



# 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:** Ashleigh Stacpool

## Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time - 30<sup>th</sup> October 2016

### Readings

1st Reading: Wisdom 11:22-12:2; 2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2; Gospel: Luke 19:1-10

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Monday 31 October:** 6.30am

**Tuesday 1 November:** 9am

*All Saints' Day*

**Wednesday 2 November:** 9am

*All Souls' Day*

**Thursday 3 November:** 9am

*(Year 2 Mass)*

**Friday 4 November:** 9am

*Saint Charles Borromeo*

### SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5.00pm

*(1st Rite of Reconciliation:*

*Saturday 4.30pm)*

Sunday 7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

Rosary before Mass.

### Parish Calendar

#### NOVEMBER

##### • Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup>

All Saints' Day - Mass

9.00am

##### • Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>

NET Ministries - Road Trip

*Life Choices* event.

Presentation Centre at the

school 10.00am - 1.00pm

##### • Monday 7<sup>th</sup>

SVDP Meeting 5.00pm Parish

Office

##### • Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>

P26 Mass - 9.00am

Dear sisters and brothers,

In three more Sundays, the Church will be entering into another liturgical year. In today's reflection, the Church reminds us of the nature of God's mercy.

In spite of our weaknesses and sins, God still loves all of us and is ever ready to dwell with us. The story of Zacchaeus in today's gospel, is a true indication that Jesus Christ comes to seek and save not only the righteous, but also those that are lost. He keeps coming to us through various means. He comes our way through our neighbours, the poor, sacraments [the Holy Eucharist], and the entire creation. The important questions are: Do we see him? do we even know that he comes our way? what efforts do we make to have a glimpse of him? or to have a life changing encounter with him as Zacchaeus did? ***Irrespective of the human obstacles that made it extremely difficult for Zacchaeus to see Jesus who was passing, his determination, courage and ability to explore other options saw him through. Unlike most of us, he refused to be intimidated by the crowd. He did not accept his height as a hindrance.***

In life, many things prevent us from encountering Jesus Christ; money, jobs, etc. Frantic efforts, as Zacchaeus did to catch a glimpse of Jesus, can also see us through. Therefore, let us rise above all obstacles that prevent our divine encounter with the Lord. Paul advised Timothy: *"Do not allow anyone to look down on you because you are young"* (I Tim 4, 12). Likewise, we should not allow any weakness or short coming to become a hindrance for us not to achieve our goals. We can be positively desperate towards connecting with Jesus who comes our way every day of our life.

Rather than giving up because of fear or timidity, we can explore other possible avenues. Zacchaeus decided to climb a thorny sycamore tree. ***We have other options in life other than the failed ones that made our life miserable.***

Never you give in to that rough road of life, tearing relationships apart, marriages, family challenges, sickness, old age, etc. Try other options, and you may be surprised that they will take you to the apex of your success and happiness in life. Humility will help us bend down and see other options available to us in life without giving up. Try to ignore distractions and detractors to success and happiness. These may come in form of: regrets, past life styles, complaints, sympathizers, gossipers, etc. The crowd did the same to Zacchaeus but he never gave up.

However, our willingness to turn over a new leaf in life and say we are sorry for the wrong we committed will save us. Zacchaeus promised Jesus: *"...If I have cheated anybody I will pay him back four times the amount...!"* If we do this sincerely from our heart, Jesus Christ in turn, will bring *salvation to us.*

Fr. Kevin

### 2016 - The Year of Mercy

*A Word of Mercy...* God has great tenderness, great love for the small ones, for the weak, for those rejected by society. The greater our need, the more his gaze upon us is filled with mercy.

*(Pope Francis).*

## Clayfield Conversations

Fr. Daniel O'Leary is a priest of the Leeds diocese and has written extensive on spirituality. Below, Fr. Daniel discusses what it is to be a reconciler in this Year of Mercy. This reflection was published in his book, *Already Within: Diving the Hidden Spring*. This is part two. Part One appeared in last week's newsletter.

