



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 (ph: 0448 840 040) **Weekend Supply:** Fr. Orm Rush

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: Georgia Allan (0456 441 717)

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 Stacpoole

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 26th February 2017

Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 49:14-15; **2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 4:1-5; **Gospel:** Matthew 6:24-34

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 27 February: 6.30am

Wednesday 1 March:

6.30am & 9am *Ash Wednesday*

Thursday 2 March: 9am

Friday 3 March: 9am

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.00pm

(1st Rite of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4.30pm)

Sunday 7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

Rosary before Mass.

Parish Calendar

MARCH

• **Wednesday 1st**

Ash Wednesday Masses

6.30am and 9am

• **Friday 3rd**

Stations of the Cross 8.30am

• **Monday 6th**

SVPD Meeting 5pm Parish

Office

• **Wednesday 8th**

Community & Mission Council

Meeting 7pm Parish Office

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 3 March 2017, 10.00am

Clayfield Uniting Church

170 Bonney Avenue, Clayfield



Jesus said to his disciples:

"No one can be the slave to two masters: you will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money."

Dear friends,

At the 9am Mass this Sunday, we welcome Damien Everitt, Matthew Hasking and Tom Zaranski to our parish. Damien, Matthew and Tom are in their final stages of seminary formation and are preparing for ordination to the diaconate towards the end of the year. They will come to the 9am Mass throughout much of the year, and will be a presence in the community and also participate in various ministries. This is an important phase of their formation and St. Agatha's will provide them with a solid pastoral and practical dimension in their on-going discernment and reflection. I am sure that you will make them welcome throughout the year and will support them with your words of encouragement and prayer. You will enjoy getting to know them, and this community will benefit from their gifts.

Also this Sunday, we look toward the Lenten season which begins this Wednesday. As part of our annual Lenten discipline, we are encouraged to participate in almsgiving through *Project Compassion*. Envelopes and money boxes are available to collect this weekend. Please take one home as a sign of our desire to develop a generous heart during this Lent by giving expression to the "greatest commandment of the law", the love of God and the love of our neighbour. This Lent, after the ash is washed away and we move through this journey to Easter, let us hold in our prayers the oppressed, the hungry, the broken hearted, the captive, the prisoner. In a time "when the divide between the mega-rich and the forgotten poor is ever widening", may we bring the good news to those most deeply affected by the inequities in our world. Let us take home a *Project Compassion* box or envelope set and give generously to our neighbours who are amongst the poorest and most vulnerable people in our world.

Fr. Anthony

The Wisdom of Pope Francis

The lowest rung of our moral degradation is pride. The rich man dresses like a king and acts like a god, forgetting that he is merely mortal. For those corrupted by love of riches, nothing exists beyond their own ego. Those around them do not come into their line of sight. The result of attachment to money is a sort of blindness.

Clayfield Conversations

Lent begins this Ash Wednesday. Prayer, fasting and almsgiving are the three pillars of Lent. Margaret Ryan helps us explore the notion of fasting during Lent.

Lenten Fasting: Don't Just Use Your Stomach

"Oh no! Not Lent again!" I heard an older friend say recently. I recall something of the same dread I felt as a young person. I remember we were encouraged to mortify (put to death) our bodies and physical desires, to engage in fasting from foods and in various forms of sacrifice. At that stage, many of us believed a sackful of good deeds might persuade God to forgive and love us. We probably also half-believed that our bodies and natural appetites were themselves evil. Later we came to understand that God can't be manipulated and in any case God has always loved us first, fully and unconditionally, not needing to be persuaded. As well, human beings are created in God's image and humanity was changed forever by the incarnation and birth of Christ. Because of God's love and gifts, it is we who wish to respond to God in thanks, and to seek to get closer to our God: creator, shepherd, potter, lover...

