



ST AGATHA'S PARISH

52 Oriel Road Clayfield Q 4011

Phone 3262 2859

E-mail clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

Web <http://www.clayfieldparish.org.au>

Administrator

Very Rev Dr Adrian Farrelly KCHS JCD

Associate Pastor:

Rev Fr Joseph Vattaparambil CMI

Parish Secretary

Mrs Rosemary Greer

Administrative Assistant

Mrs Jane Cameron

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8.00 am to 12.30 pm and 1.30 pm to 4.30pm

Please note Office is closed 12.30 - 1.30pm.

School Principal

Mrs Carol Sayers **Acting Principal:** Mr Nick Fogarty

Outside School Hours Care Coordinator

Ms Maddison Marquis

A Parish of the North East Deanery in pastoral association with Hamilton Hendra Northgate Nundah Banyo Wavell Heights Aspley Geebung Zillmere Bracken Ridge Sandgate and Brighton

Readings - Fourth Sunday of Advent - 22 December 2013

1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14, 10; 2nd Reading Romans 1:1-7;

Gospel Matthew 1:18-24



FAMILY TREES: FROM WHOM DO I COME?

Family trees fascinate those caught by the bug of researching their ancestors. The deeper they dig, the more facts appear and a from time to time a skeleton or two. Family trees are about individuals and relationships. Without relationships (publicly acknowledged ones and "skeleton" ones alike) there is no generation of new life and it is the relationships enjoyed by our ancestors that are most interesting.

The part of the gospel of St Matthew that we listen to on this fourth and last Sunday of Advent (only three sleeps to Christmas) is the end of the family tree compiled by Matthew. Writing as he was for Christians who came from a Jewish background he begins his family tree with Abraham, the father of the faith, and ends with Joseph. St Luke, for your information, writing for Christians from a predominantly Gentile background, takes the ancestors of Jesus back to Adam, the father of the human race.

Matthew meets head on the problem the newly betrothed couple faced with Mary's unexpected pregnancy. In all likelihood as best we can understand from research into the marriage customs of the time Joseph and Mary had celebrated the wedding ceremony but were not yet living together. Joseph had options on what to do. He could take Mary to court and if adultery was proven he could keep the dowry. If the pregnancy was the result of assault the dowry was returned. On the other hand he could quietly divorce her outside a court hearing. This is what he was planning to do to protect Mary's reputation as best he could.

As with most genealogists Matthew does not know all the conversations Mary and Joseph had about the pregnancy. What he did record was that the angel of the Lord explained the situation to Joseph. He asked Joseph to take Mary into his home as his wife. He was to name the baby boy and give him the name Jesus. He told him the child was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit not by any normal human love-making.

By naming Jesus and taking him as his son Jesus became part of the line of King David from whom the prophet had foretold seven centuries before that the Messiah would come. Jesus would be son of David and son of God. His ancestors, like all of ours, were a mixed group of saints and sinners, upright and rogues. This immersion in the human situation was the way we who make an act of faith in Jesus and embrace his life in the power of the same Holy Spirit that brought about his conception, this is the way we find the freedom we so desire.

For those who shall be away from the parish for the celebration of the birth of the Lord, may you welcome from God the blessings of each day, of peace, love and self-control and so enable the world you are part of know the freedom and joy God wants all to enjoy.

Fr Adrian Farrelly



ST. AGATHA'S YOUTH MINISTRY

DINNER ROSTER

LifeTeen Mass - Sunday 5.30pm

If you can assist with this ministry by providing dinner to cater for 40-60 people please write your name on the roster in main church foyer. Please note: **Costs incurred are reimbursed** with the presentation of docket to the parish office. See notice board for menu suggestions. Enquiries to the parish office on 3262 2859



ST AGATHA'S YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

If you have any questions or ideas please contact Anne O'Connor on 3256 6013 or 0419 796 988.

A very big thank you to everyone who cooked and served to provide suppers for the 5.30pm LifeTeen Mass throughout the year. This hospitality is much appreciated. We will be having a break through the holidays Suppers will restart in February. Please fill in your chosen dates on the new roster. Happy Christmas!!



THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

is being conducted over the weekends Before Christmas. Your donations will be greatly appreciated, and enable the Parish Conference, to continue to help people in need of emergency assistance (food, clothing, furniture). Please place your donations in the envelopes provided on the church seats. If donating by cheque, please make it out to: "St Agatha's Clayfield SVDP Conference".



