



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

Aggies Youth facebook.com/aggiesyouth

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.

Mrs Carol Sayers **APRE:** Mr Nick Fogarty

Ms Harmony Domaille

Administrator

Priest in Residence

Parish Secretary

Administrative Assistant

Parish Office Hours

School Principal

Outside School Hours Care Coordinator

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 - Second Sunday of Advent - 7 December 2014

1st Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14;

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8



PREPARING THE WAY

If we only had the gospel of Mark we may not be celebrating Christmas. Mark begins his gospel with John the Baptist fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah about a voice crying in the wilderness calling people to prepare the way of the Lord. Mark makes no mention of Bethlehem, accommodation shortages, mangers, shepherds, angelic choirs. He says nothing about magi (wise men) coming from the East, Herod causing mayhem as he slaughters baby boys who may challenge him on his throne. Mark like John is not interested in Jesus as a baby or the circumstances of his conception or birth and childhood.

The absence of this part of the life of Jesus is another reminder that each evangelist was not writing the biography of Jesus. Each of them, Mark, Matthew, Luke and John, were more like theologians who wanted people to know who Jesus was and how well founded their faith in him was. They were members of communities of believers who celebrated what would come to be

known as the Eucharist, gathered on Sundays for these celebrations, looked after the poor and needy, initiated people into the community with baptism and anointing with oil so that the Lord's Spirit would disappear inside like the oil disappearing into their skin but making its mark. Christ's Spirit brought them alive to act like Jesus, softened them as surely as oil softens dry and hardened skin.

The Advent liturgy does not forget John the Baptist, the one who opens the gospel of Mark. The only son of the priest Zechariah and Elizabeth, kinfolk of Mary, who lived in the wilderness and exercised a ministry of preaching that the kingdom was coming and immersed people in water as a sign that they were leaving sinful attitudes and actions behind – a baptism of repentance.

John was in no doubt about the part he played in the coming of this new relationship with God, this kingdom. He said and said openly that he was not the one who would usher in this kingdom. His role was to prepare the way for the messiah. Little did he suspect that his kinsman, Jesus, was the one. Not until Jesus was baptised and the voice of God announced who he was did John become aware of something of the true identity and mission of Jesus.

John with his wilderness life, strange clothes and Spartan food, came like the rebirth of some of the ancient prophets. These men challenged the rulers of their day demanding that the rulers stay faithful to the shepherd like care God wanted them to show the people entrusted to them. The prophets were the conscience of the nation. John the Baptist played a similar role.

John brought to life what Isaiah had said centuries before. Here is your God ... like a shepherd ...console the people ...speak to the heart of the nation ... subdue everything that would take people away from God. St Peter could see in Jesus and the early church communities the emergence of a new earth and a new heaven. Populated by men and women living holy and saintly lives, something new was born and growing.

There is no place for John the Baptist in the nativity scenes we put up in the church or at home. At the time of the birth of Jesus he was only a baby himself. As an adult he is a vital player in people coming to faith in Jesus, the Christ (messiah). His call to change rings in our ears. As Advent continues heed the call and change to allow people to be consoled and strengthened.

Fr Adrian Farrelly

.....
2nd Rite of Reconciliation
will be celebrated on
Wednesday 10 December at 7.00pm
.....

ST. AGATHA'S YOUTH MINISTRY

LIFETEEN MASS - Sunday 5.30pm

Join our talented musicians at this celebration of the Eucharist, where youth and young adults are invited to minister to each other. Enjoy supper and friendship after Mass.

Visit Aggies Youth:

<https://www.facebook.com/aggiesyouth>

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 NEXT MEETING THURSDAY 11 DECEMBER 2014 7.00pm PARISH OFFICE

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

THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

is now being conducted. The people assisted by the St Agatha's Conference, will gratefully appreciate any donations, received during the 2014 Appeal. If donating by cheque, please make it out to "St Agatha's SVDP Clayfield Conference". Please place your donations in the envelopes provided on the church seats.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE TICKETS: 1 FOR \$2.00 OR 3 FOR \$5.00

Drawn: Sunday 21 December



If you would like to contribute any used stamps please leave them at the Piety Stall or Parish Office.

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 at 7.00 am and 9.00 am.



2nd Rite Reconciliation for Christmas will be celebrated on

- Wednesday 10 December at 7.00 pm

ROSTERS for Christmas

Are you available to be on roster at any of the Christmas Masses? Please fill in the sheets on the clipboard near the Sacristy.

We need Communion Ministers, Readers and Altar Servers at all Masses.

Children who want to be angels, shepherds and wise people for the Entrance Procession at the Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve please write your name on the list provided. Also girls and boys are needed as Mary and Joseph. If you are aged 10-13 years old please place your name on the list provided. Names from this list will be drawn out of the hat for the role of Mary and Joseph.



ON SALE AT THE PIETY STALL

- Christmas Cards - packet of 8 for \$2.75
- Christmas Gifts
- Columban Calendars
- Advent Calendars for Children
- Little Blue Books for Advent



ST AGATHA'S PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - 2015 CONFIRMATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION For children in Grade 3 or older who have celebrated their First Penance/Reconciliation

ENROLMENT WEEKEND: 7/8th February at any of the masses
Saturday 6.00pm; Sunday 7.00am, 9.00am & 5.30pm
Enrolment forms are available from the Parish office or on the table at front entry to church.

