



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 (0448 840 040) 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

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 28th August 2016

Readings

1st Reading: Sirach 3:17-20, 28-29; 2nd Reading: Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24; Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 29 August: 6.30am
The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

Wednesday 31 August: 9am

Thursday 1 September: 9am

Friday 2 September: 9am

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5.00pm

(1st Rite of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4.30pm)

Sunday 7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

Rosary before Mass

Parish Calendar

AUGUST

• **Monday 29th**

SVDP Meeting 5.00pm

Parish Office

SEPTEMBER

• **Tuesday 6th**

Youth Ministry Meeting

6.45pm Parish Office

• **Saturday 10th &
Sunday 11th**

Annual Catholic Campaign

**THE CATHOLIC LEADER
COPIES ON SALE - \$2.00**

* Nigerian priest who recently served in Brisbane talks about his appointment to work alongside Pope Francis.

Dear sisters and brothers,

Today we gather for the parish Family Fun Day. I'm not sure if this is what Jesus had in mind when he said, "When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, brothers, relations or rich neighbours, for fear they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return. No; when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate, because repayment will be made to you when the virtuous rise again." Today's gospel reading reminds us that hospitality is a priority in the Kingdom of God. In this spirit of friendship, we gather as one today.

Today is more than an opportunity to say, "Let's have some fun". I do hope everyone does have fun, but beyond that, I also hope we catch a glimpse of the deep bond that we share as friends on the path of discipleship. We are not merely individuals or small circles of friends or acquaintances; collectively, we are so much more than this. The writer of the letter to the Hebrews expresses this relationship simply and eloquently today: God has placed us within "the spirits of the saints". That is, we are part of a larger story than we can see. By gathering together with people that we know, or with whose faces are familiar but we may not know their name, or with people we have never seen before, we are prompted to realise that there is always more going on than meets the eye. Today, take the opportunity to say "hello" to someone you have never spoken to before. Expand "the spirits of the saints" by offering a smile or an "hello" to someone unfamiliar to you. If we let God do the rest, we will realise that we are all connected in ways beyond our wildest imaginations.

On behalf of the parish community, I would like to thank all those who have been part of the planning for today. The idea for today's extravaganza emerged from our parish planning day held earlier in the year. The pastoral council established a sub-group and this group has worked hard to put today's festival together. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the Parish Pastoral Council under the guidance of Eileen Duncan. Erin Bledsoe has drawn together a sub-committee of Ainsley Crutcher, Mariana East, and Delia Ambroselli-Domanti who is providing the sweets. Michael Crutcher, Tim Quinn, Paulette Archer and Catriona MacPherson, also from the Pastoral Council, have contributed their time and energies to ensure that today runs smoothly. I would like to recognise the support of Carol Sayers and the St. Agatha's school community for their partnership in bringing together today's celebration. Finally, the parish office staff always make a significant contribution to the organisation of events such as this, and I wish to thank Rosemary Greer and Jane Cameron for their extra efforts in the organisation of our Family Fun Day. Thank you for your participation. A parish family fun day is not possible without the presence of our parish family. Enjoy.

Fr. Anthony

2016 - The Year of Mercy

A Word of Mercy....God's mercy has entered the heart, revealing and showing wherein our certainty and hope lie: there is always the possibility of change, we still have time to transform what is destroying us as a people, what is demeaning our humanity. (Pope Francis)

Clayfield Conversations

This week's Clayfield Conversations is written by Fr. Andrew Hamilton of Eureka Street. In light of the Olympic Games, with the stain of drug cheats hanging over results, Fr. Andrew asks the question of how societies deal with issues of shame, punishment and rehabilitation.

A Society that Forgives Wins

Almost all public conversation quickly turns to transgressors. At the Olympic Games competitors growled about proven and suspect drug users. Many people believed that all Russian athletes should have been excluded from the games. They wanted people found to have used drugs named, shamed and shunned. This insistence that transgressors should definitively lose their good name and the right to participate is not confined to sport. It is found also in controversy about penal policy, and particularly in the populist cry to lock criminals up and throw away the key. The 'three strikes' policy, by which in some states of the USA offenders can be sent to prison for 25 years or life for a relatively minor offence, is a dramatic example. In Australia it finds parallels in the introduction of mandatory and indefinite sentences, indefinite detention, the abolition of parole and the outrage when a prisoner who has served his sentence is found to be living in a residential neighbourhood.

