



# ST AGATHA'S PARISH

52 Oriel Road Clayfield Q 4011

Phone 3262 2859

E-mail [clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au)

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

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

Very Rev Dr Adrian Farrelly KCHS JCD

Fr Stephen Jeon

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**

**Assistant Priest**

**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 - Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 16 August 2015

**1st Reading: Proverbs 9:1-6; 2nd Reading: Ephesians 5:15-20;**

**Gospel: John 6:51-58**

Jesus described himself as the Way, the Truth and the Life. With the same-sex marriage issue dominating much of our media in recent days what Archbishop Coleridge wrote recently is worth publishing here so we all have some extra food for thought, reflection and participation in the conversation on the issue.

Australian-born Margaret Somerville is Professor of Law at McGill University in Canada and a world-renowned ethicist. In Sydney recently she said that "euthanasia is not an incremental change to current end-of-life practices but a radical and massive shift in our society's and civilisation's foundational values". Her words could be adapted to same-sex marriage, which is not "an incremental change" or natural evolution of the institution of marriage but "a radical and massive shift" in the values upon which marriage has been founded and which it has sought to embody.

If that is so, then any decision with regard to same-sex marriage should be based on truth rather than falsehood, lest we end up building on sand. Yet the ideology underpinning the push for same-sex marriage contains a number of falsehoods, which are at times presented as self-evidently true but which are not. Let me name some of them here as a service to truth in this complex and important matter.

- 1. Same-sex marriage is about equality.** It is true that all human beings are equal. But this does not mean they are the same. Same-sex marriage ideology implies that equality means sameness. It does not. I may be different, but I am still equal. Marriage policy in any polity has "discriminated" against certain people: parents cannot marry their children, brother and sister cannot marry, those under age cannot marry. Nor can people of the same sex. That does not make them any less equal.
- 2. It is about love.** There are many forms of love – parent/child, siblings, friends, carers and so on. But not all are nuptial. In fact, only one form of love is nuptial – the love of man and woman which is free, lifelong and open to children. Other forms of love may indeed be love, but that does not mean that they are or could become marriage.
- 3. It is about civil rights.** Here the link is made to women's rights and racial equality. But the law already offers ample protection to same-sex attracted people in a relationship in a way that was not true of women or people of other races in earlier times. Are same-sex attracted people excluded from voting, entering shops or using public transport? Justice can be done to same-sex attracted people and their human dignity can be respected without resort to an artificially constructed "right" to marry.
- 4. Heterosexuality and homosexuality are equivalent.** In the construction of any human society, heterosexuality has been privileged because it alone can secure the future by producing children. Only a society which sees children as optional and the future as something of no great concern would see heterosexuality and homosexuality as equivalent.
- 5. Children are an optional extra in marriage.** Without resort to extraordinary measures, same-sex couples cannot produce children. Yet bringing children to birth and raising them in a stable environment is fundamental to marriage, which remains true even if a married couple cannot conceive. The two purposes of marriage are unitive and procreative. They are deeply interrelated. Yet same-sex marriage separates them radically, which means that it cannot really be marriage.

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This weekend we welcome Fr Sholto Douglas back to his home parish. Fr Sholto will be talking (at all the Masses) about his calling to missionary work in Zimbabwe. A retiring collection will be taken up after all the Masses. If you wish to give by cheque, money order or credit card, please find donation form on the seats or at the back of the church. If you are unable to assist today please take this form home and either return next week or mail to address as shown on the form. Thank you!

## 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 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.



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

## You gifts will make a real difference ...

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How does the local Church answer the Gospel call to love and to serve the poorest and most vulnerable on our doorsteps? Centacare's Pastoral Ministries provide care and hope to more than 90,000 people in need throughout our Archdiocese each year.