### **Blessed are the Reconcilers (Part Two)**

We are indebted to the Franciscan priest Richard Rohr for the dictum: 'What we don't transform, we transmit.' He describes the familiar process of both denying and projecting as 'scapegoating', from the Jewish ritual of putting your faults on a goat that was whipped out into the desert. We displace and project our negative emotions on to other people, other systems, by blame and outrage. It is so hard to carry the burden of our own flawed humanity. If our pain is not transformed by reference to a wider horizon, to a regaining of true perspective, to a letting-in of God's vastness, it will always be transmitted to others. The destruction of mindless wars, global or local, can be traced back to closed and divided hearts.

Inner emptying and dying is so hard to do. Nothing outside us is transformed without the radical grace of inner conversion. The seemingly irreconcilable situations we encounter at home and in the community are but microcosms of a wider alienation. We live in a desperately destructive and divided world where evil is perpetrated under the guise of nationalism and religion. Very often there is no one to accuse or punish. There is often only the blind and trusting holding of human ignorance and pride, sin and failure, until our love and pain break through to resurrection. 'There is no redemptive violence,' writes Rohr, 'there is only redemptive suffering.'

In his *People of the Lie*, Scott Peck quotes an old battle-scarred priest who said, 'There are dozens of ways to deal with evil and several ways to conquer it. All of them are facets of the truth that the only ultimate way to conquer evil is to let it be smothered within a willing, loving human being. When it is absorbed there, like blood on a sponge or a spear into one's heart, it loses its power and goes no further.' Whenever a person, or a community, manages to achieve this heroic kind of ultimate sacrifice, then the whole world becomes a safer place to live in.

We always have a choice about making peace or war. I can choose to see the positive in the other point of view or I can decide to block it even before I have heard it. I can search for the negative in everything I hear or I can really try to understand better what I disagree with. I can keep trying to forgive those who oppose my plans at every turn, or become bitter about it. I can grimly choose to accept, to be a reluctant reconciler, even while I still hear whispers of revenge echoing along the narrow corridors of my heart. Even for Jesus there was no instant transformation. However, thank God, there are times too, when, discerning a sinister lack of peace in a clearly toxic environment, it is wiser to shake the dust of those people and places off our feet - and scamper, hopefully to return again when our spirit is stronger.

I find making the sign of the cross over my mind, body and heart to be a deeply reconciling little ritual. As you touch your forehead and chest, in the Eastern tradition you are opening the brow and heart chakras of vision and compassionate understanding. According to Jewish practice, as you touch your left and right shoulder, you are activating the spiritual centres of mercy (*chesed*) and strength (*geburah*). In the Christian tradition we open ourselves to the influence of the Blessed Trinity, to the creator and sustainer of the world, to the saviour and reconciler of its sins, to the healing spirit of new beginnings. In the end it is the cross alone that will hold the opposites together and transform them. And only the light will then be transmitted. When I bless myself, the world too is blessed.

### **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](mailto:clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au)



**Welcome back Fr Anthony**

We hope you had a restful break!!

### **NOVEMBER MASS ENVELOPES**

are available from table in church foyer or Piety Stall. Please print the names of those who you wish to be remembered and place the envelope on the collection plate or hand into the parish office. The names of your deceased will be written in a Remembrance Book that will be on the altar for all Masses during the month of November.



**NOVEMBER:**

*A special time to pray for our loved ones who have died.*

### **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

## *In our prayers we remember*

### *Those who have died recently:*

Ivy Devlin

### *And those whose anniversaries occur about now:*

Niel MacGinley, Denis Lau, Hazel O'Hagan, Paula Whitman

### *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.

### **BURNIE BRAE**

The Burnie Brae not-for-profit community organisation at Chermiside 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 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday morning of each month.

### **BANYO NUNDAH PARISH - CENTENARY BOOK LAUNCH**

As part of our Centenary celebrations, a book has been compiled on the History of Banyo Nundah Parish titled "A Working Faith". The book will be launched along with a Historical Display, on Sunday 20 November at 2pm in St. Pius V Parish Hall, 352 St Vincents Road, Banyo. For catering purposes, if you would like to attend, please RSVP your numbers to the Parish Office during office hours, 9.30am – 4.30pm phone: 3266 1444 by 7 November. All welcome.