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE TICKETS 3 FOR \$5.00

Drawn: This Sunday 22 December



**CHRISTMAS
AT THE PIETY STALL
ON SALE NOW**



- Christmas Cards
- Christmas Gifts
- Columban Calendars
- Little Blue Books for Advent
- A range of Advent Calendars

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

24 December:

- Christmas Eve - Vigil Mass at 6.00 pm with carols from 5.30 pm.
- Midnight Mass with carols from 11.30 pm.

25 December, Christmas Day :

- Mass 7.00 am
- Mass 9.00am

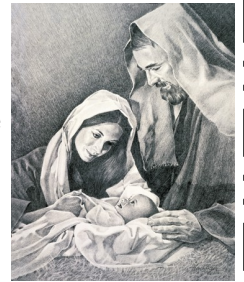


PLEASE NOTE:

NO 5.30PM MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

ROSTERS for Christmas

Are you available to be on roster at any of the Christmas Masses? We are still in need of Communion Ministers for all Masses. Please fill in the sheets on the clipboard near the Sacristy.



All Children attending the 6pm Vigil Mass are welcome to come dressed as angels, shepherds and wise people for the Entrance Procession. Please add names to roster. Names from this list will be drawn out of the hat for the role of Mary and Joseph.

PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED: Friday 27 December
REOPEN: Monday 30 December

St Agatha's Giving Tree - 2013



At Christmas time we may be overindulged with food and presents whilst many go without basic necessities. The Giving Tree is loaded with little gift ideas which will help bring a smile to others on Christmas Day.

You are encouraged to take a tag and return the gift and leave it at the base of the tree.

Members of St Vincent de Paul will be collecting the gifts and distributing them for Christmas.

I had been teaching my three-year old daughter, Caitlin, the Lord's Prayer for several evenings at bedtime, she would repeat after me the lines from the prayer. Finally, she decided to go solo. I listened with pride as she carefully enunciated each word right up to the end of the prayer: "Lead us not into temptation," she prayed, "but deliver us some E-mail."

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Paul Muggleton, Kevin Uren, Sr Veronica Hollis, Delta Furlan, Oscar Amaya, Ann O'Brien, Maurice Underwood, Nelson Mandela, Donal Cody, Patrick 'Cocky' McMahon, Geoffrey Perry, Michael O'Sullivan, Sr Marie Ryan

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

John O'Brien, John Agnew, Noela Hoskins, Peter, Eve and Noel Turnbull, Christopher Oxenham, Florence Hinson, Mary Dethlefs, Douglas Munt, Sally Meehan, Estelle Rees, Evelyn Thomas, Tony Breene, Gene Frendo

Those who are sick:

Jonathan O'Brien, Maureen Williams, Phyllis Madden, Maureen Johnson, Simon Uren, Alison Doust, Raymond Johnson, Alan Lawrenson, Robert Mutton, Gladys Pacheco, Andrew McPherson, Moira Lye, Kate Turnbull, Margaret Hollingworth, Caitlin Yarde, Roberta Wright, Bishop Michael Putney, Anthony Nicholas, Kathleen Hickey, Lyn Allen, Fr Brian Taylor, Donna McGrane, Barbara Kozak, Anne Nimmo, Vincent O'Connell, Gregory Winch, Lyn Gavison, Dot McMaster, Mel Purwo, Patricia Evans, Pam Farr, Benedetta De Santi, Judy Freeman, Sue Hall, Johnathon Adams, Rosaria Tieppo

You will note a number of names which have been on the sick list for many months have been removed. If you would like to have a name put back on please contact the parish office. Also a reminder to let us know when names are no longer required to be shown on the list.



On behalf of
Mary MacKillop International,
I thank you for your generous support
in supplying and assisting with used
stamps. During 2013 we raised
approximately \$18,000. Our very best effort so far!
From 2001 till now our total is almost \$60,000. May
God's blessings, through the intercession of Saint
Mary MacKillop of the Cross, be yours in abundance.
*from Sr Helen Saunders
for Sisters of St Joseph*



DATE CLAIMER
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER
7 MARCH 2014
The theme for the
World Day of Prayer 2014
is
"STREAMS IN THE DESERT"



For information on the Royal
Commission go to the Truth Justice
and Healing Council
website:
www.tjhcouncil.org.au



**Palms
Australia**

Palms Australia is a Catholic organisation
which has been sending volunteers on
mission for over 50 years. Palms global
volunteers mentor and exchange skills in
countries across Asia, Africa and the
Pacific.