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6. **Marriage is only about two individuals.** Marriage has always been regarded as essentially social, binding families together in new configurations and serving as the basic cell in constructing a human society which has a future. Marriage is a social institution. This is why it is important to speak of the common good when speaking of marriage; it is also why same-sex marriage ideology focuses on putative individual rights rather than the common good.
7. **Gender and the body are not decisive.** Same-sex marriage ideology says that gender difference is a social construct and that it does not matter for marriage. It also says that the body, or biology, is of no final relevance. This is linked to a denial of "nature", to a sense that anything may be "natural" or "unnatural". It implies a refusal to accept that there are any "givens" and an insistence that autonomous individuals can make of themselves whatever they will.
8. **Humanity has got marriage wrong until recently.** Same-sex marriage ideology is a dramatic form of the Western myth of progress which the facts of history have never confirmed. It is a particular arrogance to claim that all cultures through millennia have been wrong on this fundamental point. Not that every society has got marriage right in every way. But societies have agreed that marriage is between a man and a woman. To disregard this time-tested, cross-cultural wisdom is to evoke Henry Ford's unwise maxim, "History is bunk".
9. **The non-Western world will eventually catch up with the West.** Non-Western cultures are often perplexed by the push for same-sex marriage in the West, but this is not necessarily a sign that they are backward or less civilised – even though the West tends to think that the rest of the world, if it is not like the West, either should be or will be eventually. It may well be that non-Western cultures will help preserve for humanity values which were once fundamental to Western cultures but have been abandoned.
10. **Those who do not favour same-sex marriage are homophobic and bigoted.** It is possible to oppose same-sex marriage – and the ideology which underpins it – in ways that are respectful and open-minded. But in an ideologically conditioned world of "all or nothing", "black and white", those who oppose same-sex marriage ideology are denigrated in an attempt to discredit or silence them. There is a violence in this, which is resistant to the truthful debate we need.

Another well-known Australian, former politician Graham Richardson claimed recently in an opinion piece that truth counts for little in Australian politics. Regrettably, that may be so. But truth surely counts for much when a society and its political leaders are making decisions about something as fundamentally important as marriage. That is why the ideology underpinning the push for same-sex marriage is an unreliable basis for a decision which is much more than political. This debate is about the meaning of marriage.

### ST AGATHA'S PARISH JUNIOR CHOIR

We are seeking interest from boys and girls aged 7-11 to join the St Agatha's Parish Junior choir. Free coaching provided by parishioner Nicola Warda.

For all the details please contact Nicola via email: [nicolawarda@yahoo.com.au](mailto:nicolawarda@yahoo.com.au) or mobile: 0413887479.



## In our prayers we remember

### Those who have died recently:

Fr Liam Horsfall, Sr Vianney Surawski PVB, Merle Brunt, Leo Gerry, Gloria Lazzarini

### And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Agnes Clifton, Kathleen McVeigh, Margaret (Bobbie) Tynan, Fulvia Antonangeli, Rory Schuh, George & Mona Leutenegger, William Mahon, May McKenzie

### Those who are sick:

Rosaria Fazio, Paddy Ryan Snr, Adele Walker, Paul White, Edward Clark, Cajetan Goves, Alexandra Barlow, Joshua Statis, Maria Da Grava, Joyce Rodgers, Carmel See, Regina Hwan, Val Boevinlic, Deanne Du Bour, Melissa Waka, David King, Agnes Tam, Denis Lau, John Herron, Kerri Smith, Gerry Maller, Ann Tully, Louise Horrocks, Nola Palm, Bella Emery, Matthew Gray, Frank Wilkie, Don Martin, Patrick Gallagher, Rene Quinn, Eileen Clarke, Sandra McGregor, Rob Bruce, Mel Purwo, Kath Delahunty, Hellen Passente, Philomena L'Hiullier.



## NET MINISTRIES PARISH ENCOUNTER DAY / SUNDAY 23 AUGUST

### **WHO AM I ?**



Dealing with issues of self-worth, personal confidence and acceptance is common among all people. The "Self Image" Encounter Day helps young people come to a greater awareness of their goodness and uniqueness as God's sons and daughters. The day will be filled with energy, thought provoking discussion and opportunities to explore this topic.

If you are in grades 6,7,8 or 9 please come along!

AT: Presentation Centre, St Agatha's Primary School

TIME: 10am to 1.00pm / LUNCH INCLUDED / COST: FREE

Register at : <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/24986> OR use forms available on table in church foyer.

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

### **DATE CLAIMER**

#### **FATHER ADRIAN'S FAREWELL**

Date and time - Friday 30 October - 7pm

Venue - Presentation Centre St Agatha's School

Theme - Family picnic



With great joy we welcome  
**Winston Ellis & Estelle Thomsen**  
who will be baptised this Sunday.

