



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

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

PLEASE NOTE:

**There will be no 9.00am
Mass celebrated on
Thursday 24 December
* * * ***

**Monday 28 December
(Boxing Day Holiday)
Mass will be
celebrated at 9.00am**

**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 - Third Sunday of Advent - 13 December 2015
1st Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18; 2nd Reading: Philippians 4:4-7; Gospel: Luke 3:10-18



CHRISTMAS IN SOUTH KOREA

Whenever Christmas season is coming, people get excited, regardless of their religious identity. I also used to get excited even without religious reasons. Perhaps it was because I thought Christmas was a holiday and had many special occasions. Actually on Christmas day, all restaurants and shops are really busy, unlike Australia. In my view, on Christmas day it is really hard to find open shops and restaurants in Australia. If Christmas in Korea is good for selling products and also good for couples, Christmas in Australia is good for resting and also good for family. I think the difference between Australia and Korea is because of each country's tradition.

After entering seminary, Christmas has become a more special time for me, because, while I was a seminarian, I had to prepare a lot of things alone for Christmas. For instance, I was planning for Christmas decorations in my parish, training altar servers for the Mass, cleaning snow-covered paths for parishioners and so on. Even though I felt happy, I couldn't celebrate the reason because I was really busy every Christmas season.

One day, after the Vigil Mass of Christmas, while people were enjoying the special mood outside, I stayed alone inside the parish. It was really calm and peaceful. With the mood which was opposite to outside, I had some time to pray and while praying, I recognised that I hadn't prayed during Christmas season because I was really busy. Because of that, however, I felt happy without any reason, ridiculously so.

Christmas is a very special time for people. But for Christians, like us, Christmas should be special because of our Lord Jesus Christ who comes for all people in every year. If not us, who can remember him and celebrate his coming? I heard that many young people throughout the world don't know that Christmas was established for celebrating Jesus' birth. If we don't remember and pray, Christmas will be the saddest time ever. To prepare for this coming Christmas, how about praying not only in the church but also at home with your loving family? *Fr Stephen*



On Tuesday, 8 December, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Pope Francis opened the Holy Doors at St Peter's to inaugurate the Year of Mercy. This Year of Mercy will continue until the Feast of Christ the King next year. Throughout the coming year, I hope that as a parish community we will be available to take the opportunity to participate in this time of grace, and be open to the bountiful goodness of God who longs to embrace each and every one of us in tender care. As we approach Christmas, let us make use of the **2nd Rite of Reconciliation** which we will celebrate on **Monday, 21 December at 7pm.**

Pope Francis opened the Holy Doors with these powerful words. Let us take some time to reflect on them this Advent season: "This Extraordinary Year is itself a gift of grace. To pass through the Holy Door means to rediscover the infinite mercy of the Father who welcomes everyone and goes out personally to encounter each of them. It is he who seeks us! It is he who comes to encounter us! This will be a year in which we *grow ever more convinced of God's mercy*. How much wrong we do to God and his grace when we speak of sins being punished by his judgment before we speak of their being forgiven by his mercy! But that is the truth. We have to put mercy before judgment, and in any event God's judgment will always be in the light of his mercy. In passing through the Holy Door, then, may we feel that *we ourselves are part of this mystery of love, of tenderness*. Let us set aside all fear and dread, for these do not befit men and women who are loved. Instead, let us experience *the joy of encountering that grace which transforms all things.*" *Fr Anthony*



At the 9.00am Mass this Sunday the Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem
will be celebrating their patronal Mass.
We welcome Fr Dudley McMahon and the Knights of St Lazarus.



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:

- Vigil Mass at 6.00pm with carols from 5.30pm.
- Midnight Mass with carols from 11.30pm.



25 December, Christmas Day :

- Mass at 7.00am and 9.00am with carols from 8.45am.

2nd Rite Reconciliation for Christmas

will be celebrated on

- Monday 21 December at 7.00pm

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.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFTS AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE PIETY STALL



CHOIR PRACTICE FOR CHRISTMAS

Every Thursday 6.00pm - 7.00pm
in the Church. New members welcome.



* 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.

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.



