



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: Parish Office 3262 2859

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:

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - 2nd October 2016

Readings

1st Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4; 2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14; Gospel: Luke 17:5-9

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 3 October: 9.00am

Wednesday 5 October: 9am

Thursday 6 October: 9am

Friday 7 October: 9am

Our Lady of the Rosary

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5.00pm

(1st Rite of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4.30pm)

Sunday 7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

Rosary before Mass.

Parish Calendar

OCTOBER

• **Sunday 9th**

P26 Mass 9.00am

• **Monday 10th**

SVDP Meeting 5.00pm Parish Office

• **Tuesday 11th**

Youth Ministry Meeting
7.00pm Parish Office

• **Wednesday 12th**

Pastoral Council Meeting
7.00pm Parish Office

REMINDER

Monday 3 October
(Public Holiday)
Mass at 9.00am

Dear sisters and brothers,

Today the church invites us to reflect on one of the most important Christian and theological virtues – Faith. It is the foundation of our Christian life. Faith gives us a new vision and version of life. [Faith in action]

Some years ago, a young man, who claimed to have faith in the power of Jesus to deliver him from the Lion's den, just as God delivered Daniel, decided to dare a starving Lion in a zoo in the South Western part of my country. He boasted that as a *Man of God*, he had the power to speak and command the Lion and it would obey him and shut its mouth. One morning, he picked up his bible after some weeks of "*fasting, prayer and meditation on the word of God*", and headed straight to the zoo. Without informing the zoo attendants his intention, he clenched his *Holy Bible* with his left arm and began to climb into the lion's cage. As soon as he landed, the fierce and hungry looking Lion charged him, and the *Man of God* with "*enormous faith*" raised his Bible up to heaven and started shouting: "*I decree and command you in the name of Jesus Christ, be still and shut your mouth now!*" He had barely pronounced his decrees when the Lion pounced on him and devoured him.

This is sheer ignorance of what faith in action really means, and I am sure this is not what Jesus means in today's gospel. What kind of faith did the apostles ask for today? It is not the faith to dare or tempt God. Rather, it is the faith to do good work, to remain steadfast in the face of difficulties, the faith that will enable them to hold on to God irrespective of the challenges in their lives. It is equally, the faith that will help them to reasonably demonstrate the power of Jesus Christ when they are in difficult situations, not the faith to put God to the test with suicide missions. It is the faith that will help them persist in doing good even when everyone around them seems to follow the wrong path. This is the faith they craved for when they pleaded: "*Lord Increase our faith!*"

We must humble ourselves and acknowledge that we are weak in this important Christian virtue and then plead with Jesus as the apostles did: "*Lord, increase our faith*", When he generously does it for us, we must be ready to fan it into a flame for our spiritual upliftment and eternal salvation.

Fr. Kevin

2016 - The Year of Mercy

A Word of Mercy... The Lord teaches us not to be afraid to follow Him, because the hope that we place in Him will never disappoint. Thus, we are called to learn from Him what it means to live on mercy so as to be instruments of mercy (*Pope Francis*).

Clayfield Conversations

Last Monday, 26th September, we celebrated the feast day of Saints Cosmas and Damian. Along with the Evangelist Saint Luke, the two are patron saints of medical doctors, as well as surgeons and pharmacists. This edited version is written by Fr. Jeffrey F. Kirby and the full version can be read on the *Crux* website.

Pope Francis Brings Spirit of the Saints to the Medical Profession

Although Saints Cosmas and Damian practiced medicine in the third century, the life and witness of these two saints have an important message for medical professionals of good will in every time period, especially today. The two saints were twin brothers who were born in Arabia. Both of the siblings were trained medical doctors and they were renowned for their compassionate practice of the medical sciences of their day. In particular, the two were well-loved because they accepted no payment for their services.

This generous gift to their patients won them the title “the unmercenaries,” since even in the early world many medical practitioners were notorious for their dismissive and mercantile exercise of medicine.

In commemorating these two Christian saints, the Church highlights the high calling of the medical professional to be a servant, friend, and companion to the sick and suffering. While many within the human family may be uncomfortable with the sick, or see them as a source of revenue or experimentation, or as a threat or a menace, the medical professional is summoned to be the advocate and defender of those who are ill, suffering or dying.

Cosmas and Damian lived this way of life, just like so many other good doctors throughout human history.