### **ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL CLAYFIELD**

#### **HAS VACANCIES IN YRS 5 & 6 FOR 2016**

For all enquiries please contact the Enrolment Secretary

Ph: 3326 9222 or email [wkwhite@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:wkwhite@bne.catholic.edu.au)



### **ST AGATHA'S PARISH APP**

Have you downloaded the parish app yet?

It is now available for all devices.

Fr Stephen is populating it with all the information we hope will be useful to you. As well as parish news and events we shall have links to the school and the archdiocese.

### **ST AGATHA'S PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM**

Beginning next year, 2016, there is a new program for preparation and celebration of the sacraments.

Year 3 children, 8 years old or older will prepare and celebrate Confirmation in 2016.

That group will prepare and receive their First Holy Communion in 2017.

In 2018 they will prepare and celebrate Reconciliation.

ENROLMENT WEEKEND FOR ALL 3 SACRAMENTS WILL BE 6/7 FEBRUARY 2016

AT ANY OF THE MASSES.

**NB: There will be no preparation for and celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for Year 2 children in 2015.**

This preparation and celebration will be when they are in grade 5 after they have been confirmed (2016) and made their first Holy Communion (2017).

The 2016 preparation timetable and enrolment forms will be on our website from November 2015.

[www.clayfieldparish.org.au](http://www.clayfieldparish.org.au) or contact the parish office on 3262 2859

### **TALK BY FR JOHN CHALMERS**

All parishioners are warmly invited to hear Fr John Chalmers speak on Pope Francis' *Evangelii Gaudium* (*The Joy of the Gospel*) and join in discussion sessions from **6.30 - 8.30pm on Thursday 20 August in the Parish Hall at Hendra.**

All are very welcome to join us for this inspirational event."

*A wise person recognizes that all we have comes from God. A wise person thanks God every day for all His many blessings.*

*A wise person realizes that God has blessed us for a reason and He wants us to be partners with Him in His work here on earth.*

## PARISH ROSTERS

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

**6.00pm**

**7.00am**

**9.00am**

**5.30pm**

### READERS

15/16 Aug

Judy Bartels  
Paul Bartels

Andrew Douglas  
Annette Riba

Peter Ryan  
Michael Crutcher  
Eileen Duncan

Life Teen Mass

22/23 Aug

Eddie Foley  
Marie Ho

Ken Roberts  
Helen Roberts

Tim Hancock  
Peter Gilroy  
Leanne O'Shea

Life Teen Mass

### COMMUNION MINISTERS

15/16 Aug

Trish Hickey

Helen Roberts

Erin Bledsoe

Life Teen Mass

22/23 Aug

Ann Goves

Paulette Archer

Michele Pink

Life Teen Mass

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD - Prep to Grade 4 children are encouraged to participate.

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

16 Aug

Julie Kordic

Ewa Marino-Cebulski

23 Aug

Jane Arkinstall

Maree Carroll

### ORGANISTS:

15/16 Aug

Volunteer

Mark Leung

Robyn Cuming

Life Teen Mass

22/23 Aug

Robyn Cuming

Mark Leung

Catriona McPherson

Life Teen Mass

### SANCTUARY CARERS:

29 Aug

Santina Catalano

5 Sept

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.

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au)*

### Parish Calendar

#### AUGUST

**Wednesday 19**

\* Pastoral Council Meeting  
7pm Parish Office

**Sunday 23**

\* Net Ministries Parish  
Encounter Day 10am to 1pm.

**Monday 24**

\* SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish Office

#### SEPTEMBER

**Tuesday 1**

\* Youth Ministry Meeting 7pm  
Parish Office

**Saturday 5 & Sunday 6**

\* Annual Catholic Campaign

### THE CATHOLIC LEADER COPIES ON SALE - \$2.00

**In this week's issue**

\* Much-loved pastor Divine Word Missionaries Father Liam Horsfall dies.

\* Rosies man spends a week on the streets to see what it's like for the nation's homeless and to raise awareness of their plight.

**Readings - Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time - 23 August 2015**

**1st Reading: Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18; 2nd Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32;**

**Gospel: John 6:60-69**