PARENT'S MEETING: Wednesday 11 February 7.00pm or
Thursday 12 February 7.00pm at St Agatha's Church
(N.B. Parents need only attend 1 of these sessions)

For further information call Jane Cameron at the parish office: 3262 2859

ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL PREP FOR 2016

If you have a child born between 1/7/10 – 30/6/11, they are eligible to commence Prep in 2016.

The enrolment process for Prep 2016 commences at the beginning of 2015. If you would like your child included in the enrolments for prep 2016, please email your details along with your child's name, D.O.B. and address to the Enrolment Secretary: wkwhite@bne.catholic.edu.au or phone the school on 3326 9222.

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently :

Leonora Bogue, Edward Bergmann, Jock Murdoch, Meta Truscott, Patricia Chambers, Fr Gerard Mulholland SVD, Noela McHugh

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Douglas Munt, Alice Shun Wah, Len Williamson

Those who are sick:

Lilly Eluvathingal, Louise Horrocks, Nola Palm, Bella Emery, Rosemary Gately, Matthew Gray, Frank Wilkie, Don Martin, Patrick Gallagher, Corey White, Rene Quinn, Eileen Clarke, Sandra McGregor, Rob Bruce, Mel Purwo, Kath Delahunty, Kylie Taylor, Laura Vize, Tessa Jones, Paul Gaynor, Jill Corrigan, Jonathan O'Brien, Phyllis Madden, Maureen Johnson, Alison Doust, Raymond Johnson, Alan Lawrenson, Robert Mutton

FAREWELL TO FR FRANCIS

If anyone would like to contribute towards a farewell gift for Fr Francis, please leave your contribution with Fr Adrian or at the Parish Office.

DO WE HAVE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS?

Please contact the parish office so we can add you to our parish records

**HAVE YOU RECENTLY MOVED?
HAS YOUR PHONE NUMBER CHANGED?
EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGED?**

If you have answered yes to any of these questions, could you please contact the parish office, either by phone 3262 2859 or email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au, so that we can update our parish records. Thank you.

**St Agatha's
Giving Tree - 2014**

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.

2014 ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN

St Agatha's Parish raised \$9,525.15 for the Annual Catholic Campaign held this year in September. Thank you to everyone who donated to this worthy Campaign. To date, last year's total has been surpassed and \$1,132,179.13 has been raised to support Holy Spirit Seminary, Centacare, The Priests Foundation and the Mary MacKillop Brisbane Catholic School Access Fund. These results will have a significant impact on these ministries and we are truly grateful for your participation and good will.

Thank you to CCI Personal Insurance for their kind donation of a Christmas hamper (raffle prize) valued at over \$150.00. The hamper contains a range of Christmas goodies.



FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Wednesday December 17 at 7.30pm.

Come to St Stephen's Cathedral for this wonderful traditional celebration of Christmas. The service includes readings, prayers, and carols old and new sung by four choirs – the Cathedral Choir, Schola, Chorale and the Australian Catholic University Choir. Plus many opportunities for the congregation to sing favourite Christmas carols. Cathedral car park available (entrance Charlotte Street). Retiring collection. Enquiries: cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au or 3324 3030.

NUDGEE CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM

Flyers on "Pre-planning Makes Good Sense" are available at the back of the church. These flyers are a guide to a range of burial and cremation pre-plan options that are available from Nudgee Cemetery and Crematorium. Pre-plan options can be tailored to meet your needs and budget, and by paying in advance you avoid any future price rises.

HAND-in-HAND

The Summer 2014 edition of Hand-in-Hand is now available. Copies available on table in church foyer. Please take a copy home and feel free to take extra copies for your family, friends and neighbours.

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>				
6/7 Dec	Marian Nolan Marie Ho	Anne-Marie Quinn Sister Cecily Foster	Wilma O'Connell Peter Ryan Trish Ryan	Life Teen Mass
13/14 Dec	Graham Gibson Julie-Anne Gibson	Andrew Douglas Kirsty Stevens	Jill Weld Jane Arkinstall Heidi Cooper	Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS

6/7 Dec	Peter Bowden	Michele Pink	<i>Volunteer</i>	Life Teen Mass
13/14 Dec	Marie Ho	Blue Doyle	Henry Weld	Life Teen Mass

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

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

7 Dec - 25 Jan *No Children's Liturgy - School Holidays*

ORGANISTS:

6/7 Dec	Robyn Cuming	Mark Leung	Catriona McPherson	Life Teen Mass
13/14 Dec	Eithne Stafford	Mark Leung	Mark Sayers	Life Teen Mass

SANCTUARY CARERS:

13 Dec	Santina Catalano	Maria Fistrovic	
20 Dec	Beverley O'Brien		

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 9.00am Mass.

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



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

Monday 8

* SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish Office

Wednesday 10

* 2nd Rite of Reconciliation 7pm Church

Thursday 11

* RCIA 7pm Parish Office
* Youth Ministry Meeting 7pm Parish Office

THE CATHOLIC LEADER COPIES ON SALE - \$2.00

In this week's issue:

- * Pope launches Year of Consecrated Life and urges all Catholics to thank God for gifts members of religious orders bring to Church and the world.
- * Archbishop Mark Coleridge talks of his hopes for Synod on the family after being elected with Bishop Eugene Hurley to attend second session.

Readings - Third Sunday of Advent - 14 December 2014

1st Reading: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11; 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24;

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28