In social media the loss of reputation is also definitive and irrecoverable. The same severity can be seen in the attitude to public reputation particularly as this is affected by social media. When people enter public life their past record, including the traces they leave on social media, will be held against them. The burden this may later place on children whose natural imprudence will be forever on record can only be imagined. People's reputations may be frozen in words and actions that they may have later come to regret. They cannot, and others will not, take away the shame that their past lays upon them. What are we to make of this unyielding severity? Arguments can certainly be made in favour of it. In sport the reluctance of governing bodies to risk their public standing or financial benefits by dealing firmly with drug use may justify the demand to make examples of athletes who are caught. Two legitimate goals of penal policy, too, are to assure the security of the community and to show that violent and fraudulent actions are not acceptable. But if inflexibility and exclusion become the rule in dealing with aberrant speech or behaviour we find unacceptable, they will impose heavy burdens on individuals and society. The cartilage that allows agility and ease in individual and public relationships is our readiness to let go of our resentment at the wrongs we have suffered, and our confidence that others have let go of the wrongs we have done to them. It reassures us that we can start again without wearing the lead collar of our past.

We all know individuals who have become locked into hatred and resentment, with the result that all their other relationships are infected by their rancour. In family groups where the mistakes people make are never forgotten, children can grow into brittle and defensive adults, unable to sustain good personal or working relationships. To let go of what has happened, and to ask and receive forgiveness, nourish possibility and growth.

In the wider society these human costs are transmuted into the coin of inefficiency and of lost opportunity. When we exclude people you also exclude the contribution they can make to society. By multiplying indefinite incarceration, parole-free incarceration, fixed sentences and mandatory imprisonment, we must spend on prisons the resources that otherwise might build hospitals or schools. And we multiply the likelihood that people will reoffend and again be incarcerated. We will also make it much more likely that the people whom you have incarcerated will reoffend and be returned to prison. If we identify people with the wrong they have done and hold it against them forever, too, we shall prevent them from making a contribution to society. The cost we shall bear as a community of their alienation and despair will be cashed in treatment for mental and physical illness and in encounters with the justice system.

These are the tangible costs on which policy makers focus. But even more costly will be the less tangible erosion of the qualities that make public life nourishing: the trust, the instinct for a fair go, the empathy that underlies voluntary work and care for the needy, and the civility on which politics relies. A culture which disdains forgiveness shoots itself in the foot.

CARE AND CONCERN

We are in the process of restructuring the Care and Concern Ministry.

In the interim if you need any assistance, please contact the Parish Office on 3262 2859.

We would like to hear from anyone interested in coordinating or assisting the current team with this Ministry in the future. For further details please contact the Parish Office or email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

THANK YOU FROM CARITAS AUSTRALIA

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Caritas Australia's Project Compassion 2016. A total of \$2,756.60 was raised from St Agatha's Parish.

ST AGATHA'S PARISH CALENDAR ART COMPETITION

There are three categories:

Pre-school - Prep, Years 1-3 and Years 4-6

4 entries from each category will be chosen and allocated a month each to feature in our calendar.

THEME: Friendship and Harmony - draw what this means to you.

(ALL entries will be displayed in the Church).

Entries need to be submitted to the Parish Office by 16 September 2016.

Successful entrants will be notified.

Drawings to be done on **A4 LANDSCAPE**.

Please place your name, grade and a contact number on the back of your drawing.

