



St Agatha's
CLAYFIELD

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 Kevin Njoku
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 Easter - 3rd April 2016

Readings

1st Reading: Acts 5:12-16; 2nd Reading: Revelation 1:9-13, 17-19; Gospel: John 20:19-31

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 4 April: 6.30am
The Annunciation of the Lord
Wednesday 6 April: 9am
Thursday 7 April: 9am
St John Baptist De La Salle
Friday 8 April: 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

APRIL

- **Monday 4:**
SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish Office
- **Tuesday 5:**
Youth Ministry Meeting 7pm Parish Office
- **Sunday 10:**
Parish Planning Day APAC building 10.30am-12.30pm
- **Monday 11:**
School resumes
- **Wednesday 13:**
Pastoral Council Meeting 7pm Parish Office

Dear sisters and brothers,

This weekend we welcome Fr. Kevin Njoku as the new Associate Pastor in Clayfield. Fr Kevin arrived in Brisbane last year from his home diocese of the Umuahia in Nigeria. He has come to us after serving as the Associate Pastor in the parish of Capalaba/Alexandria Hills. I know that you will make him welcome - as you have me - and that you will appreciate his ministry in this community.

Next Sunday, the pastoral council will host an important gathering after the 9am Mass. Over the past couple of months, the Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) has been discussing ways of looking to the future with some strategic vision. With this in mind, the PPC is inviting parishioners to a planning session on Sunday, April 10. **"Looking Ahead": Parish Planning Day** will be an opportunity to gather a cross section of our parishioners together and imagine some immediate and longer term goals and opportunities for the parish community. This is your opportunity to pay a part in shaping the future of St Agatha's Parish. We hope that you can join us next Sunday in the APAC building from 10:30am-12:30pm. Please RSVP to the Parish Office for catering purposes.

Thanks to my niece, Angela, I discovered last Sunday afternoon that the "parish" has at least two Facebook pages. This came as a great surprise to me because the only Facebook page that I was aware of was the St. Aggies Facebook page. Please be aware that, apart from the youth page, St. Agatha's currently has NO official Facebook page. This may change in the future but if you have "liked" a Facebook page carrying the title of St. Agatha's, Clayfield, it has no official connection with the parish, and therefore, we cannot administer or moderate it. These pages may well have been set-up with good intentions but they have no official connection to this parish. If you "liked" one of these pages, I advise you to "unfriend".

Certainly, one of the areas that I would like to talk about our upcoming parish planning day is our place in the social media space. Nevertheless, all official channels of communication will always be listed at the top of the parish newsletter. Again, thanks to all who made my first Easter in Clayfield such a memorable experience. There is plenty more of "Easter" left for us to celebrate. May this Easter season continue to lift our hearts in hope and joy.

Fr. Anthony

2016 - The Year of Mercy

A Word of Mercy....The greeting of the Risen Christ to his disciples on the evening of Easter, "Peace be with you!", continues to resound in us all. Peace, especially during this Easter season, remains the desire of so many people who suffer unprecedented violence of discrimination and death simply because they bear the name "Christian". (Pope Francis)

Clayfield Conversations

This week's reflection is written by Fr. Andrew Hamilton. It was published in *Eureka Street*.

Elusive Easter's Challenge to Wider Society

One of the abiding human challenges is to endure with gallantry prolonged hard times. It is enshrined in Australian memories of long years of drought that drive some off the land while others stay. But the challenge is also felt in everyday, domestic experience. For year after year, for example, a man may spend his days caring for a wife with dementia long after she has ceased to recognize him. To many the challenge to endurance comes from a public world in which small gains by humanity are overtaken by huge losses. How can we keep pressing for better times when we rejoice that the Berlin Wall has been excised, only to see it metastasize in the walls of Israel, Europe and the United States? Why bother about people who seek protection from persecution or about our natural environment when the small initiatives we take are overrun by a flood tide of brutality and cynicism? What hope of building harmony in society when the Paris bombings are followed by those of Brussels? There are many ways of responding to this challenge. We may simply get on with things, without worrying about any larger meaning or lack of it. We may instead give up on our hopes and commitments, acknowledging that it is all too hard.

