



ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

52 Oriel Rd Clayfield Q 4011

Phone: 3262 2859 After Hours Emergency Pager: 3835 9885
 E-mail: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au Website: www.clayfieldparish.org.au
 Aggies Youth: facebook.com/aggiesyouth

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Mellor **Assistant Priest:** Fr Stephen Jeon
Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosemary Greer **Admin. Assistant:** Mrs Jane Cameron
Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 8.00am to 12.30pm and 1.30 pm to 4.30pm
 (Please note: the Office is closed between 12.30 - 1.30pm)

St. Agatha's Catholic Primary School

6 Hunter Lane Clayfield Qld 4011. Phone: 3326 9222
School Principal: Mrs Carol Sayers **APRE:** Mr Nick Fogarty
Outside School Hours Care Coordinator: Ms Harmony Domaille

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 31 January 2016

Readings

1st Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; **2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13; **Gospel:** Luke 4:21-30

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 1 Feb: 6.30am
Wednesday 3 Feb: 9am
Thursday 4 Feb: 9am
Friday 5 Feb: 9am
St Agatha

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 6.00pm
 (1st Rite of Reconciliation:
 Saturday 5pm - 5.30pm)
 Sunday 7.00am
 9.00am
 5.30pm

Rosary before Mass

Parish Calendar

FEBRUARY

- **Wednesday 3 Feb:**
RCIA, 7pm Parish Office
- **Thursday 4 Feb:**
Youth Ministry Meeting 7pm
Parish Office
- **Friday 5 Feb:**
Feast of St Agatha and
commencement Mass for the
school year
- **Monday 8 Feb:**
SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish
Office
- **Wednesday 10 Feb:**
Ash Wednesday Masses
6:30am and 9am
Pastoral Council Meeting 7pm
Parish Office.

Sisters and brothers,

You might notice a few changes to the newsletter this weekend. The redesigned front-page features the image of St Agatha from our stained-glass windows. All the same information is here, but it might be in a different place. There is also a new addition to page two. There is now a little spot called "Clayfield Conversations". It will feature short reflections or stories, the aim of which is to help our ponderings about the relationship between spirituality, faith, church and the world. I hope that you will find them interesting and helpful in your own journey of faith. They are also intended to be "conversation starters". You might like to share them with your family or friends.

Love and marriage are always good conversations starters, and St Paul throws his two cents worth today. He waxes lyrical about the nature of love in this very familiar reading from his letter to the Corinthians. Many married couples choose this reading for their wedding liturgy. St Paul is reminding the Corinthians and us, that actions without love are pointless; we become as useful (or useless) as a musical instrument that doesn't know how to (or want to) harmonise. Lovelessness strikes notes of discord which jar our relationships. George Eliot, the great 19th Century humanist writer, put it plainly: "When death, the great reconciler, has come, it is never our tenderness that we repent of, but our severity." St Paul is telling us the same thing.

Of course, St Paul isn't talking (only) about romantic love. For Paul, everything comes back to Christ. He is painting a pen-picture of what Jesus is like. Another translation by scripture scholar Nicholas King presents us with quite a vivid picture of Jesus, of love, of our own Christian calling:

"Love waits patiently, shows kindness. Love is not jealous, does not brag, is not 'puffed up', does not behave improperly, does not seek self-interest, does not get provoked, doesn't reckon up evil, doesn't rejoice in injustice, but rejoices at integrity. Love copes with everything; is always committed, always hopeful, always endures to the end; love never collapses."

Now that gives us something to aim for this week,
Fr. Anthony.

2016 - The Year of Mercy

A Word of 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. We have to put mercy before judgment, and in any event God's judgement will always be in the light of his mercy. (Pope Francis)*

Clayfield Conversations

Clayfield Conversations is a new addition to the newsletter. Each week, we will print a short reflection on spirituality, Church or current events as food for thought and reflection. Last Sunday, the 51st International Eucharist Congress began in Cebu, the Philippines. The opening homily was given by Cardinal Charles Maung Bo of Myanmar (Burma).

