



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

The Ascension of the Lord - 8th May 2016

Readings

1st Reading: Acts 1:1-11; 2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23; Gospel: Luke 24:46-53

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 9 May: 6.30am
Wednesday 11 May: 9am
Thursday 12 May: 9am
Year 6 & Prep Mass
Friday 13 May: 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

MAY

- **Monday 9th:**
SVDP Meeting 5pm
Parish Office
- **Wednesday 11th:**
Pastoral Council Meeting 7pm
Parish Office
- **Saturday 14th/Sunday 15th:**
(Preparation for the Sacrament
of Confirmation) Relighting of
Baptism Candle
- **Tuesday 17th:**
Finance Meeting 6pm
Parish Office

**NATIONAL
VOLUNTEER WEEK
9 - 15 May 2016**

**GIVE HAPPY
LIVE HAPPY**



Dear sisters and brothers,

Last weekend, we held our survey regarding a change of time to our Saturday night Mass. The proposal was to trial a 5pm Mass from July until the end of the year. The results of the vote are as follows:

43 - Yes to the trial

15 - No to the trial

(3 votes suggested a 5:30pm).

After consultation with the Pastoral Council, ***I have decided to introduce a trial of a 5pm from the first Saturday night in July (2nd July) until the end of December.*** If by November or so, the numbers are between 90-100 on a regular basis, I think we could conclude that the trial has been successful and we will maintain that Mass. If it remains a similar number to what it is now, which is between 70-80 people, we can have another survey to see what people would like to do. The reason I am not suggesting a 5:30pm is because Hendra has a Saturday night Mass at that time and I think it is wise to provide an option to neighbouring parishes. This will mean that Clayfield would be 5pm on Saturday night, with Hendra at 5:30pm and Nundah at 6pm. I am expecting that there will be some teething problems in the initial stages (I might even forget to turn-up at 5pm one night!), and after a few weeks it may even look as though the change wasn't a very good idea. However, I am confident that the change will be positive in the long-run and become an opportunity to revitalise the Saturday evening Mass. I ask our regular Saturday night Mass-goers to be patient during the transition, and I am sorry to those who attend 6pm but won't be able to make a 5pm. The change is an attempt to offer members of St. Agatha's community with an alternative to their weekend routine. In the coming weeks, the parish office will be in contact with all our rostered ministers on Saturday nights and ask them to confirm their continued availability. There will be plenty of advertising and reminders of the change of time over the coming weeks, but just to re-iterate: ***From the first Saturday in July (2nd July), we will trial a 5pm Mass with Reconciliation at 4:30pm.*** On this Feast of the Ascension, we welcome our children and families who are preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation. We celebrate the Rite of Enrolment for our children, and I am sure that you will encourage them with a smile and a greeting and words of support. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers over the coming weeks.

Fr. Anthony

2016 - The Year of Mercy

A Word of Mercy... The Gospel is the book of God's mercy, to be read and reread, because everything that Jesus said and did is an expression of the Father's mercy. Not everything, however, was written down; the Gospel of mercy remains *an open book*, in which the signs of Christ's disciples - concrete acts of love and the best witness to mercy - continue to be written.

(Pope Francis)

Clayfield Conversations

Over the next couple of weeks, we will take a closer look at Pope Francis' latest document, *Amoris Laetitia* (The Joy of Love). Fr. James Martin SJ of *America* magazine guides us through the top ten points of *Amoris Laetitia*.

Top Ten Takeaways from *Amoris Laetitia*

Pope Francis's ground-breaking new document *Amoris Laetitia* ("The Joy of Love") asks the Church to meet people where they are, to consider the complexities of people's lives and to respect people's consciences when it comes to moral decisions. The apostolic exhortation is mainly a document that reflects on family life and encourages families. But it is also the pope's reminder that the church should avoid simply judging people and imposing rules on them without considering their struggles.

Using insights from the Synod of Bishops on the Family and from bishops' conferences from around the world, Pope Francis affirms church teaching on family life and marriage, but strongly emphasizes the role of personal conscience and pastoral discernment. He urges the church to appreciate the context of people's lives when helping them make good decisions. The goal is to help families — in fact, everyone — experience God's love and know that they are welcome members of the church. All this may require what the pope calls "new pastoral methods" (199). Here are (another two of the) ten things to know about the pope's ground-breaking new document (continued from last week):

- 7. *Traditional teachings on marriage are affirmed, but the church should not burden people with unrealistic expectations.*** Marriage is between one man and one woman and is indissoluble; and same-sex marriage is not considered marriage. The church continues to hold out an invitation to healthy marriages. At the same time, the church has often foisted upon people an "artificial theological ideal of marriage" removed from people's everyday lives (36). At times these ideals have been a "tremendous burden" (122). To that end, seminarians and priests need to be better trained to understand the complexities of people's married lives. "Ordained ministers often lack the training needed to deal with the complex problems currently facing families" (202).
- 8. *Children must be educated in human relationships and sexuality.*** In a culture that often commodifies and cheapens sexual expression, children need to understand sexuality within the "broader framework of an education for love and mutual self-giving" (280). Sadly, the body is often seen as simply "an object to be used" (153). Sexuality always has to be understood as being open to the gift of new life.

To be continued next week....

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>.

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.



A PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need;
May they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us;

May they continue to guide us in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty, or conflict;

May they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion.

We remember mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever
in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen.