One of the purposes of Lent is to help us gauge, and shorten, the distance between our present lives and the life God wants for us. From early Christian times, the season of Lent drew people closer to the waters of baptism, either for the first time (as for many on the RCIA journey) or in a time of renewal. At baptism we were sacramentally united with Father, Son and Spirit, but still experience the distancing from God that our sinfulness brings. Lent offers us opportunities to focus on and rearrange our spiritual priorities. We can come to see more clearly how we are living our daily lives. We can step back from our often busy lives, and look more closely at how we are relating to God, to observe who we are becoming. On Ash Wednesday, we hear the prophet Joel's words, "Return to me with your whole heart" (2:12). Each Lent we look and realise there is still a part of our hearts that is blind or deaf to God's love; that forgets or fears God's presence; that refuses, or is unaware of how much we need to reflect God's goodness. Traditionally, the Church has suggested three principal ways to help us return to God with all our heart: prayer, almsgiving and fasting. Of the three, fasting seems least understood and least practised. Fasting is a sign that we do not wish to be centred on our own selves, desires and needs. Not everyone can fast from food (eg, those with particular physical conditions). If fasting can be understood as something more than just denying ourselves food, it can be a source of rich spiritual growth. Fasting needs to include not just the stomach, but the mind and heart. Fasting is a spiritual discipline that can direct our attention to the deeper things in life. It is never undertaken for its own sake. Fasting can free us from addictions, illusions, prejudices, busyness and materialism. It can clear away the inner clutter (voices, fears, wounds), strengthen our gratitude, increase our self-control, help us re-arrange our priorities, alert us to what needs to be changed in our lives and unite us with the suffering of the world. In Lent we can fast from (give up) in order to feast on (take up) things:

- Give up some work/TV time and spend it with loved ones, the sick/"shut-ins", a Lenten discussion group, scripture or quality reflection time;
- Leave aside the smart phone or internet and talk to real people;
- Use public transport instead of the car;
- Give up words of criticism, negativity, gossip and take up words of affirmation, gratitude, kindness;
- Give up apathy and indifference and become involved in a social justice or charitable project;
- Give up some food or drink, be more conscious of our spiritual hunger and thirst and donate to the world's hungry;
- Give up rushing through food and become aware of God's creativity, abundance and variety in taste and goodness;
- Give up hardened or prejudiced hearts and pray to forgive people who have hurt us;
- Swap anger for patience, self-concern for compassion, suspicion for truth, loneliness for hospitality, spiritual lethargy for exercise, pretence for sincerity, aggression for friendship and busyness for silence/stillness. Have a festive fast!

LENTEN REFLECTION GROUPS (1 March - 12 April)

"*Up From the Waters*" is the title of this year's Lenten program. The Lenten reflection group will commence on Wednesday 1 March, 7pm Parish Office, and will continue each Wednesday until 12 April. Please call or email Parish Office if you are interested in attending. Each meeting runs for approx. 80 minutes.

CARE AND CONCERN Please contact the Parish Office on 3262 2859.

LIFE TEEN 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 food and friendship after Mass on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

NOTE: The third Sunday menu will be drinks and nibbles and first Sunday will remain as the usual supper.

Volunteers eagerly accepted.

Visit AggiesYouth:

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



INVITATION - ST AGATHA'S YOUTH MINISTRY (AGGIES YOUTH)

We would love to have new members with new ideas to continue to provide a connection for the young people of the Parish. If you are over 18 please consider attending our next meeting on

Tuesday 28 February at 6.45pm at the Parish Office.

As it happens to be Shrove Tuesday (the day before Ash Wednesday) you will be able to enjoy pancakes too!!!



In our prayers we remember

Those who have died recently:

Matt Hall

And those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Margaret Bowden, Pat Rebgetz, Reneé Ramaekers, Veronica & Pat Gallagher

Those who are sick:

Delphine Schulz, Savita Chhaniyara, Shilla Solgama, Michael Hogan, Harry Akhil, Isabel Leddick, Carmel Elms, Helen Orosz, Trevor Simpson, Lisa Bowes, Sophia Horrocks, 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, Eileen Clarke, Rob Bruce, Mel Purwo, Hellen Passente, Philomena L'Hiullier.



ATTENTION ALL VOLUNTEERS

In compliance with Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy, all volunteers are asked to attend a Safeguarding training session. Two sessions will be held on Thursday 2 March.

Each session will run for approximately 2 ½ - 3 hours.

Please call the parish office or email your preferred time. Light refreshments will be served.

9.30am - 12.30pm - LOTE room (School)

6.00pm - 9.00pm - APAC (School)

ATTENTION

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PROJECT COMPASSION SUNDAY - 26 FEBRUARY 2017

Please take home a Project Compassion box and/or a set of donation envelopes and support Caritas Australia this Lenten season themed

"Love your neighbour".