He was selected by Pope Francis to be his representative. This is part of Cardinal Bo's homily:

Once a priest told me uttering the consecration words in the Mass was becoming very difficult. The words "Take and Eat" are very difficult for me, he said. He was living in a place affected by war and displacement and food was hard to come by. He was reminded by his people's hunger and difficulty in uttering the words by Jesus. Yes we break bread in an unjust world. UNICEF says everyday 20,000 children die of starvation and malnutrition. That is 900,000 every month and 10 million a year. A silent genocide, the biggest terrorism in the world; what is the greatest moral sin that seeing a child dying of starvation today? The Eucharist and the poor are inseparable. It was the church Father John Chrysostom who said "Do you wish to honor the body of Christ? Do not ignore him when he is naked. He who said 'this is my Body' is the same who said: You saw me hungry and you gave me food". Mother Teresa advised her sisters: The love for the Eucharist helps us to love the poor. Be the love, the compassion, the presence to the poor. Eucharist is a dream and a reality because Jesus is truly present. A dream because it is the hope of the future, the eschatological meal of human equality. Today you have gathered from various backgrounds, the rich and poor, the noble and peasant, aristocrat and the servant. But when you approach the altar, the Eucharist strips you off all your social status. You are just an equal among equals. In an unequal and uncaring world, the Eucharist steadfastly remains the beacon of human equality. The Eucharist calls us to justice. No other religion elevates justice to this level. No other religion elevates the poor to this level as Mary narrates after the word was flesh in her "the mighty will be brought down and the lowly will be raised up". This calls for our commitment to a world of justice. The Eucharist will remain a revolutionary flag hoisted everyday on millions of altars, crying for justice like the prophets of old. This I think is the clarion call to mission today for all of us. Another world is possible. An economic system that does not treat human beings as commodities is possible, another world where the world is our common home is possible. Until that happens, the Eucharist will continue to be a challenge. Our mission remains incomplete.

* 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

Next Meeting - Thursday 4 February 7pm Parish Office



If you have any questions or ideas please contact
Anne O'Connor on 3256 6013 or 0419 796 988.



* **You are invited** to Fr Anthony's Installation Mass by Archbishop Mark Coleridge next Sunday 7 February at the 9.00am Mass. Morning tea will be provided.

* ST AGATHA'S PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - 2016

Under new Archdiocesan Policy, the Sacraments will be celebrated over a 3 year period with Confirmation in year 3, First Holy Communion in Year 4 and Reconciliation in Year 5.

You need to enrol in 2016 for all 3 Sacraments.

ENROLMENT WEEKEND: 7/8 May at any of the Masses -

Saturday 6.00pm; Sunday 7.00am, 9.00am & 5.30pm

**PARENT'S MEETING: Monday 9 May, 7.00pm or Tuesday 10 May, 7.00pm at St Agatha's Church
(N.B. Parents need only attend 1 of these sessions)**

For further information call Jane Cameron at the Parish office: 3262 2859

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Sr Pat Cluston, Josephine Podesta, Rosemarie Young

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Duncan Ferrie, Craig Andrews

Those who are sick:

Trevor Elms, Fr Michael Cooney, Craig Gerran, Ken Kipping, Paddy Ryan Snr, Adele Walker, Paul White, Edward Clark, Cajetan Goves, Alexandra Barlow, 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.

*** OUR PATRON SAINT**

Friday February 5, is the feast day of St Agatha. A saint from third century Sicily, she is the patron saint of our parish. She is also the patron saint of those who suffer from diseases of the breast. She was chosen for those sufferers because of the mutilation her persecutors inflicted on her. She did not die from these injuries, but was killed a short time later for refusing to renounce her faith.

All are welcome to join in the celebration to honour our Patron Saint at a School Mass on Friday at 9.00am.



*** ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL - PREP 2017**

If you have a child born between 1/7/11– 30/6/12, they are eligible to commence Prep in 2017. If you have not already let us know details of your child, please email the Enrolment Secretary on wkwhite@bne.catholic.edu.au with your name, contact email, contact phone number and your child's name and date of birth.