Today, it appears the medical community is struggling with its own definition of what the medical professional is supposed to be in the world. Some wish to see the doctor in utilitarian terms: she’s only a technician within the medical sciences whose job it is to fix the human body. The mechanistic overtures of such a summary should disturb anyone of good will, and cause alarm to any patient who is being seen by a doctor with such a perspective. And yet, such doctors tend to be good mechanics of the body. They do a good job, or they produce good research.

Is such productivity enough when the human family speaks of medical care?

Pope Francis has a few things to say about the threat of productivity in human care and the “throwaway” culture it tends to breed. The pontiff has entered the wrestling ring and offers a few thoughts on how to define the medical doctor. He relies on the example of saints such as Cosmas and Damian, as well as the long line of medical doctors of good will within multiple religious and cultural traditions who have always sought to care for and journey with the sick.

Pope Francis has made himself very available to the medical community, and has addressed or met with medical associations, groups, congresses, and conferences on several occasions. In each situation, the pope turned what was expected to be a typical visit into a very unexpected personal encounter with the doctors present.

He has made this pastoral switch by both emphasizing his esteem for the medical community as well as his understanding of the demands, fatigue, and difficulties of practicing medicine. As he so often does, Pope Francis disarms possible adversaries by his meekness and sincere interest in others.

In suggesting a definition of the medical doctor, Pope Francis does not enter the ring as a removed teacher or final arbiter. Instead, he models the very way of life he recommends to the medical community. And so, when he tells medical doctors to “put more heart into your hands” since human life and its dignity has been placed precisely in their hands, the pope is applying the standards of virtue within his own vocation to the medical community. His witness gives this teaching credibility.

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

ST AGATHA'S YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

Next Youth Ministry meeting
Tuesday 11 October 7.00pm Parish Office

WELCOME FR JOHN GRACE

This weekend we welcome Fr John Grace, who will be celebrating the 7.00am and 9.00am Masses.



Buy a Book and Feed the People on the Streets

**BLIND EYE
MINISTRIES**

HELPING TO CONNECT THE DISCONNECTED

SPRING BOOK SALE

Monday 3 October from 9.30am-1.30pm

Where: The BLIND EYE CENTRE
19 Merivale Street, South Brisbane

Support: Blind Eye Ministries

For more information: 0430 442 901

*An amazing variety of books to cater
for all interests and all ages*

In our prayers we remember

Those who have died recently:

Noreen O'Connor

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

May Schuh, Merv Devlin, William Hinson, Ken Russell, Doreen Lawler

Those who are sick:

Carmel Elms, Angie Sturges, Helen Orosz, John McCluskey, Marie Ho, Trevor Simpson, Tony Druary, Lisa Bowes, Sophia Horrocks, Dan McCluskey, Mario Di Filippo, Betty Beaton, Norma Fiore, Joan Healy, Rakesh Akhil, Dell McHugh, 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, Patrick Gallagher, Rene Quinn, Eileen Clarke, Rob Bruce, Mel Purwo, Kath Delahunty, Hellen Passente, Philomena L'Hiullier.



“Your light must shine before all so that they may see goodness in your acts.” (Matthew 5:16)

We should view our giving in gratitude to God by considering how blessed we are... using our gifts and talents for the good of others. A gift in any amount given through your Will benefits future generations of parishioners.

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

WORK AND WELCOME PROGRAM

Multicultural Development Association (MDA) is a re-settlement agency that works to assist refugees with housing, skills and employment. They offer a “Work and Welcome” program by which a refugee is placed in a work environment for up to 12 weeks. Working with St. Rita's College, and our parish primary school, our parish community will assist a refugee through the “Work and Welcome” program in first school term of 2017. As it is a genuine employment opportunity, we will pay wages to the person who is employed. The total cost of a one term placement is around \$11000. This means that our parish community will be required to raise about \$3500 as our one-third share.

If you are able and willing to donate, below is the process to follow:

1. Go to MDA's website and select Donate: <https://mdaltd.org.au/mda-donation/>
2. Choose the amount you'd like to donate. If you'd like to donate an amount different than \$10, \$30, \$50 or \$100, please use “Surprise Us” option. Proceed to checkout.
3. In the field titled Company Name please use a reference name as per below:
Work and Welcome St Agatha's Parish (This is important to track our donations)
4. Upon completion of transaction, you will receive a confirmation email including an invoice.

Please note all donations above \$2 are fully tax deductible.

