



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)

Parish Priest

Fr Anthony Mellor

Assistant Priest

Fr Stephen Jeon

Parish Secretary

Mrs Rosemary Greer

Administrative Assistant

Mrs Jane Cameron

Parish Office Hours

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 **APRE:** Mr Nick Fogarty

Outside School Hours Care Coordinator

Ms Harmony Domaille

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

PLEASE NOTE:
Monday 28 December
(Boxing Day Holiday)
Mass will be
celebrated at 9.00am

Readings - First Sunday of Advent - 29 November 2015

1st Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16; 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2;

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36



Dear sisters and brothers,

Advent marks the start of a new Church year. As Advent begins, we cross a threshold into the Year of Mercy which has been initiated by Pope Francis. On this First Sunday of Advent, we will listen to the Pastoral Letter of Archbishop Mark Coleridge. Below is an edited version, but the full version is also available for you to take home and read:

Journeys are very physical things, as I learn each time I take a long flight. The time of Advent prepares for a birth – and birth is a very physical journey of another kind. According to Scripture, mercy is also a very physical thing. The Latin for mercy

is *misericordia* which means a compassionate heart. But the Bible sees it more physically: for Scripture, the source of mercy is the entrails, even the womb.

The Bible sees mercy as like the love a mother has for her child. A mother loves her child unconditionally. She sees the child just as she or he is. A mother sees all that's weak or wrong in her child, but she sees much more. Whatever is weak or wrong is surpassed infinitely by the mother's love for her child, the one she bore in her womb. It's the same with God and us. God sees us just as we are – weak and wounded, all of us. God sees our sinfulness far more clearly and comprehensively than we ever do. But God sees more – and because he sees more, God is infinitely merciful, like a mother.

Mercy is a vision of possibility. It sees that much more is possible. In that sense, mercy is the mother of hope. The time of Advent, then, prepares not just for the birth of a child who is God-with-us. It also prepares for the birth of mercy which is also the birth of hope. As we journey together, the Church becomes a womb. If the Church is a mother, then the Church is also a womb – bringing forth Jesus in the world and therefore giving birth to mercy and hope.

A mother never ceases to accompany the child she conceives and bears in her womb. Mary gives birth to Jesus whom she has borne in her womb; and she stands by the Cross as He dies, just as she shares the joy of His Resurrection. This is the kind of accompaniment mother Church has to offer to all her children, not just some, not just those who are good. The only question is how. That's where discernment is crucial.

If we're all talk and no action, then we may feel pangs – but they'll be the pangs of death not the pangs of birth. Advent is about the pangs of birth, which are as physical as the Incarnation when the Word took flesh. The real God is very physical. My hope is that this Advent and our journey through the Year of Mercy will be just as physical, just as real, as we travel the road together.

+ Mark Coleridge



Copy of the Archbishop's
2015 Advent Pastoral Message
"The Road of Mercy" is available
in the Catholic Leader.
Copies are also available on church pews.

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



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

- Monday 21 December at 7.00 pm

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)

ST AGATHA'S GIVING TREE - 2015

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.

- * DAILY MASS BOOK 2016 - \$17.00 each
- * 2016 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS - \$9.00 each
- * LITTLE BLUE BOOKS (Advent) - \$4.00 each
- * ROSTERS FOR CHRISTMAS

CHOIR PRACTICE FOR CHRISTMAS

Every Thursday 6.00pm - 7.00pm
in the Church.



New members welcome.

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.

THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The St Agatha's SVDP is conducting its Christmas Appeal, commencing this Sunday. The Conference visits people in a large area from Pinkenba to Bowen Hills, assisting families and single people, seeking food, clothing, and financial assistance. Any donations will be gratefully appreciated. Please use the envelopes provided on the church seats. If paying by cheque, please make payable to the St Agatha's Clayfield SVDP Conference. If anyone would like to donate non-perishable food stuffs, please take a card from the Giving Tree, in the church. Thank you on behalf of the people that SVDP assist.



* ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL PREP FOR 2017

If you have a child born between 1/7/11 – 30/6/12, they are eligible to commence Prep in 2017.

The enrolment process for Prep 2017 commences at the beginning of 2016.

If you would like your child included in the enrolments for prep 2017, 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.

* AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE - Christmas 2015 is now available. Please take a copy home.