Sibling Applications for Prep 2017 close on 12 February, 2016.

Application forms are in the process of being emailed out. Applications close for Prep 2017 on **24 March 2016**, interviews usually take place in April/May, and placements offered in June.



Catholic Mission, the official church agency for Mission and Evangelisation is looking to recruit more Mission Ambassadors in 2016. Our volunteer Ambassadors visit other parishes, as part of our appeal campaigns, to speak about the missionary work of the Church, in Australia and overseas. They are trained, they are passionate and they are equipped with the necessary information to share with their fellow Catholics.

And just as Jesus acknowledges in the Gospel for this weekend, that a "prophet has no honour in his own town", so we too rely on people from one parish, being willing to visit other parishes. This is the essence of Mission and also Evangelisation and you will join a pool of people who are committed to their own parish but prepared to share the story of our work with Catholics in other communities. In the Year of Mercy, join with us to "bring life" to all. Simply send an email to ajimenez@catholicmission.org.au or text our Regional Diocesan Director David McGovern on 0431 481 731. Please include your first name, so David knows who he is speaking too when he calls you back, for a confidential, no-obligation chat about what it means to one of Catholic Mission's Mission Ambassador's.

LENTEN REFLECTION GROUPS (10 February - 26 March)

"Being Lost... Being Found" is the title of this year's Lenten program. The group will meet once a week on a day and time to be decided. Please complete and hand in the tear off slip indicating your interest.

With that information gathered we shall organise days and times. Each meeting runs for 80 minutes.



I am interested in the Lenten program:

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Day Preferred: _____

Time Preferred: _____



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>				
30/31 Jan	Marie Ho Eddie Foley	Helen Roberts Aleira Egan	Heidi Cooper Michael Crutcher Eileen Duncan	Life Teen Mass
6/7 Feb	Jack Williamson Ann Goves	Anne O'Connor Anne-Marie Quinn	Tim Hancock Peter Gilroy Leanne O'Shea	Life Teen Mass
<u>COMMUNION MINISTERS</u>				
30/31 Jan	Trish Hickey	Deborah Hall	Michele Pink	Life Teen Mass
6/7 Feb	Eddie Foley	Helen Roberts	Erin Bledsoe	Life Teen Mass
<u>ORGANISTS:</u>				
30/31 Jan	Robyn Cuming	Mark Leung	Jenny McKeon	Life Teen Mass
6/7 Feb	Volunteer	Mark Leung	St Agatha's musicians	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.

31 Jan (9.00am) Monica McBride & Mel Ryan

SANCTUARY CARERS:

6 Feb Victor Podesta & Jane Lynn

Volunteers needed. These important ministries need more volunteers.

Please contact the Parish Office on 3262 2859 if you would like to help.

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.

THE CATHOLIC LEADER COPIES ON SALE - \$2.00

- * Parenting experts loved by Oprah making Brisbane speaking debut.
- * World Youth Day organisers give more details on Krakow program.
- * Brisbane Catholics support West Papuans through human rights struggles
- * Teachers consider full-day strike and email bans.

WELCOME BACK

This Tuesday we welcome back Fr Stephen who has been away in Korea visiting family and friends. He sends his love and prayers to all at St Agatha's.

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

LITTLE BLACK BOOKS (Lent) - \$4.00 each

Six-minute reflections on the weekday Gospels of Lent.
This *Little Black Book* is your companion for Lent.
Available for sale at the Piety Stall.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We are seeking volunteers to assist with this most rewarding ministry. The ministry is open to all over the age of 18. (A blue card will be organised for you if you do not already have one). Each session is run by two adults, one to facilitate and the other to assist. You will only be needed once or twice a term and not at all in school holidays. Session content is provided along with any other support required. If you are interested please contact the Parish Office on 3262 2859 or email us at clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au.

Readings - Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 7 February 2016

1st Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8; 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Gospel: Luke 5:1-11