



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)

Local Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Representative: Marie Ho (0417 723 085)

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

Second Sunday of Lent - 21 February 2016

Readings

1st Reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18; 2nd Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1; Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 22 Feb: 6.30am

The Chair of Saint Peter

Wednesday 24 Feb: 9am

Thursday 25 Feb: 9am

Friday 26 Feb: 9am

SUNDAY 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

• Monday 22 Feb:

SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish Office

• Friday 26 Feb:

Stations of the Cross 8.30am

Altar Serving Training 3.15pm

2nd Sunday of Lent

*"I am the Lord who brought
you from Ur of the
Chaldeans to give you this
land as a possession."
(Genesis 15:7)*

Dear sisters and brothers,

We are into the second week of Lent. "Lent" is an ancient English word that means "Spring" — as in the season — but finds its root meaning in "stretching" or "to lengthen". Perhaps the original meaning is that Spring is the time of the year when the light of the Sun begins to lengthen and stretch further across the sky after the darkness of winter. It doesn't really make much sense here south of the Equator, because for us, Lent is always the season of autumn when the Sun's light begins to diminish.

Nevertheless, this sense of "lengthening" or "stretching" can help us understand the meaning of Lent. It is meant to be a time in which we are "stretched". Sometimes we can think of Lent as a personal struggle of our will power. Certainly, it is a time in which we examine our priorities and consider the things which take-up our energies. Are these things leading us towards God or away from God? Lent is our yearly spiritual stock-take.

An early Christian preacher, St. John Chrysostom once said: "No act of virtue can be great if it is not followed by advantage for others. So, no matter how much time you spend fasting, no matter how much you sleep on a hard floor and eat ashes and sigh continually, if you do no good to others, you do nothing great." Everything that we do during Lent, and indeed, everything that we deny ourselves during Lent, is meant to stretch us and lengthen us. Lent is meant to be the season in which the light of our heart grows. In his annual Lenten message, Pope Francis wrote, "Indifference to our neighbour and to God also represents a real temptation for us Christians. Each year during Lent we need to hear once more the voice of the prophets who cry out and trouble our conscience." Describing this as the *globalization of indifference*, Pope Francis said that, "whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades. We end up being incapable of feeling compassion at the outcry of the poor, weeping for other people's pain, and feeling a need to help them, as though all this were someone else's responsibility and not our own." Perhaps this Lent we can fast from indifference.

Fr. Anthony

2016 - The Year of Mercy

A Word of Mercy.... Lent traditionally urges the three disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Each of these looks to the mercy of God. The disciplines of Lent are all about liberation from all that makes us and the world merciless (*Archbishop Mark Coleridge*).

This week's *Clayfield Conversations* reflects upon the recent historic meeting between Pope Francis and Patriarch Kirill of the Russian Orthodox Church. Below is an extract of an article by John Allen which first appeared on *Crux* — a Catholic news website.

Pope, Russian Patriarch embrace in historic meeting

In an historic encounter which, in a sense, has been centuries in the making, Pope Francis and Patriarch Kirill of the Russian Orthodox Church met last Friday in Havana, Cuba, issuing a joint declaration pledging their churches to “walking together.” It was the first-ever meeting between the leaders of the Catholic and Russian Orthodox churches, the two largest Christian groups on each side of the rupture between Eastern and Western Christianity conventionally dated to 1054. “We spoke as brothers, we have the same baptism, we are both bishops,” Francis said. “We talked about our churches, agreeing that unity is built by walking together.” “[We met] for our churches, our people of believers, the future of Christianity and the future of human civilization,” Kirill said. “The results let me assure [you] that the two churches can cooperate to defend Christians around the world, and, with full responsibility, work together.” Francis began his outreach even before the meeting began. Asked aboard the papal flight to Havana when he would carry the press corps to either Russia or China, the pontiff said, “Russia and China, I carry them here,” touching his heart. Francis also tweeted on Friday that “today is a day of grace,” describing the meeting with Kirill as “a gift from God.” Even the run-up brought reminders of the lingering theological and political divides. On Feb. 5, Metropolitan Hilarion Alfeyev of the Russian Orthodox Church told reporters that the meeting would take place “despite the problem of the uniates,” a reference to the 22 Eastern churches in communion with Rome, which some Orthodox leaders regard as “Trojan horses” designed to peel away Orthodox faithful. Hilarion also took pains to insist there would be no joint prayer between the pope and patriarch, noting that the meeting would take place not in a church, but an airport departure lounge. Given the centuries of bad blood – not to mention contemporary disputes over matters such as Russia’s incursion into eastern Ukraine, which has been supported by Russian Orthodox clergy but criticized by Francis – some wonder how Friday’s meeting was possible at all. Not quite everyone was prepared to celebrate Friday’s meeting – especially in Ukraine, home to the 5-million-strong Greek Catholic Church, which has long been ground zero for tensions between Catholics and Russian Orthodox.

Whatever the challenges, Rev. Robert Taft, an American Jesuit who taught for decades at Rome’s Pontifical Oriental Institute and is considered one of Catholicism’s foremost experts on Orthodox worship, says the Catholic Church benefits by pursuing closer ties. “What the Catholic Church gains is a more honest view of itself, and of its place in the world,” he said. “It’s not true that at the beginning we had one Church centered in Rome, and then for various historical reasons certain groups broke off,” he said. “It’s just the opposite. At the beginning we had various churches, as Christianity developed here and there and someplace else, and gradually different units began to be formed.” “That’s the reality,” Taft said, “and we have to accept it.”