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Ben Kennedy

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Len Williamson, Joseph Riba, Rosemary Ryan

Those who are sick:

Jack O'Hagan, Blue Doyle, Fr Michael Cooney, Craig Gerran, Ken Kipping, Bill Heap, Rosaria Fazio, Paddy Ryan Snr, Adele Walker, Paul White, Edward Clark, Cajetan Goves, Alexandra Barlow, Joshua Statis, Joyce Rodgers, Carmel See, Regina Hwan, Val Boevinlic, Deanne Du Bour, Melissa Waka, Agnes Tam, Kerri Smith, Gerry Maller, Ann Tully, Louise Horrocks, Nola Palm, Matthew Gray, Frank Wilkie, Don Martin, Patrick Gallagher, Rene Quinn, Eileen Clarke, Rob Bruce, Mel Purwo, Kath Delahunty, Hellen Passente, Philomena L'Hiullier.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE
TICKETS: \$2.00 EACH OR 3 FOR \$5.00
Drawn: Sunday 20 December



* **CHILDREN'S LITURGY** - Are you interested in being part of the Children's Liturgy Ministry for 2016? This ministry is open to all over 18 years of age. Each Children's Liturgy session is run by two adult volunteers - one to facilitate and the other to assist. Why not come along and observe a session for yourself to help you make your decision. If you are interested please contact the Parish Office on 3262 2859.

* **BREAK OPEN THE WORD**

All readers are asked to collect their copy of *Break Open the Word 2016*. Books (with your name on them) are available on table in church foyer.

* **2015 ANNUAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN**

St Agatha's Parish raised \$5,927.40 for the Annual Catholic Campaign held this year in September. Thank you to everyone who donated to this worthy Campaign.

 **catholic PLEASE JOIN US AT A COLLOQUIUM ON LAUDATO SI AND DISCUSS ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE WORLD AT LARGE**

Reach out. Give life. "Use technology to solve real problems and serve people, helping them have more dignity, less suffering and healthier lives." (Pope Francis on *Laudato Si* - Par 112)

When Pope Francis released the document inspired by St Francis' Canticle of Creation, he wanted to remind us all - Catholics and non-Catholics, the Church and all those beyond it - that we needed to care for creation more. But what does that actually mean and how can we achieve greater sustainability and longevity? This gathering will be a chance to explore and consider these and other significant questions.

Taking place at Mt Alvernia, the Franciscan girls' college at Kedron, on Thursday, December 3, Catholic Mission invites YOU to come and spend a day with Catholics from a variety of backgrounds and contexts. And thanks to the generosity of Catholic Church Insurances, we are able to offer a significant discount to members of local parishes. Simply call our office during business hours, mention this bulletin notice and you will save \$100 (full professional rate is \$195, so you can join us for \$95).

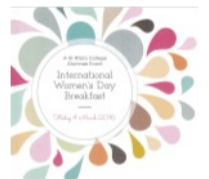
To register or to find out more, please contact the Brisbane office of Catholic Mission, during business hours, on (07) 3336 9239 or visit <http://www.thefrancisefectii.com/thefranciseffec2.html>

* **INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST - Friday 4 March 2016**

St Rita's College Alumnae cordially invite Past Pupils and Friends to the International Women's Day Breakfast / Brisbane Marriott Hotel / 7.00am for 7.30am / Cost \$65 per person -

All bookings are to be made online through trybooking.com.

For more information and ticketing conditions, flyers are available at the back of the church.



FOUND: A pair of black framed glasses were found outside the Presbytery on Friday morning. If you think these belong to you, please contact the Parish Office 3262 2859.

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>				
28/29 Nov	Eddie Foley Marie Ho	Nick Eden Dianne Eden	Denis Keating Angela Larosa Don Macpherson	Life Teen Mass
5/6 Dec	Eric van der List Phil Zammit	Aleira Egan Jeanine Bygott	<i>Volunteer</i> Jane Arkininstall Wilma O'Connell	Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS

28/29 Nov	Trish Hickey	Kate Duffield	<i>Volunteer</i>	Life Teen Mass
5/6 Dec	Jan Zammit	Paulette Archer	Anthony Carroll	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.

29 Nov	Eleonora Kowitz	Julie McMahon	
6 Dec	Jane Cameron	Erin Bledsoe	

ORGANISTS:

28/29 Nov	<i>Volunteer</i>	Mark Leung	Robyn Cuming	Life Teen Mass
5/6 Dec	Robyn Cuming	Mark Leung	Catriona McPherson	Life Teen Mass

SANCTUARY CARERS:

12 Dec	Santina Catalano	Maria Fistrovic
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Volunteers needed. These important ministries need more volunteers.

Please contact 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

Wednesday 2

- * Graduation Mass 6pm

Friday 4

- * Whole School Mass 11am

Monday 7

- * SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish Office

Tuesday 8

- * Youth Ministry Meeting 7pm Parish Office

Wednesday 9

- * RCIA 7pm Parish Office

THE CATHOLIC LEADER COPIES ON SALE - \$2.00

In this week's issue

- * St Stephen's Cathedral to open Holy Doors for Year of Mercy.
- * Archbishop Mark Coleridge's Advent Letter: The road to mercy.
- * St Vincent de Paul Society is helping to restore hope this Christmas
- * Church agencies say proposed cuts to Family Tax Benefit will hurt low-income families.

Readings - Second Sunday of Advent - 6 December 2015

1st Reading: Baruch 5:1-9; 2nd Reading: Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11;

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6