of Christmas and special gifts for all. See you after mass. 'if I'm sittin' I'm knittin'.....

THIS WEEK'S EDITION OF THE LONDON TABLET asks "Who do you think is the living Catholic doing the most to change the way we imagine ourselves and understand the world?" The journalists selected 50 men and women who are making waves and recalibrating disciplines, and adding some Catholic salt to the contemporary cultural soup. Here are just two of the 50 choices and the comments attached.

Pope Francis

Born 1936, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Priest. Since the conclave of March 2013 decided that Jorge Mario Bergoglio would not be returning to Buenos Aires, this most provocative and enigmatic of popes has electrified the Church and intrigued the world. Francis – the top-down decentraliser, the champion of the peripheries who draws the world's attention to the personality at the centre, the blunt speaker who leaves exasperated critics demanding tidiness and clarity – has triggered a creative commotion. But no one can doubt the excitement and tension generated by the defining documents of his papacy: *Evangelii Gaudium, Laudato Si', Amoris Laetitia and Gaudete et Exsultate*. Perhaps his enemies in the Church grasp the "revolution of tenderness", as Jean Vanier has characterised this papacy, more than his friends: and that is why they are determined to destroy him.

Tomáš Halík

Born 1948, Prague, Czechoslovakia (now Czech Republic). Priest and philosopher. A close associate of the late Václav Havel, with an impressive publication record and a clutch of prizes, Mgr Halík is also simply a priest who ministers to Prague's academic community as parish priest of St Salvator's in the Old Town. "Doubt isn't the enemy of faith but her sister. Unchecked doubt leads to militant secularism, but unchecked faith leads to religious fundamentalism."

PARISH MISSION: The dates for our second Mission will be the 16th to the 22nd February 2019. Our 2nd Mission has a different thrust from the first Mission program. Where the first Mission sets out to help people understand the changes in the Church since Vatican II, the second Mission program focuses on helping people come to terms with the changes in the world. ALL WELCOME.

THIS WEEKEND: Come and join us for a tea or coffee after the 9am and 11am masses. This is a wonderful opportunity to say hello to fellow parishioners. ALL ARE VERY WELCOME. Thank you also to the many volunteers who organise this lovely event.

CARD DAY: Wednesday, 5th Dec at 11.00am in Church Meeting Room. Basket lunch provided. Cost \$10. Proceeds to St Vincent De Paul. Enq: via Parish office 9583 6161.



(See Luke 2:1-16)
12-25-2006
STAR LIGHT, STAR BRIGHT, FIRST
OUTRAGEOUSLY BRIGHT, BLINDING,
SUPERNATURALLY GIGANTIC STAR I SEE
TONIGHT ...