We may also deny the intractability of the situation in which we find ourselves, sunnily optimistic that all will be well. Or we can live like Cassandra, daily prophesying doom from the sidelines. Because this challenge is universal, the Christian celebration of Easter is of wider interest. At its heart it is a meditation on personal and political catastrophe that seems final and ineluctable, and on how such things are to be approached. The key to the Easter story lies in the relationship between Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Good Friday is heavy and intimidating, full of soldiers in barracks or escorting prisoners, of high officials passing judgment, of horrid sights and sounds of a man being flogged and hammered to a cross, and of dark experiences of betrayal and abandonment. It ends in darkness come early. There is no escape from Good Friday — it is everybody's public and personal nightmare.

Easter Sunday is as light as a feather, full of sunlight, rumours arising, angel messages, an immovable stone gently moved, a presence barely noticed, a welcome guest wafting through locked doors, a familiar figure on the beach, a movement of air that lifts despair. Easter Sunday is not for nailing down. The joy, energy and hope it brings blow where they will. Although Easter Sunday is so different from Good Friday, it does not cancel it out. The two days are wired together. Easter Sunday does not flinch from the public brutality and corruption of Good Friday, and the ripping apart of a man's hopes, promises, friendships and self-respect. All these things took place and are written in stone.

But that is not all that is to be said. Something waits, light as air, which whips and hammers cannot smash, nor can betrayal and hatred crush. Even in the smashing and unraveling, God is present, turning chains to dust and desperation to hope. On Easter Day the darkness of Good Friday is made translucent and life-bearing. Deadly earnestness yields to laughter. For those who believe in the Christ of the Easter story, Easter Sunday remains elusive, and happily so. They cannot prove that Christ is risen, but may smell Resurrection in the air. They may live with death, abandonment and betrayal, feeling the darkness, but trust over the horizon in a dawning they can't see. The challenge with which the Easter story deals faces us all, whatever we believe. We have to live through it with the resources that we have to hand. But the disposition commended in the Easter story is a blessing for anyone wanting to be constant in the face of personal loss and public regression. It consists in recognizing our world for what it is, finding a hope that goes beyond the clear evidence of what seems possible, and so responding with good spirit to whatever comes.

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 Tuesday 5 April, 7pm Parish Office.



Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets for our Easter raffle. A total of \$953.00 was raised. Lucky winners: Ainsley Crutcher; B. Gates and Gerald Barns.

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Agnes Pini, Frank Sullivan, Librado Bigcas

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Hilda McCluskey, Anthony Hoskins, Agatha Archer, Paul Archer, Monsignor John English

Those who are sick:

Rakesh Akhil, 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, Ann Tully, 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.



Caritas Australia would like to **THANK YOU** for supporting Project Compassion. If you still have your Project Compassion box or set of envelopes at home, please bring them back next week or visit www.caritas.org.au to make your donation online.

Thank you for supporting us this year as we celebrate 50 years of Project Compassion. You are helping to empower the world's poorest children, women and men with vital learning and renewed hope.

*** PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE USERS**

PLEASE COLLECT YOUR NEW PACKET THIS WEEKEND

Your assistance is appreciated as it saves volunteers giving of their time to personally deliver them. Thank you.

*** * PLEASE NOTE: IMPORTANT CHANGE TO TIMETABLE * ***
FOR ST AGATHA'S PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2016

(For all children in Year 3 and above)

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.

*** * Parent Information Evening: 3rd May, 7pm or 4th May 7pm in APAC, St Agatha's School * ***
(N.B. Parents need only attend 1 of these sessions)

Rite of Enrolment: 7/8 May at any of the masses

Mass times: Saturday 6.00pm; Sunday 7.00am, 9.00am & 5.30pm

For further information call Jane Cameron at the Parish office: 3262 2859 or go onto our website:
www.clayfieldparish.org.au

*** CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - ST AGATHA'S CLAYFIELD**

Have you been away from the Church and you are seeking to reconnect and get an update on your Catholic faith? Perhaps you know someone who has left the Church? or just beginning to worship with us again? Please invite them to join us for 6 sessions, "Catholics Returning Home", Mondays from 9 May 7.30pm to 9pm at St Agatha's Clayfield, 52 Oriel Road. For more info please contact Lisa on 0418 734 147, or take a **green** brochure.

