



ST AGATHA'S PARISH

52 Oriel Road Clayfield Q 4011

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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 - 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

WHAT TO LEARN FROM THE HOLY FAMILY OF MARY JOSEPH AND JESUS

One of my friends, a mother of eight, celebrated reconciliation and was given as a penance that she spend time asking Mary for assistance with the difficulties she was meeting in life within her family. She remembers the look on the priest's face when she said: what help could she be? She only had one and he was divine!

My friend's question was a good one. What help could Mary and Joseph and Jesus be? What did they have to tell her about life with her husband and the eight children?

Joseph and Mary would be reassuring her of the importance of talking as a couple, listening to each other to see what response to make. We do not know how far advanced in the pregnancy Mary was when Joseph seriously considered quietly divorcing his beloved so that her reputation was not damaged by his taking her to court. Even if only they were aware of it and no one else they would have talked. Both lived as believing people so were open to discerning God's will in all of this. It was here that Joseph found the courage to take his beloved Mary home as his wife and take as his own the child she was carrying. Together they would handle those who would count the number of months from the time Joseph took Mary into his home and the birth of Jesus!

Together they would contend with a make-shift delivery room when Mary gave birth away from home and the support of family and friends. They would discuss long and earnestly what lay in store for this child as group after group, shepherds and gentiles from the East, would be drawn to him as someone of great importance. They would puzzle over the things said of him when he was circumcised. They would flee their homeland to seek asylum in a foreign country to avoid their son being killed in the paranoia inspired massacre called for by Herod.

Settled in Nazareth in the north of the country they would live day to day family life earning a living, sharing the load of daily life and attending synagogue on the Sabbath. They were not alone in this village as other relatives lived there too.

Mary and Joseph would be beside themselves when they lost their 12 or 13 year old when they went to Jerusalem possibly to celebrate Jesus' bar mitzvah, his passage to adulthood in the faith.

Later in life as he left carpentering behind and joined forces with his cousin John in specifically religious activities, they or at least his mother would be seriously concerned for his mental health and he entered open conflict with the religious authorities.

My friend with her eight came to realize that the life Mary, Joseph and Jesus lived was not that different from her own. In fact while she and her husband had the challenge of caring for the well-being of eight very different people who were flesh of their own flesh there were experiences she hoped never to face like seeing one of her own arrested, tortured and executed before her very eyes. She may have to face the tragedy of burying a child but not in those circumstances.

She offered her reflections to anyone who may have ever been tempted to ask as she had asked: what could Mary do to assist her? What could Joseph do? What could the life of their family show her? She humbly admitted to herself: a lot!

ST. AGATHA'S YOUTH MINISTRY

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.

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.

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets in the Christmas Raffle.

The lucky winners are:

L. Goves	Lara Kempson
John Alleyne	Bernard
Mary Ockendon	



Parish Calendar

January

Wednesday 1	9.00am Mass
Monday 6	SVDP 5.00pm Parish Office
Wednesday 15	Liturgy 5.00pm Parish Office
Thursday 16	RCIA 7.00pm Parish Office
Tuesday 21	Finance Meeting 7.00pm Parish Office

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Angelina Barbagallo, Paul Muggleton, Kevin Uren, Sr Veronica Hollis, Oscar Amaya, Ann O'Brien, Maurice Underwood, Nelson Mandela, Donal Cody, Patrick 'Cocky' McMahon, Geoffrey Perry

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Craig Andrews, Grazia Russo, Gladys Stephensen, Margaret Henry, Jack and Margaret Bowden, Stan McKenzie, 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

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.

PARISH ROSTERS

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

	6.00pm	7.00am	9.00am	5.30pm
<u>READERS</u>				
4/5 Jan	Eric van der List Phil Zammit	Nick Eden Dianne Eden	Tim Hancock Peter Gilroy Leanne O'Shea	Life Teen Mass
<u>COMMUNION MINISTERS</u>				
4/5 Jan	Eddie Foley		Peter Ryan	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.				
<u>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</u> - 8 December - January 2014 School Holidays - No Children's Liturgy				
<u>ORGANISTS:</u>				
4/5 Jan	Catriona McPherson		Eithne Stafford	Life Teen Mass
<u>SANCTUARY CARERS:</u>				
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.