ST AGATHA'S PARISH P26 MASS - SUNDAY 9 OCTOBER 9.00am

All children in Grades Prep to Year 6 are invited to participate in our next P26 Mass which will be at 9.00am on Sunday 9 October. At the Mass, children are asked to do the readings, bring the gifts to the Altar, collecting, altar serve and welcome people as they arrive. If your child/children would like to participate please phone the Parish office on 32622859 or email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au by no later than Tuesday 4 October.

PARISH MEN'S WEEKEND - Our Lady Help of Christians, Parish Hall, Hendra 15-16 October.

The experience of men gathering together at a menALIVE weekend is dynamic and powerful.

Many men are inspired, encouraged and feel that they have a new sense of purpose and mission.

menALIVE is a National Catholic Ministry for Men. Since the founding in 2003 menALIVE has run 280 events in 25 diocese in Australia and New Zealand for more than 15,500 men.

Come along to a menALIVE weekend and discover what it means to be fully alive.

Brochures (*which includes registration form*) are available at the front foyer of the Church.

GOOD READS FROM ST AGATHA'S LIBRARY

This week we have some new books for you to read.

Most entertaining and interesting and instructive among these are two about Pope Francis.

The library welcomes suggestions for new books from parishioners.

Congratulations to the following couples who were married in St Agatha's Church in September:

Jon Lanning and Mia Reynolds; Andrew Searle and Courtney Pember



October

Month of the
Holy Rosary



International Day of Older Persons
1 October

October is
Breast Cancer
Awareness
Month



PARISH ROSTERS

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

5.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

1/2 Oct	Jack Williamson <i>Volunteer</i>	Anne O'Connor <i>Volunteer</i>	Amrita Moss Clare Smethurst Don Macpherson	Life Teen Mass
8/9 Oct	Ryan Smethurst Ann Goves	Rafael Chase Ruby Chase	St Agatha's P26 Mass	Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

1/2 Oct	Trish Hickey	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	Life Teen Mass
8/9 Oct	Eddie Foley	Helen Roberts	Erin Bledsoe	Life Teen Mass

ORGANISTS:

1/2 Oct	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>		Life Teen Mass
8/9 Oct	<i>Volunteer</i>	Mark Leung	Robyn Cuming Paul Fiumara	Life Teen Mass

ALTAR SERVERS:

1/2 Oct	Harry Lane Joey Douglas	Alyssa Godinho	Stella Pampellone Lucy White Isabella White Sarah Baker	Ella Shepherd
8/9 Oct		<i>Roster to be confirmed</i>		

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

2 Oct	<i>No Children's Liturgy - School Holidays</i>			
9 Oct	<i>No Children's Liturgy - P26 Mass</i>			

SANCTUARY CARERS:

15 Oct	Beverley O'Brien
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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 AGATHA'S SCHOOL
has vacancies in Year 5 (only)
for 2017.

Please direct all enquiries to
the Enrolment Secretary:
wkwhite@bne.catholic.edu.au
or Phone: 3326 9222

BRISBANE OPEN HOUSE (BOH)

On the weekend of **8/9 October** the Cathedral of St Stephen and St Stephen's Chapel will participate in BOH. BOH celebrates the city's architecture, giving visitors a rare insight into contemporary, historic and environmentally significant buildings in the heart of the city. View the display of Mary MacKillop artefacts in the windows of Penola Place and follow the Mary MacKillop Walk (opened and blessed by Archbishop Mark Coleridge on 8 August, the Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop).

ALL HALLOWS' SCHOOL - 1953-56 REUNION

A 60 year reunion for past students who did Junior in 1954 or senior in 1956 (and those who joined them along the way) is planned for Saturday 29 October beginning with Mass in the school chapel at 10am followed by morning tea. Please call Sr Anne Hetherington on 0409 075 739 for invitation and further details.

CATHOLIC MAN BREAKFAST - Thursday 20 October - Hosted by Archbishop Mark Coleridge.

The next menALIVE Catholic Man Breakfast is from 7am to 9am on Thursday 20 October at Tattersall's Club, 215 Queen St Brisbane. You can hear Dr Michael Forbes tell his story - "Maths, Ministry and Marathons".

Cost is \$45 per person. For enquires: cmbs@menalive.org.au. For bookings email: des@menalive.org.au.

ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY

Copies of the Whistleblower Brochure are available at the front foyer of the church.
Please take a copy.

DATE CLAIMER

Year of Mercy parish retreat
Sunday 30 October 2016

Readings - Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 9 October 2016

1st Reading: 2 Kings 5:14-17; 2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-13; Gospel: Luke 17:11-19