THANK YOU!! - I would like to say thank you to all people of St Agatha's. First of all, I really appreciate Fr Anthony Mellor who has spent precious time with me for these last 5 months. He is a good cook (I hope you will get some opportunities to taste his food) and has a sense of humour (getting funnier and funnier). I can imagine that all St Agatha's people will be happier with his presence as time goes by. Secondly, I would like to thank Mrs Rosemary Greer and Mrs Jane Cameron because they have been like warm-hearted mothers to me. I won't forget the "smokos" that we have had together. And also to Mr Peter Bowden who has helped and advised me from the beginning of my life at St Agatha's. Without him, I cannot imagine that I would have survived here. To be honest there are A LOT OF PEOPLE that I have to give thanks to: all groups belonging to the parish, such as, PPC, PFC, SVDP, YM as well as the school leadership team. Whenever I participate in the meetings, all members of these groups have shown me great generosity and kindness. To the rest that I cannot remember at this moment, I would like to extend my thanks. Last but not least, I would like to specially thank all our St Agatha's family members. For me, you are the best people ever. You have given great love, shown a lot of patience to me and encouraged me with your smiling faces. The life as a pastor should be a giving-life for his sheep, but in my case I have to confess that you are my pastors. I cannot find a proper way to express how I feel about the gift of your presence to me. I hope that your love towards others will endure forever so that many can experience God's love by you. I promise that you will be in my prayer. Once again, I thank you so much! *Fr Stephen*

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

6.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

2/3 Apr	Jack Williamson <i>Volunteer</i>	Aleira Egan Sr Cecily Foster	Peter Gilroy Leanne O'Shea Tim Hancock	Life Teen Mass
9/10 Apr	Phil Zammit Eric van der List	Anne-Marie Quinn Anne O'Connor	Angela Larosa Don Macpherson Denis Keating	Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

2/3 Apr	Trish Hickey	Paulette Archer	Michele Pink	Life Teen Mass
9/10 Apr	Jan Zammit	Helen Roberts	Erin Bledsoe	Life Teen Mass

ORGANISTS:

2/3 Apr	<i>Volunteer</i>	Mark Leung	Catriona McPherson	Life Teen Mass
9/10 Apr	<i>Volunteer</i>	Mark Leung	Jenny McKeon	Life Teen Mass

ALTAR SERVERS:

2/3 Apr	<i>School Holidays - Volunteers</i>
9/10 Apr	<i>School Holidays - Volunteers</i>

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

27 Mar - 10 April *No Children's Liturgy - School Holidays*

SANCTUARY CARERS:

16 Apr **Beverley O'Brien**

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

* 3000 young Australian Catholics preparing to be pilgrims at World Youth Day 2016 in Poland.

* Pope urges the world to use 'weapons of love' to combat 'brutal violence' of terrorism.

FEAST IN HONOUR OF THE MARTYRED THREE SAINTS

Alfo, Filadelfo and Cirino

Holy Cross Church, Woollowin

Sunday 1 May 2016

9:30am Solemn Mass

12:00pm Food stalls and entertainment

2:00pm Exit of the Saints and street procession

3:30pm Entertainment continues

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



PALMS AUSTRALIA
Fulfilling International Mission for Skilled Volunteers

Communities in East Timor, PNG, Kenya, Kiribati, Samoa and elsewhere are asking for volunteers to assist mentor local workers and so assist poverty reduction. They believe this approach promotes self-reliant, sustainable development and have asked Palms Australia to recruit, prepare and support those who volunteer.

Want to know more? Information session will be held on Saturday 16 April, 3.30pm at Brisbane Square Library (266 George Street).

RSVP to joey@palms.org.au or call 02 9518 9551

LITTLE WHITE BOOKS

\$4.00 each

for sale at Piety Staff

Readings - Third Sunday of Easter - 10 April 2016

1st Reading: Acts 5:27-32, 40-41; 2nd Reading: Revelation 5:11-14; Gospel: John 21:1-19