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Bishop Edward Daly, Eva Fisher

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Neil Murphy, George & Mona Leutenegger, Bill Mahon, Rory Schuh

Those who are sick:

Marie Ho, Trevor Simpson, Finn Bowen McAuley-Daniels, Tony Druary, Lisa Bowes, Sophia Horrocks, Dan McCluskey, Mario Di Filippo, Betty Beaton, Norma Fiore, Joan Healy, Rakesh Akhil, Dell McHugh, Trevor Elms, Fr Michael Cooney, Craig Gerran, Ken Kipping, Paul White, Edward Clark, Alexandra Manning, Joyce Rodgers, Carmel See, Regina Hwan, Val Boevinlic, Deanne Du Bour, Melissa Waka, Agnes Tam, Kerri Smith, Ann Tully, Matthew Gray, Frank Wilkie, Don Martin, Patrick Gallagher, Rene Quinn, Eileen Clarke, Rob Bruce, Mel Purwo, Kath Delahunty, Hellen Passente, Philomena L'Hiullier.

GIVE THE GIFT OF FAITH

The dedication you have for St Agatha's Parish can go on forever when you make a gift to our parish endowment fund. With endowment funds, the principal is kept intact and the distributions to the parish come from growth and earnings. This provides a steady stream of income to our parish forever.

For more information on naming St Agatha's Parish Endowment in your Will, please call the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or call the parish office.

Did you know?

The seminarians at Holy Spirit Seminary are truly humbled by the support that you give during the Annual Catholic Campaign.

The gifts you put toward the Campaign each September directly benefit Holy Spirit Seminary, training the priests of the future to be missionaries of mercy.

Pope Francis says that, "Behind and before every vocation to the priesthood there is always the strong and intense prayer of someone: a grandmother, a grandfather, a mother, a father, a community." Thanks to your prayers and your financial support our Seminary in Banyo is preparing 15 more young men for the priesthood.

With your ongoing support Holy Spirit Seminary is able to help each seminarian in the Archdiocese of Brisbane respond to the call of their vocation, providing spiritual formation and theological training.



29 ORDINATIONS
IN THE LAST 8
YEARS



FR ANTHONY EKPO

Nigerian priest Fr Anthony Ekpo, who was sent to serve the Brisbane archdiocese in a life-changing agreement ten years ago, has been called to work alongside Pope Francis in Vatican City, reports *The Catholic Leader*.

Fr Ekpo, who was 25 when he arrived in Brisbane in 2007, has been appointed to work in the General Affairs English section of the Secretaries of State. The section deals with the daily affairs and service of the Pontiff in

Rome. It is the same section that the Archbishop of Brisbane,

Mark Coleridge, for whom Fr Ekpo worked as personal

secretary, served between 1997 and 2002. Speaking to *The Catholic Leader* in Piacenza, northern Italy, following his appointment, Fr Ekpo said the offer to serve the Pope in the Secretariat of State "came out of the blue." "My bishop (Bishop Lucius Ugorji) rang me and said: 'You've been asked to work in the Vatican Secretariat of State,'"

Fr Ekpo said. "Then there was dead silence." While still learning the particulars of his new appointment, Fr Ekpo said the role would be an opportunity to work at the universal level of the Church. Fr Ekpo was among a group of four Nigerian seminarians sent to Australia as part of an historic agreement between the Brisbane archdiocese and the Umuahia diocese, Nigeria. It was his first time leaving Nigeria, and he has admitted to thinking he was being sent to Austria. "And I couldn't bear the thought of learning German," Fr Ekpo said.

FULL STORY in this weekend's edition of the *Catholic Leader*.



2016 ANNUAL
CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN
Our Church • Our Mission • Our Responsibility

Be part of God's
mission of mercy!
10-11 SEPTEMBER

Give now 07 3324 3200 or catholiccampaign.com.au

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Couples celebrating their Golden Wedding anniversary (or more) and their family and friends are invited to Mass with Archbishop Mark Coleridge at the Cathedral of St Stephen
Saturday 1 October 2016 at 10.00am.
Light refreshments will follow the Mass in the Hanly Room.

RSVP to cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au;
3324 3030 by Wednesday 28 September 2016. The car park will be available from 9.00am, entrance from Charlotte Street.

