

Administrator **Priest in Residence: Parish Secretary** Administrative Assistant Parish Office Hours

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

Very Rev Dr Adrian Farrelly KCHS JCD Rev Fr Francis Canh Nguyen Mrs Rosemary Greer Mrs Jane Cameron 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 Baptism of the Lord - 12 January 2014 1st Reading: Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7; 2nd Reading: Acts 10:34-38; Gospel: Matthew 3:13-17



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Why did Jesus seek baptism from John? Why do we seek baptism for ourselves and our children?

We shall start with the second question and then come to the first.

Baptism in the Church is a ritual in which water is poured over the candidate or into which the candidate is immersed. The latter, immersion in the water, is the fuller symbol. The word "baptism" literally means "immersion" or being "plunged into" something. In the Church setting it is water into which the candidate is plunged. In a military setting baptism can refer to being plunged into a battle scene so that the soldiers undergo a "baptism of fire".

The Christian church took the ritual bath idea, a common part of Jewish ritual practices, and developed the ritual of baptism as part of the initiation new members were put through. What they saw happening as the candidates went under water and came up again was participation in the death of Jesus and his rising to new life. Anyone who has been dumped in the surf knows that you cannot stay under water and live. When you break surface you breathe in all the air you can.

Baptism is a total experience, both water and fire. No soldier can have a little baptism of fire as bullets and shells whistle around. So too with Christian baptism it is a doorway to life experience that is total. The candidate is plunged into a new way of living that has Jesus front and centre in every aspect of life.

These days those coming for baptism or bringing their children may not see the experience in such a total way. Baptism at times is spoken of as something "done" like infancy inoculations. The vaccine will protect me. I need do no more. But you do. Attentive parents ensure a healthy environment for their children even after the inoculations. So too with baptism. As they rise from the water, or as it is poured over them they breathe in the Holy Spirit. They receive supernatural gifts, faith hope and charity to name but three, which will grow under the training eye of their parents assisted by the godparents. The one baptised becomes a son or daughter of God by adoption.

When Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist, his slightly older relative, he was by nature, Son of God in a way unique to him. John's baptism was a ritual for repentance. Those participating made life changing decisions to turn away from selfish and sinful ways of acting and live their faith in a more genuine way. They did what was necessary to be in right relationship with God. Jesus was never out of alignment with God but was still baptised to show the importance of this continual care for right alignment. Jesus would bring people a baptism of a different kind that would see them come alive with the Holy Spirit but that even still lay in the future.

Know your baptismal day. Celebrate annually your baptismal day. Spend time each day checking your alignment with the Father whose adopted child you are.



"Life is an opportunity, benefit from it. Life is beauty, admire it. Life is a dream, realize it. Life is a challenge, meet it. Life is a duty, complete it. Life is a duty, complete it. Life is a game, play it. Life is a promise, fulfill it. Life is a promise, fulfill it. Life is sorrow, overcome it. Life is a song, sing it. Life is a struggle, accept it. Life is a tragedy, confront it. Life is an adventure, dare it. Life is luck, make it. Life is too precious, do not destroy it. Life is life, fight for it." — Mother Teresa **************************** **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 dockets 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. DATE CLAIMERS **AGGIES YOUTH** CONFIRMATION facebook. www.facebook.com/aggiesyouth **CEREMONY NIGHT 30 April** 5.00pm and 7.00pm FIRST COMMUNION DATES Dear God Help me to be the 8 June reason someone 9.00am and 11.00am smiles today. 15 June Amen 9.00am and 11.00am _ . _ . _ . _ . _ . _ . FAREWELL TO FR JOSEPH If anyone would like to contribute towards a farewell gift for Fr Joseph, please leave SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM-2014 vour contribution with Fr Adrian **Confirmation and First Holy Communion** or at the Parish Office. For children in Grade 3 or older who have celebrated their First Penance/Reconciliation 150 year Jubilee of the **ENROLMENT WEEKEND** SMSM in the 15/16 February at any of the masses Pacific in Samoa Saturday 6.00pm Sunday 7.00am, 9.00am & 5.30pm Those concerned please see newsletter on notice boards. Please find Enrolment Forms on the table at front entry to Church **Used Postage Stamps PARENT'S MEETING:** St Agatha's Church made \$18,000 for Mary Tuesday, 18 February 7.00pm or MacKillop International Wednesday, 19 February 7.00pm this year. If you would (N.B. Parents need only attend 1 of these like to contribute your sessions) used stamps please leave them at the Piety For further information call Jane Cameron at the Stall or Parish Office. They will then be parish office: 32622859 forwarded on.

