



ST AGATHA'S PARISH

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

Aggies Youth [facebook.com/aggiesyouth](https://www.facebook.com/aggiesyouth)

Very Rev Dr Adrian Farrelly KCHS JCD

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

Parish Secretary

Administrative Assistant

Parish Office Hours

School Principal

Outside School Hours Care Coordinator

Parish Calendar

JANUARY

Monday 5

* SVDP 5pm Parish Office

Thursday 8

* RCIA 7pm Parish Office

Tuesday 20

* Finance Meeting 6pm Parish Office

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 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



GOD'S INTENTIONS FOR US AND THE WORLD ARE NO SECRET

Epiphany is a word we hear from time to time with the sense of "revelation". Something once hidden is now out in the open. Something once unclear now stands easily seen.

As the Church celebrates the feast of the Epiphany of the Lord the key figures who come to Bethlehem to see the child are gentiles. The wise men who came from the East, from the countries of present day Jordan and beyond, were not Jews. They did not know the story of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, King David, the prophets or the Maccabees. In all likelihood they were ignorant of the importance of temple worship, the traditions of the Pharisees and the synagogue. Unlike the Jews they were not looking for the appearance of a Messiah who would inaugurate a new way of

living in relationship with God. They had their own stories of how the world came to be and the seven days of creation and Adam and Eve and the garden would not have featured. Apart from a small percentage of the Christian faithful today who came from Jewish background and belief, the vast majority of the Christian faithful are from a gentile background. Gentile accounts of how the world came to be are many and varied from the Rainbow Serpent to the work of pantheons of gods from Egyptian, Greek, Roman, Indian and Chinese cultures.

St Paul describes the knowledge of God and consequently of the human race that has come into human history through the experience of Jesus as the revelation of a secret. The secret is that God whom Jesus prayed to as Abba, Father, was the creator of all peoples, not just the Jews. God whom we worship as Father, Son and Spirit, has no favourites and wants all to be saved by accepting the truth revealed in Jesus and coming alive in the way God always intended for us to come alive.

As the early Church delved deeper and deeper into this revelation, this epiphany, it scoured the texts of the Hebrew bible, what we know as the Old Testament and found especially in the prophecies of Isaiah clear indications that the chosen people were to be concerned about the whole world and not just themselves. They were to be a light for all nations in the way Jerusalem stood out gloriously in the morning sunshine when the valleys all around were still in darkness.

The chosen had knowledge about God that came from what God had revealed to them over the centuries but that was not to say that the gentiles had no knowledge of God. The magi through their study of astronomy came to the conviction that a king was to be born in Israel. Their knowledge brought to the land but it was the knowledge of the chosen people that took them to Bethlehem.

This combination of sources of knowledge is our story too. We all long for someone or something to set us free from evil and suffering. We modern gentiles tap into the insights born of the behavioural sciences and achieve much but like the magi getting to the heart of the matters, the end of the search, we still need to accept Jesus as the embodiment of all wisdom, as our personal Lord who brings direction to our life and in yielding to him we find ourselves no longer lost and unsure. This is what God wants trumpeted from the roof tops. This is no secret for private consumption. This is knowledge for us to share with all and sundry.

Fr Adrian Farrelly

FOR SALE AT THE PIETY STALL:
Columban Calendars: \$9.00 each

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

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Frank Bowling, Lilly Eluvathingal, Aileen Jacobson, Bill O'Brien, Joe Marano, Bill Earle

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Fr Frank O'Connell, Tom & Nell Collins, Patricia Massingham, Nora Smith, Grace Russo, Stan McKenzie

Those who are sick:

Ann Tully, Louise Horrocks, Nola Palm, Bella Emery, Rosemary Gately, Matthew Gray, Frank Wilkie, Don Martin, Patrick Gallagher, 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>				
3/4 Jan	Ryan Smethurst Marie Ho	Dianne Eden Nick Eden	Don Macpherson <i>Volunteer</i> Angela McFarlane	Life Teen Mass
10/11 Jan	Phil Zammit Eric van der List	Mary Kelaher Aleira Egan	Tanya Mulcahy Katrina Murphy Wilma O'Connell	Life Teen Mass
<u>COMMUNION MINISTERS</u>				
3/4 Jan	Eddie Foley	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	Life Teen Mass
10/11 Jan	Jan Zammit	Blue Doyle	Dorothy McSweeney	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>				
3/4 Jan	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	Robyn Cuming	Life Teen Mass
10/11 Jan	<i>Volunteer</i>	Mark Leung	Jenny McKeon	Life Teen Mass
<u>SANCTUARY CARERS:</u>				
10 Jan	Santina Catalano	Maria Fistrovic		
17 Jan	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 5-5.30 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.

THANK YOU!

Dear St Agatha's parishioners,
Greetings from St Paul de Chartres community – Boronia Heights!
I would like to express my sincere thanks for your Christmas and New Year good wishes extended to me over the Christmas season. I am humbled and deeply touched by your genuine faith, hospitality, care and generosity. My heart-felt thanks is also extended to many of you for your generous Christmas and farewell gifts which will certainly help me greatly in my 'retirement'! May God continue to bless your hospitality, kindness and generosity forever.

As New Year 2015 is approaching, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you

A HAPPY, PROSPEROUS AND GRACE-FILLED NEW YEAR

Fr Francis Nguyen

Readings - The Baptism of the Lord - 11 January 2015
1st Reading: Isaiah 55:1-11; 2nd Reading: 1 John 5:1-9
Gospel: Mark 1:7-11