

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE: Ecclesiasticus27:4-7;
Psalm91:2-3,13-16; Corinthians15:54-58;
Luke6:39-45

NEXT WEEK: Deuteronomy26:4-
10;Psalm90:1-2,10-15;Romans10:8-13;Luke
4:1-13

PURIFIERS:

3rd March: Anne Martin
10th March: Nanette McVeigh

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Jean Killen, Louisa Flannery, Graham
Minors, Barbara Daniels, Mavis Smith,
Katherine Taranto, Beverley Myers, John
Eddy.

ANNIVERSARIES: Jack Holloway, Kit Martin,
Giuseppe Morabito, Gus Valent, Peter Cleal,
Bern Collins, Bryan Stronach.

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 12.15pm most
Sundays of the year with 4/5 weeks' notice
required. Any Catholic is very welcome to
use OLA Church for their marriage
celebration. 95836161.

PSALM REFLECTION:

For what do we give thanks to the Lord?
The energy of the young!
The fruitfulness of the old!
The unmasking of abuse!

Liturgy times

Monday Mar 4

9.15 am Communion service

Tuesday Mar 5

11.00 am Funeral Mass for
Jean Killen

6.00 pm Mass

Ash Wednesday Mar 6

9.15 am Mass (with ashes)

10.15 School Mass (with ashes)

6.30 pm Mass (with ashes)

Thursday Mar 7

9.15 am Communion Service
(Class Mass)

10.30 am Funeral Mass for Louisa
Flannery

Friday Mar 8

9.15 am Mass

Saturday Mar 9

9.00 am Mass

6.30 pm Mass
(1st Sunday of Lent)

Sunday Mar 10

9.00 am Mass
(1st Sunday of Lent)

11.00 am Mass
(1st Sunday of Lent)

CONFESSIONS:

Wednesday 9.45am **Saturday:** 9.30am &
6.00pm

**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.
May we walk gently here.**



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

3rd March 2019

8th Sunday

Ordinary Time

“Never give in, my dear brothers and sisters, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord’s work always, knowing that in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.” These are words from our second reading at Mass this weekend, penned by St Paul towards the end of his first letter to the Corinthians. I find deep consolation in them as we come to the end of this very harrowing week where the conviction and imprisoning of Cardinal Pell has been splashed all over the world, and all over our own hearts and minds.

We will all have different ways of both responding to this news and making sense of it. For some it has brought a very weary sadness; for others painful reminders of loved ones who have been abused by church personnel or others; for still others, a query about the justice system and process. We have been oppressed by the gloating of many outside the County Court. We know that the sins of the church have come crashing down on the man who has been dubbed the number one Catholic in Australia for many years.

How do I feel? Sick! The Cardinal has gone to prison maintaining his innocence, but a jury has decreed otherwise, unanimously, after a jury in an earlier aborted trial did not find unanimity. Whatever the truth may be, we know that many priests have abused innocent children and are to be rightly condemned for that. Their victims will never forget the abuse, and we must never forget them or the trauma they have experienced. And there are many other priests who have never abused a child or a vulnerable adult. But we all feel tarred by a secular world with the same brush. This is our burden to carry. But as St Paul told the Corinthians long ago: “Never give in; ... keep on working at the Lord’s work always, knowing that in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.”

So we journey on as the wounded body of Christ on earth and prepare for another Lent. On Wednesday we mark our foreheads with the ashes to remind us of many things. Ultimately it is a reminder that in death we will find life. Next Sunday we journey with Jesus through the wilderness of Judaea to ponder and suffer again all that the wilderness of life can throw at us.