* 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. If you would like to help with music or singing just talk to the musicians. Enjoy supper and friendship after Mass. **Visit Aggies Youth:** <https://www.facebook.com/aggiesyouth>.



* DINNER ROSTER LifeTeen Mass - Sunday 5.30pm

PLEASE NOTE: OUR DINNER ROSTER FOR 2016 HAS CHANGED.

We will be providing dinner on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month commencing on 7 February.

HELP NEEDED: If you can assist with this ministry by providing dinner for 40-60 people please write your name on the roster in the Church foyer. The key to this ministry is “keep it simple”. Sausage sizzles and spaghetti bolognese are always welcome! Costs can be reimbursed with presentation of dockets to the Parish office. 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. Next Youth Ministry meeting Thursday 3 March, 7pm Parish Office.

* **AGGIES YOUTH DATE CLAIMER - Sunday 13 March**

After 5.30pm Mass join us for a special Supper to support the Caritas Lenten Appeal.

In our prayers we remember

Those who have died recently:

Paul Jackson, Vince Sciacca

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Margaret Bowden, Thomas McVeigh

Those who are sick:

Dell McHugh, 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.



*** SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

With limited support services for children living with intellectual disabilities in Laos, Duangmala feared that her eight-year-old son, Hum Noy, would never reach his full potential because he has Down Syndrome. However, he now has the chance to learn and thrive at a school for children with intellectual disabilities, supported by Caritas Australia.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
**PROJECT
COMPASSION**

Please donate to Project Compassion 2016 and help children living with intellectual disabilities in Laos learn, grow and reach their full potential. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, which are available on the pews and on table at church entrance. www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion 1800 024 413.



* With great joy we welcome **William Noé, Isabelle Noé, Madeleine Noé** and **Sophia Sutton** who will be baptised this Sunday.



*** 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

*** ALTAR SERVING TRAINING**

An Altar serving training session will be held on Friday 26 February at 3.15pm in the Church. If your child is in grade 3 to 6 and has been Confirmed, and would like to attend the session, could you please notify the parish office by email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au or by phone: 3262 2859.

*** 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. Applications for Prep 2017 Non Siblings close on **24 March 2016**, interviews usually take place in April/May, and placements offered in June. **Sibling Applications for Prep 2017 closed on 12 February, 2016. Sibling interviews are currently taking place.**

*** BROCHURES AVAILABLE**

Towards Healing and Professional Standards Office (Catholic Church Queensland) brochures are available on table at the church entrance.

*** LENTEN TALK** by Rob Cosgrove - Thursday 3 March 2016 at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall at Hendra:

"You are invited to an engaging, inspiring and challenging presentation on the Jubilee of Mercy."

Rob Cosgrove from Evangelisation Brisbane will be presenting a Lenten talk "*The Face of Mercy – The practical version*" illuminating Pope Francis' document for the year. If you can't commit to anything else in Lent, this would be something that would be good to reflect on. All very welcome.

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>				
20/21 Feb	Eric van der List Phil Zammit	Helen Roberts Ken Roberts	Denis Keating Angela Larosa Don Macpherson	Life Teen Mass
27/28 Feb	Judy Bartels Paul Bartels	Mark Burton Jeanine Bygott	Lauren McMullan Katrina Murphy Wilma O'Connell	Life Teen Mass
<u>COMMUNION MINISTERS:</u>				
20/21 Feb	Jan Zammit	Lorraine Atkinson-MacEwen	Anthony Carroll	Life Teen Mass
27/28 Feb	Trish Hickey	Paulette Archer	Michele Pink	Life Teen Mass
<u>ORGANISTS:</u>				
20/21 Feb	Robyn Cuming	Mark Leung	Eithne Stafford	Life Teen Mass
27/28 Feb	Robyn Cuming	Mark Leung	Catriona McPherson	Life Teen Mass
<u>ALTAR SERVERS:</u>				
20/21 Feb		Max Van Balen Georgia Van Balen	Bart Marino	Caitlin Marshall
27/28 Feb	Harry Lane		Xavier Coorey Kate Taylor	Josephine Warda
<u>CHILDREN'S LITURGY:</u>				
21 Feb			Julie Kordic & Ewa Marino-Cebulski	
28 Feb			Jane Arkinstall & Giulia Coorey	
<u>SANCTUARY CARERS:</u>				
5 Mar	Victor Podesta & Jane Lynn			

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

VACANCY - SCHOOL CROSSING SUPERVISOR

A casual position exists for a School Crossing Supervisor at **St Agatha's Primary**. Remuneration \$28.18 per hour 1.25 hours per day - 5 days per fortnight on a rotational roster basis in all weather conditions. Application packs available from the school office. Applications close: 26 February 2016

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.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

"Receive children. Receive me."

Friday 4 March 2016

St John's Anglican Church
12 Burilda Street, Hendra
10.00am.



Everyone welcome.

THE CATHOLIC LEADER COPIES ON SALE - \$2.00

* Holy doors flung open across Brisbane for Year of Mercy.

* Baby Asha galvanises faith leaders and Brisbane hospital staff as protest grows.

Readings - Third Sunday of Lent - 28 February 2016

1st Reading: Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15; 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12; Gospel: Luke 13:1-9