REFLECTION AND PRAYER

The North East Brisbane Inter Church Council (NEBICC) cordially invites St Agatha's parishioners to a period of reflection and prayer at Clayfield Uniting Church, Bonney Avenue, Clayfield on Sunday afternoon August 28 from approximately 2.00pm-3.30pm, lead by Rev Chris Holden (UCA, Clayfield). Afternoon tea will be served.

All welcome. Enquiries: Rev Iain Moore, St John's Rectory Hendra or phone 3268 1571.

THANKSGIVING MASS

You are invited to a Thanksgiving Mass for St Teresa of Calcutta to be held at the Cathedral of St Stephen on Saturday 10 September commencing at 11.30am. Light refreshments will be served following the Mass. Cathedral car park will be available.

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

5.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

27/28 Aug	Eric van der List Phil Zammit	NO 7.00am MASS	Leanne O'Shea (10.00am) NO 5.30pm MASS Peter Gilroy Trish Ryan
3/4 Sept	Ann Goves Ryan Smethurst	Helen Roberts Ken Roberts	Clare Smethurst Jane Arkinstall Heidi Cooper

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

27/28 Aug	Jan Zammit	NO 7.00am MASS	<i>Volunteer (10.00am)</i>	NO 5.30pm MASS
3/4 Sept	Trish Hickey	Michele Pink	Deborah Hall	Life Teen Mass

ORGANISTS:

27/28 Aug	<i>Volunteer</i>	NO 7.00am MASS	Jenny McKeon (10.00am) NO 5.30pm MASS
3/4 Sept	<i>Volunteer</i>	Mark Leung	Robyn Cuming

ALTAR SERVERS:

27/28 Aug	Xavier Coorey Milla Brady	NO 7.00am MASS	Alyssa Godinho (10.00am) NO 5.30pm MASS Sarah Baker Sofia Lazzarini
3/4 Sept	Olivia Dillon Mikayla Dillon Emma Dillon	Josephine Warda Stephen Warda	Charlotte Shepherd Felicity Shepherd Bart Marino

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

28 Aug
4 Sept

No Children's Liturgy - Parish Family Fun Day
Monica McBride & Mel Ryan

SANCTUARY CARERS:

3 Sept Victor Podesta & Jane Lynn

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

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.

**ST RITA'S COLLEGE
CLAYFIELD REUNION**

**50 years since Senior 1966
(Junior 1964 Scholarship 1962)**

A group from that class at St Rita's is gathering together for a delicious high tea and tour of the College on Saturday 17 September 2016 from 1.30 – 4.30. Please contact for more details and RSVP (before 9/9/16 for catering): Joy Tomlinson (née Lynagh) 0438 304365 jmlynaghtomlinson@gmail.com or Tricia Ryan 0418182302 huttonry@bigpond.net.au

BURNIE BRAE

The Burnie Brae not-for-profit community organisation at Chermside is in need of pre-loved clothing items suitable for ages 50+.

You can leave your pre-loved clothing items at the Parish Office during office hours or at the Church on the weekend, by the last Sunday of each month.

Pre-loved clothing items will then be delivered to those in need at the Burnie Brae "Project Pantry" event which is held on the 1st Saturday morning of each month.

The Burnie Brae community organisation would like to thank everyone who has donated to this worthy cause.

"Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you." Luke 14:13 -14

**INSTITUTE OF FAITH
EDUCATION**

*WHAT IS CATHOLIC ABOUT
CATHOLIC IDENTITY?*

In this age of increasing secularisation, what does the Catholic tradition offer?

What is catholic (universal) about Catholic identity? How does this offer points of contact as we welcome those from other traditions, or those from a secular background, into our communities.

Learn more about the work of the ife and reflect on these and other questions with keynote speaker Rev Kr Kevin Lenehan from Catholic Theological College Melbourne and a panel of local speakers. Enjoy opportunities for questions and information discussion.

**2 September - 4.30pm-6.30pm
St Thomas More College,
Sunnybank**

Cost: \$15 per person includes canapés and wine.
Fore more information and tickets online at: www.ife40.com

Readings - Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time - 4 September 2016

1st Reading: Wisdom 9:13-18; 2nd Reading: Philemon 9-10, 12-17; Gospel: Luke 14:25-33