* **2nd RITE OF RECONCILIATION** will be celebrated on Monday 21 December at 7.00pm.

* There will be **NO Adoration and Benediction** on Friday 1 January 2016. Mass will be celebrated at 9.00am.

A VOCATION VIEW: Have you ever asked: "What ought I do?" Simply, tell the Good News to people – begin a new evangelisation. Begin the Jubilee of Mercy to God's Heart

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Ron Close, Alice Conroy, Bill Heap, Sr Pius Stubberfield, Elizabeth Hurley, Mike Carroll

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Brad Tarrant, Alice Shun Wah, Douglas Munt, Don Button

Those who are sick:

Jack O'Hagan, Blue Doyle, Fr Michael Cooney, Craig Gerran, Ken Kipping, 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



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.

* **ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL** - St Agatha's School Clayfield has limited vacancies in Yr 4 and Yr 6 for 2016. Please direct all enquiries to the Enrolment Secretary: wkwhite@bne.catholic.edu.au

* **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.

* **THE STAFFORD PARISH** invites applications for the permanent part time position of Parish Secretary (12 hours per week, 9.00am to 3.30pm Monday and Tuesday). Interviews to be held in the first week of January 2016 and position to start on the 18 January 2016.

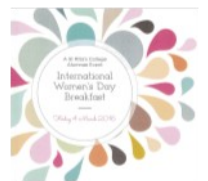
For job description and more information contact Cindy Hayer on 3367 6332 or hroffice@bne.catholic.net.au. Applications close on 18 December.

* **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.



* **A FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS** - Wednesday 16 December 7.00pm.

St Stephen's Cathedral is pleased to announce the traditional carol service containing your favourite carols to sing, as well as Advent and Christmas music for massed choir. The service will be led by members of different choirs of the Cathedral – the Cathedral Choir, the Schola, and the Chorale. Conducted by James Goldrick, accompanied by organist Andrej Kouznetsov. Free admission, retiring collection. Parking available in the Cathedral car park. (Entry via Charlotte Street).

YEAR OF MERCY 13 DECEMBER - Third Sunday of Advent

“At times we are called to gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the father's action in our lives. For this reason I have proclaimed an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy as a special time for the Church, a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective”.

– Pope Francis, *Misericordiae Vultus* – Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy #3



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>				
12/13 Dec	Judy Bartels Paul Bartels	Ken Roberts Anne-Marie Quinn	Regina McGuire Diane Andrews Pam Casagrande	Life Teen Mass
19/20 Dec	Jack Williamson Eddie Foley	Kirsty Stevens Annette Riba	Peter Ryan Trish Ryan Jane Arkinstall	Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS

12/13 Dec	Eddie Foley	Lorraine Atkinson-MacEwen	Erin Bledsoe	Life Teen Mass
19/20 Dec	Ann Goves	Helen Roberts	<i>Volunteer</i>	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.

13 Dec - 24 Jan *No Children's Liturgy - School Holidays*

ORGANISTS:

12/13 Dec	Robyn Cuming	Mark Leung	Jenny McKeon	Life Teen Mass
19/20 Dec	Robyn Cuming	Mark Leung	Catrina McPherson	Life Teen Mass

SANCTUARY CARERS:

19 Dec Beverley O'Brien

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 16

* RCIA 7pm Parish Office

Monday 21

* 2nd Rite of Reconciliation 7pm

Thursday 24

* NO 9.00am Mass

Monday 28 (Boxing Day)

* Mass 9.00am

Friday 25 - 1 January 2016

* Parish Office closed - reopens Monday 4 January

JANUARY

Friday 1

* Mass 9.00am

* No Adoration/Benediction

THE CATHOLIC LEADER COPIES ON SALE - \$2.00

In this week's issue

* Pope Francis aiming for gentle revolution with Year of Mercy.

* Volunteers rush to the aid of new venture supporting Brisbane's homeless.

* Hearts come alive among thousands at Australia's largest Catholic youth festival.

Readings - Fourth Sunday of Advent - 20 December 2015

1st Reading: Micah 5:1-4; 2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10;

Gospel: Luke 1:39-44