### **INVITATION**

Connect with friends and enjoy the NET team present



#### **'ROAD TRIP'**

Life choices - Where does God fit into my life and my future?  
If you are in grades 6 to 9 please come along on Sunday 6 November. The morning will be filled with energy, thought provoking discussion and opportunities to explore this topic. Pick up a flyer at the back of the Church and register now at: <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/44569>

Daily Mass Book \$20.00 each for sale at Piety Stall

**YERONGA CATHOLIC PARISH** invites applications for the part-time position of Parish Secretary (Tues & Friday 10 hours per week, 5 hours per day) - with flexibility to increase 12 hours per week over 3 days in the near future. For more information contact Cindy Hayer on 3367 6332 or [hroffice@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hroffice@bne.catholic.net.au). Applications close on Friday 11 November 2016

October

Month of the  
Holy Rosary



### **AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE**

(Christmas 2016 issue) is now available.

Please take a copy home.

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:

29/30 Oct

Eric van der List  
Phil Zammit

Anne-Marie Quinn  
Jeanine Bygott

Eileen Duncan  
Leanne O'Shea  
Peter Gilroy

Life Teen Mass

5/6 Nov

Jack Williamson  
Ryan Smethurst

Sr Cecily Foster  
Aleira Egan

Denis Keating  
Don Macpherson  
Tim Hancock

Life Teen Mass

### COMMUNION MINISTERS:

29/30 Oct

Jan Zammit

*Volunteer*

Erin Bledsoe

Life Teen Mass

5/6 Nov

Eddie Foley

Helen Roberts

Erin Bledsoe

Life Teen Mass

### ORGANISTS:

29/30 Oct

*Volunteer*

Mark Leung

Catriona McPherson

Life Teen Mass

5/6 Nov

*Volunteer*

Mark Leung

Catriona McPherson

Life Teen Mass

### ALTAR SERVERS:

29/30 Oct

Olivia Dillon  
Mikayla Dillon  
Emma Dillon

*Volunteer/s*

Charlotte Shepherd  
Felicity Shepherd  
Bart Marino

Caitlin Marshall  
Alex Oliveri  
Stella Pampellone

5/6 Nov

Ella Shepherd  
Eva Locantro

*Volunteer/s*

Lucy White  
Isabella White

*Volunteer/s*

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

30 Oct

6 Nov

Katrina Murphy & Jane Cameron  
Nicola Warda & Susan De Medici

### SANCTUARY CARERS:

5 Nov

Victor Podesta & Jane Lynn

19 Nov

Beverley O'Brien

Columban calendars \$9.00 each for sale at Piety Stall

## 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 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:wkwhite@bne.catholic.edu.au)  
or Phone: 3326 9222

## LifeTeen Mass – Sunday 5.30 pm

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 on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month.

Visit AggiesYouth:

<https://www.facebook.com/aggiesyouth>

## DIVINE RENOVATION WITH FR JAMES MALLON

This is a major evangelisation initiative for the Archdiocese of Brisbane in 2016 and beyond. Fr Mallon is the author of *Divine Renovation: Bringing Your Parish from Maintenance to Mission*. This book has had a major impact on parishes around the world. Fr Mallon is a passionate, highly engaging and articulate speaker. He is not interested in being just 'interesting' or 'humorous', though he can be both. He is committed to assist parishes to move from being depositories of 'consumer Catholics' into faith communities that are on fire with the love of Jesus so that they can transform people into being disciples for God and missionaries of peace, mercy, kindness and justice for the world. This is an opportunity too good to miss. Ensure there are enough people who can commit to attend this day so that together you can make a difference in your local parish, community and the world. For a sample of Fr Mallon's challenging and inspiring presentations watch this talk *Twelve Values of a Transformed Parish*.

Get a head start by reading *Divine Renovation* (available from bookshops) and checking out the website:

<http://www.divinerenovation.net/>.

Date: Saturday 19 November, 9.00am - 4.00pm / Venue: San Sisto College, Mayfield Road, Carina /

Cost: \$50 per person (\$40 concession) or \$200 parish/community ticket (4+ people). Includes morning tea and lunch / Register: online at [www.trybooking.com/226315](http://www.trybooking.com/226315) / Registrations close Friday 4 November.

## Readings - Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 6 November 2016

1st Reading: 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14; 2nd Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5; Gospel: Luke 20:27-38