Palms has a position for a **Building Project Manager**
immediately available to work across several Diocese in
Papua New Guinea to assist in the construction of vari-
ous buildings and churches. If you are interested, please
call Palms on 02 9518 9551 or register your interest
online at <http://www.palms.org.au/volunteer/enquiry/>.
Many overseas communities request Palms to provide
skilled Australian volunteers in education, health,
administration, agriculture/farming, trades and other
areas. Expressions of interest in these positions are also
welcome.

Palms relies primarily on individual donations to con-
tinue these activities. If you prefer to make a direct do-
nation please visit [www.palms.org.au/community/
donate](http://www.palms.org.au/community/donate) or call 02 9518 9551.

With great joy we welcome into the Catholic Church Community:

Henry Berndt
Cooper Briscoe
Johnathan Koe
Kate Lim
Hector Morris



who will be baptised this Sunday.

Many thanks to
Mrs Harriet Redmond and the
students of St Agatha's Primary
School for amassing 22 Christmas
hampers, which have been distributed
by a parent and a member of the Conference, to some
of the needy families in our Conference area.
Thanks also to the students in Grade 5, Class A at
St Agatha's for raising \$586 from raffling a hand made
quilt and donating that money to the Conference.



GUILD OF ST STEPHEN NATIONAL CONFERENCE
15 - 18 January 2014

**Join other Altar Servers in the 21st National Conference for Altar Servers at
Marist College, Ashgrove (Brisbane)**

For more information email: conferences@guildofststephen.org.au



PARISH ROSTERS

Please arrange a substitute if you are unavailable on your rostered day.

6.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS

21/22 Dec

Graham Gibson
Julie-Anne Gibson

Sister Cecily Foster
Sharon Hickey

Trish Ryan
Jill Weld
Jane Arkinstall

Life Teen Mass

28/29 Dec

Paul Bartels
Judy Bartels

Ruby Chase
Sonia Marmotta

Heidi Cooper
Michael Crutcher
Eileen Duncan

Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS

21/22 Dec

Paulette Archer

Paulette Archer

Blue Doyle

Dorothy McSweeney

Life Teen Mass

Life Teen Mass

Gift Bearers are asked to write their names on the monthly sheet on table except for the Young Parishioners' Mass and special masses.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - Prep to Grade 4 children are encouraged to participate.

Please note any younger siblings need to be accompanied by an adult.

8 December - January 2014 School Holidays - No Children's Liturgy

ORGANISTS:

21/22 Dec

Robyn Cuming

Mark Leung

Eithne Stafford

Life Teen Mass

28/29 Dec

Eithne Stafford

Sr Marguerite

Life Teen Mass

SANCTUARY CARERS:

4 Jan

Victor Podesta

Jane Lynn

Volunteers needed. These important ministries need more volunteers. Please contact Fr Farrelly or the Parish Office on 3262 2859 if you would like to help.

WEEKEND TIMETABLE

Masses: Saturday 6.00 pm
Sunday 7.00 am
9.00 am
5.30 pm



Reconciliation:

Saturday 5 pm – 5.30 pm

Rosary: Before most masses

WEEKDAY TIMETABLE

Mass: Monday 6.30 am
Mass: Wednesday 9.00 am
Mass: Thursday 9.00 am
Mass: Friday 9.00 am

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES

If you need to speak to a priest about an urgent matter, please phone pager 3835 9885.

Baptismal Preparation Meeting

We hold a preparation session for baptism on the first Sunday of the month after the 9.00 am Mass.

We celebrate baptism on the 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month except in Lent.



For bookings and further information, please phone the parish office on 3262 2859.

Care and Concern



- Do you need transport to a doctor's appointment?
- Do you need a meal cooked for you?
- Would you like someone to visit you?

If you or someone you know would like assistance with transport, meals or visits please call St Agatha's Care & Concern on **0419 988 811**

We are available and ready to help.

JUST CALL.



As a parishioner, do you have some time to give to help in the above ministry?

Are you interested in helping to bring parishioners to Mass?

If you can help please contact the parish office on 3262 2859 or

email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Calendar

December

Tuesday 24

* Christmas Eve 6.00pm Mass with Carols from 5.30pm

* Midnight with Carols from 11.30pm

Wednesday 25 Christmas Day

* 7.00am Mass

* 9.00am Mass

Wednesday 1 January 2014

* 9.00am Mass

THE CATHOLIC LEADER

Copies On Sale - \$2.00

In this week's issue:

- * Christmas messages from Queensland bishops
- * Archbishop launches new-look Catholic Leader
- * Archbishop talks about giving testimony at Royal Commission
- * Queensland woman to follow the way of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop as Josephites leader

Readings - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - 29 December 2013

1st Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; 2nd Reading: Colossians 3:15, 16; Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23