In our prayers we remember

Those who have died recently :

Amarchi Nwaohiri, Monsignor Ralph Brown, Val Connolly, Fr Patrick McHugh, Angelina Barbagallo, Paul Muggleton, Kevin Uren, Sr Veronica Hollis, Oscar Amaya,

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Patricia and Robert Ludwick, Henry and Bridget Patterson, Vida Meyer, Pat Craven, Eric O'Hagan, Verlie Just, Tom McCormack, Des Finn, James Ho, Craig Andrews, Grazia Russo, Gladys Stephensen, Margaret Henry, Stan McKenzie, John O'Brien, John Agnew, Noela Hoskins, Peter, Eve and Noel Turnbull

Those who are sick:

Jill Corrigan, 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 re minder to let us know when names are no longer required to be shown on the list.

MERCY AGED CARE SERVICES

Have you ever thought about Volunteering?

Could you spare about 1/2 an hour a week to give a listening ear or a helping hand to an older person?

Mercy Aged Care Services is seeking volunteers to help ease the **loneliness and isolation felt by so many elderly people in care.** Our aged care facilities are based at:

Nudgee (Emmaus and Allambe) and at Wooloowin (Holy Cross). Volunteers are involved in various work throughout our facilities. Some are involved in reading to residents; taking residents for walks or simply having a conversation.

The greatest gift you can give is your time.

If you are interested in being a volunteer at Mercy Aged Care please contact reception between 9am and 3pm week days on 3260 9555 or email <u>admin@mercyagedcare.org.au</u>. We conduct a Volunteer Induction Programme (consisting of four sessions) to introduce prospective volunteers to the role. Applications close 17 January 2014 and the next Volunteer

Programme will commence in February 2014.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOW)

St Agatha's Parish, Clayfield, are seeking individuals with an interest in the liturgical development of young school-aged children, who are willing to be placed on a roster, to commence after the start of the 2014 School Year. "CLOW" members are from varied backgrounds; single, married, parents and grand-parents. Members of the St Agatha's Youth group are particularly invited to participate. The commitment consists of being placed on a roster for 1 - 2 sessions per term. Those new to the role are paired with a more experienced leader. Please contact the parish office (3262 2859) for further details . Any new members interested must have a current blue card. The parish office can arrange for a blue card application for those who do not have one.



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

The Christian Leadership Training for Young People will be held at the James Byrne Centre



Toowoomba on 7-11 April 2014. A dynamic week that inspires, transforms and challenges young people (16-19 years old) to be the best leader they can be.

For more information phone 3109 6800 or <u>www.moversandshakers.org.au</u>

MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE 50 YEARS CELEBRATIONS

Wednesday 19 March 2014 Celebrating 50 years of Josephite Education at a Mass at Corpus Christi Church Friday 8 August 2014 Retro Glam Party 50th Reunion for MtStJ-CCC-MMC Past Students Saturday 9 August 2014 Year Level Brunch Option Sunday 10 August 4014 50th Anniversary Celebratory Eucharist and Commemorative Event. For more information contact Mary MacKillop College on 32662100



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18/19 Jan	Marian Nolan Rachelle Brown	Mary Kelaher Aleira Egan	Tanya Mulcahy Katrina Murphy Wilma O'Connell	Life Teen Mass
<u>COMMUN</u>	ION MINISTERS			
11/12 Jan	Peter Bowden	Blue Doyle	Henry Weld	Life Teen Mass
18/19 Jan	Marie Ho	Paulette Archer		Life Teen Mass
masses. <u>CHILDRE</u>	N'S LITURGY - Prep to Grad Please note av	-	d to participate. <i>be accompanied by an a</i>	ing Parishioners' Mass and special adult.
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Readings - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 19 January 2014 1st Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6; 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; Gospel: John 1:29-34