Fr. Peter

RETIREMENT OF LEONIE YOUNG: I wish to advise that Mrs Leonie Young, principal of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish Primary School, will be retiring at the end of this year at the conclusion of her current contract. Leonie has been an integral part of OLA school for these past nineteen years as principal and her departure will create a radical change in the sense of identity of our school. The process of selecting and appointing a new school principal for 2020 and beyond will begin soon. The Catholic Education Office, the School Advisory Council, and I, as parish priest, will all be involved in this process. No doubt there will be opportunities for appropriate farewells to thank Leonie for all that she has done for OLA school at the end of the year, and, even though I will be retired myself by then, I would hope to return for any of those events especially if they involve a Mass or other liturgy of farewell. In the meantime, I thank Leonie for all she has done for our parish school in helping it grow over all these years, for her constant dedication in forming leaders among the teaching staff, and for her own leadership not only at OLA but in Catholic Education generally. And I say this on behalf of all who have been blessed by her presence and commitment in any way over these past nineteen years.

PASTORAL NOTES FOR LENT: Lent is a penitential season of prayer, self-denial and helping others. In this way the whole church prepares for Easter with those who are to be initiated into our community at the end of Lent during the Easter Vigil. At OLA we will be welcoming Ying Shao and Sam Stirling at the end of their RCIA journey. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of fast and abstinence. The law of fasting binds those who have turned 18 until their 59th birthday. The law of abstinence (not eating meat) binds those who are 14 or older. "During Lent penance should be not only inward and individual, but also outward and social" (SC 110).

A STORY: REV GRAHAM MINORS RIP: I received an email this week from Graham's wife, Elizabeth, telling me that he died on January 17 at their home in Cornwall, England. Graham had been the Anglican Vicar at St Petroc's Church in Bodmin, Cornwall, which houses the famous early 16th Century Bodmin Cup, of which my chalice is a replica. In 1995 for my 25th anniversary of ordination I found a photo of the Bodmin Cup in a dictionary and had my "Cup" made by Fortunato Rocco in Elgin St Carlton to the same dimensions and shape. I wrote to the vicar in 1999 before I visited the UK telling him what I had done and asked if I could pass by and see the original. The vicar was Graham and he wrote back saying he knew nothing of the Bodmin Cup, but he would look for it. Eventually he found it in an old box in a back room of Barclays Bank in Bodmin along with a veritable treasure of other chalices and silverplate. A previous vicar had put them in the bank for safe-keeping 30 years earlier and died soon after. The parishioners soon forgot about their treasure. Graham has been forever grateful that I wrote that letter 20 years ago. The treasure is now restored to St Petroc's church on view for all behind bullet proof glass. Elizabeth told me they used the Bodmin Cup in his funeral liturgy (as a ciborium, not as a chalice). *continue.....*

They refer to my chalice as the "Melbourne Cup". I have enjoyed the hospitality of Graham and Elizabeth at their home on a few different occasions. May Graham rest in peace.

COUNSELLING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES:

The parish provides free short term counselling to members of the OLA community (parish and school) and their families. Counselling is provided by AnneMaree Eddy, Psychologist. Please contact the parish office for appointments.

GENTLE EXERCISE:

Wednesdays 10:15-11.30am. Small classes. Call Parish Office on 95836161 or simply turn up.

KNITTING GROUP:

The next knitting group will meet on Tuesday 5th March at 1pm in the Church Meeting Room. ALL WELCOME. *Knit and be proud.*

CARD DAY:

Wednesday, 6th March 11.00am in Church Meeting Room. Basket lunch provided. Cost \$10. Proceeds to St Vincent De Paul. Enq: via Parish office 9583 6161

O.L.A SOCIAL GOLF :

Friday, 15th March. Twilight Golf & Dinner- More Players Needed & Non-golfers Also Welcome for Dinner. See Entry sheet on table in foyer-3.30pm start Enquiries- Ron 9583 8589, Rob 9584 9089

PLENARY COUNCIL PRAYER:

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost. Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land. O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council. Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road. Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth. Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying. Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age. Amen. Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us. St. Mary McKillop Pray for Us.

TEA AND COFFEE: Come along and join us for a cuppa after the 9am and 11am masses this weekend.



I HAVE A LOT OF PROBLEMS WITH THIS,
NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH BEING THIS
ELECTRICITY BILL

06-09-2014