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Babette Slater, John Burley, Phillip Sherring, David Hoffman, Gerry Dawson

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Michelle Edgecombe, Andrew Collier, Basil Taylor

Those who are sick:

Maureen Sherriff, Rakesh Akhil, Dell McHugh, Trevor Elms, Fr Michael Cooney, Craig Gerran, Ken Kipping, Paddy Ryan Snr, Adele Walker, Paul White, Edward Clark, 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.

LEAVE YOUR LEGACY

Are you wondering how you can make a lasting gift to St Agatha's Parish? Naming the parish in your Will, after taking care of your loved ones, can make a meaningful and profound gift to our parish. Gifts can be made to the parish or designated to our perpetual endowment fund. By learning more about these and many other giving options, you can create a legacy of giving to your parish community. To learn more please contact the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or call the parish office.

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.

FR KEVIN'S PRAYER OF THE WEEK

PRAYER OF SURRENDER FOR INNER HEALING

Dear Lord Jesus,

It is my will to surrender to you everything that I am and everything that I'm striving to be.

I open the deepest recesses of my heart and invite your Holy Spirit to dwell inside of me.

I offer you my life, heart, mind, body, soul, spirit, all my hopes, plans and dreams. I surrender to you my past, present and future problems, habits, character defects, attitudes, livelihood, resources, finances, occupation and all my relationships.

I give you my health, physical appearance, disabilities, family, marriage, children and friendships. I ask you to take Lordships over every aspect of my life. I surrender to you all my hurt, pain, worry, doubt, fear and anxiety, and I ask you to wash me clean.

I release everything into your compassionate care. Please speak to me clearly, Lord. Open my ears to hear your voice.

Open my heart to commune with you more deeply. I want to feel your loving embrace.

Open the doors that need to be opened and close the doors that need to be closed.

Please set my feet upon the straight and narrow road that leads to everlasting life.

Amen.

GOOD READS FROM OUR PARISH LIBRARY

Ronald Rolheiser O.M.I. writes on spirituality and systematic theology. He lives in Toronto, Canada.

In his book, *Forgotten Among The Lilies*, the author shows a way to find contentment and joy in daily life. With his trademark blend of insight, compassion and honesty laced with humour, he teaches that it is possible to experience freedom instead of anxiety and a generosity of spirit that returns to the giver far more than it costs.

Other books in our library by Rolheiser include:

The Holy Longing, The Restless Heart and The Shattered Lantern

THE GREGORY TERRACE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REUNION

Friday 27 May 2016 - 6.30pm for 7.00pm / Primary Quad - St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace

To register go to: www.terrace.qld.edu.au / *Click on About Us / College Events / GTOBA Annual Gathering*

This is a reminder of how we should live our lives 24 hours a day, 7 days a week – putting God first in all that we do.

Not only when I am at Mass and parish activities, but when I am in the world, at work or at school.

Living gratefully and generously is a lifestyle, it's how I make all my decisions.

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

6.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

7/8 May *Volunteer* Ryan Smethurst Jeanine Bygott
Mark Burton St Agatha's P26 Mass Life Teen Mass

14/15 May Jack Williamson Annette Riba Tim Hancock Life Teen Mass
Marie Ho Sonia Marmotta Petrea Matthews (*Reader Exchange*)
Denis Keating

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

7/8 May Eddie Foley Michele Pink Erin Bledsoe Life Teen Mass
14/15 May Trish Hickey Paulette Archer Anthony Carroll Life Teen Mass

ORGANISTS:

7/8 May *Volunteer* Mark Leung Robyn Cuming/
Paul Fiumara Life Teen Mass

14/15 May *Volunteer* Mark Leung Robyn Cuming Life Teen Mass

ALTAR SERVERS:

7/8 May *Volunteer/s* *Volunteer/s* St Agatha's P26 Mass Ella Shepherd

14/15 May Olivia Dillon Charlotte Shepherd Tia Manuel
Mikayla Dillon Felicity Shepherd
Milla Brady

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

8 May P26 Mass - *No Children's Liturgy*
15 May Katrina Murphy & Eleonora Kowitz

SANCTUARY CARERS:

21 May 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.

CORPUS CHRISTI CELEBRATION

Procession, Rosary, Prayers and Benediction lead by Bishop Oudemans
Sunday 29 May 2.00pm
St Stephen's Cathedral,
Elizabeth Street, Brisbane.
"Procession through the City Streets"

THE CATHOLIC LEADER COPIES ON SALE - \$2.00

- * Church census rolls out.
- * Q&A with cardinal about Pope Francis' Joy of Love document.
- * Brisbane parish ready to help Syrian and Iraqi refugees.
- * Reflection on Jesus' 'hard sayings'.

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

CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN

invites applications for the part-time position of Pastoral Associate (32 hours per week)
For more information contact the Cathedral office on 3224 3030.
Applications close Monday 16 May 2016.

PENTECOST VIGIL CELEBRATION

Saturday 14 May 2016
The Holy Spirit Sisters invite you to a reflection on 'Living mercy and compassion yesterday, today and tomorrow' by Fr John Chalmers.
Commencing at 2.30pm and concluding with Eucharist at 5.30pm followed by refreshments.
Venue: Function Room, at Holy Spirit Home, 736 Beams Road Carseldine.

Readings - Pentecost Sunday - 15 May 2016

1st Reading: Acts 2:1-11; 2nd Reading: Romans 8:8-17; Gospel: John 14:15-16, 23-26