



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](https://www.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 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - 28 December 2014

1st Reading: Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3; 2nd Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19;

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40



We are created to do good.

The author of the 7 day creation account in the first chapter of the book of Genesis captured a universal truth by finishing each day's account with the words: "And God saw that it was good." What God creates is good. We are created with God's openness to goodness and so we easily and naturally grasp what is good and we understand it. Goodness is the vital basic element in each of us and we naturally respond to goodness whenever we encounter it.

Evil on the other hand is the absence of goodness. When confronted by it we struggle to understand it. We stand dumbfounded in the face of the murder of the children in Cairns, the school children in Pakistan, the man and woman in the coffee shop, the school girls abducted in Nigeria, the murder of police officers sitting in their car in the US, infant lives ended because some syndrome or illness was detected pre-birth. We try to get our heads around these events and fail. At times we can see something of the logic that may be motivating them but it still does not make sense. We are angry with the army so we shall kill school children. I am upset by a police office killing someone so any police officer becomes a legitimate target.

Today our Church celebrates the feast of the Holy Family but in other years on 28 December we would be celebrating the feast of the Holy Innocents. This is the feast that commemorates the infant boys in and around Bethlehem whom King Herod slaughtered in the hope that among the dead would be the infant the wise men from the East spoke of as a future king. Herod was so fearful of contenders to the throne that he murdered members of his own family to eliminate the threat. Those gripped by evil fear much and are condemned to rationalise in some way actions that cannot be rationalised. "I had to do it" are the words they often utter.

The simple truth is that they did not **have** to do it. They chose to do it. Like all of us they are free to do what they want. But, again like all of us, they are not free to choose the consequences. So Herod goes down in the annals of history as another powerful man who could have others killed at whim. But he is not remembered for goodness but for sacrificing others for his own purposes.

The one of whom he was afraid, the son of Mary, the child raised to maturity by Mary and her husband Joseph, was indeed a king but unlike any other. Here was the embodiment of the divine. In one person heaven and earth are united and they will never be separated. Mary and Joseph spoke often and long about this child who was entrusted to them. Like all of us as our parents hold us in their arms they wonder who this person is whom God has entrusted to their keeping. Unlike Jesus we are the fruit of the processes of human generation but like Jesus we have a connection with God that is distinctly ours and not the product of the mixing of genes.

In talking with couples preparing to move from the marriages of their parents to create their own marriage I remind them that in that family context they have been preparing for marriage from the day of their birth as they live within the marriage of their parents. From them their parents they take much they will use in creating their own marriage and family, but they will also tap into all that God has implanted in them. This is what each of us is.

Mary and Joseph like all the saints intercede constantly before God on our behalf. On this feast they have the best interests of our families at heart. They pray that we shall trust in God's goodness as they did, ponder the wonder of the children given us and help them grow to maturity in faith and wisdom.

Fr Adrian Farrelly

FOR SALE AT THE PIETY STALL:

Columban Calendars: \$9.00 each

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Lilly Eluvathingal, Aileen Jacobson, Bill O'Brien, Joe Marano, Bill Earle, Moira Cummins, Don Button, Niall Spain

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Tom & Nell Collins, Patricia Massingham, Nora Smith, Grace Russo, Stan McKenzie, Emerita Socorro, Sally Meehan, John Agnew, Noela Hoskins, Peter, Noel and Eve Turnbull

Those who are sick:

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, Paul Gaynor, Jill Corrigan, Jonathan O'Brien, Phyllis Madden, Maureen Johnson, Alison Doust, Raymond Johnson, Alan Lawrenson, Robert Mutton

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> | | | | |
| 27/28 Dec | Paul Bartels Judy Bartels | Anne O'Connor Chanelle White | Geraldine Swindells Denis Keating | Life Teen Mass |
| 3/4 Jan | Ryan Smethurst Marie Ho | Dianne Eden Nick Eden | Don Macpherson Timothy Macuga Angela McFarlane | Life Teen Mass |
| <u>COMMUNION MINISTERS</u> | | | | |
| 27/28 Dec | Trish Hickey | <i>Volunteer</i> | Dorothy McSweeney | Life Teen Mass |
| 3/4 Jan | Eddie Foley | <i>Volunteer</i> | <i>Volunteer</i> | Life Teen Mass |
| <u>CHILDREN'S LITURGY</u> | - Prep to Grade 4 children are encouraged to participate. <i>Please note: any younger siblings need to be accompanied by an adult.</i> | | | |
| 7 Dec - 25 Jan | <i>No Children's Liturgy - School Holidays</i> | | | |
| <u>ORGANISTS:</u> | | | | |
| 27/28 Dec | Eithne Stafford | Mark Leung | Catriona McPherson | Life Teen Mass |
| 3/4 Jan | <i>Volunteer</i> | <i>Volunteer</i> | Robyn Cuming | Life Teen Mass |
| <u>SANCTUARY CARERS:</u> | | | | |
| 10 Jan | Santina Catalano | Maria Fistrovic | | |

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.



With great joy we welcome
Sebastian Pinter
who will be baptised
this Sunday.

Join us for a cuppa following all the
Masses this weekend to
farewell Fr Francis.
Thank you for being part of our Parish.

OFFICE reopens: Monday 29 December

30 December Memorial mass Dom Button 10am
Requiem mass Lilly Eluvathingal 2pm
31 December Requiem mass Aileen Jacobson 10am
1 January Mass 9.00am
2 January: Mass 9.00am
Benediction 10.00am

OFFICE closed: Thursday 1 January and Friday 2 January

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE WINNERS:
Cecily Donahue, Louis Norman, Marg Munro and Lara Cook
Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets.

Congratulations to Phillip Harris
and Angela Porteous marrying this
Sunday 28 December,
at St Agatha's.



Readings - The Epiphany of the Lord - 4 January 2015
1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6; 2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6
Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12