You will be helping to empower our world's most vulnerable neighbours to build a better future for our common home. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion or phoning 1800 024 413.



IS GOD'S WILL IN YOUR WILL?

Including the church in your Will teaches others about giving back to God for the blessings He has given you.

With your wishes expressed in a Will, the ministries of St Agatha's Parish can be blessed.

Your gift can also impact our parish in perpetuity by supporting our parish endowment fund.

Contact the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 for more information or call the parish office.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS MAGAZINE

(Autumn 2017 issue) is now available.

Please take a copy home.

DATE CLAIMER

Caritas Kitchen

Sunday 19 March following the 5.30pm Mass



PREP 2018

If you have a child born between 1/7/12– 30/6/13, they are eligible to commence Prep in 2018. All enrolment applications are to be completed

on-line through our website: www.stagathasclayfield.qld.edu.au

Non Sibling Applications for Prep 2018 close on 24 March 2017,

interviews usually take place in April/May, and placements offered in June.

Sibling Applications for Prep 2018 closed on 10 February 2017. Sibling interviews are currently taking place.



Two lawn movers needed to support refugee families in the North Brisbane area.

If you can assist, please contact the Parish Office 3262 2859.



Welcome

This weekend we welcome Fr Orm Rush, for the 7am & 9am Masses.

We also welcome year 6 students from Holy Spirit Seminary, Banyo: Damien Everitt, Matthew Hasking and Tom Zaranski at the 9am Mass.

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

5.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

25/26 Feb

Graham Gibson
Julie-Anne Gibson

Annette Riba
Helen Roberts

Eileen Duncan
Peter Gilroy
Tim Hancock

Life Teen Mass

4/5 Mar

Ann Goves
Cate Barrett

Rafael Chase
Ruby Chase

Denis Keating
Don Macpherson
Amrita Moss

Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

25/26 Feb

Volunteer

Volunteer

Volunteer

Life Teen Mass

4/5 Mar

Volunteer

Volunteer

Erin Bledsoe

Life Teen Mass

ORGANISTS:

25/26 Feb

Volunteer

Mark Leung

Jenny McKeon

Life Teen Mass

4/5 Mar

Volunteer

Mark Leung

Catriona McPherson

Life Teen Mass

ALTAR SERVERS:

25/26 Feb

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

Bart Marino
Billy Crutcher

Caitlin Marshall
Sharon Mathew

4/5 Mar

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

Charlotte Corrigan
Xavier Coorey
Sofia Iannarella

Sophia Lazzarini

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

26 Feb

Nicola Warda, Susan De Medici
& Ewan McPherson
Jane Cameron & Giulia Coorey

5 Mar

SANCTUARY CARERS:

4 Mar

Victor Podesta

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.

TUESDAY MORNING ACTIVITIES

Little Flower Parish Hall
80 Turner Road, Kedron
10am-12pm.

You are invited to join parishioners from various parishes for a morning of fun and friendship at Tuesday morning activities. Bingo, Arts and Crafts, Cards, Scrabble, Raffles just some of the activities, followed by a delicious morning tea. Get a group together and book a maxi taxi for 10, which will work out at approximately \$6.00 each return. For enquiries call Jill Crawford, 0438 612 177.



Please join the

All Hallow's Past Pupils Association
at their

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFAST

Sunday 12 March 2017 / 9.00am for 9.15 start

All Hallows' School - Loretto Hall

547 Ann Street, Brisbane

Guest Speaker: Catherine Donovan

Tickets: \$55 adult / \$25 AHS student

Tables of 8 with table captain name.

Visit ahs.qld.edu.au

Bookings close 3 March 2017

For further enquiries please contact:

Lenore Thompson - lenore.thompson@ahs.qld.edu.au

ASH WEDNESDAY MASSES - (City)

St Patrick's, Fortitude Valley: 7.00am

Cathedral of St Stephen:

8.00am; 10.00am; 12.30pm; 5.30pm

Car park will be available for the 5.30pm Mass only

ST AGATHA PRAYER CARDS

now available for sale at the Piety Stall - \$1.00 each.

A VOCATION VIEW: "The Lord will bring light to all that is hidden in darkness."
He can only bring that light if you will be his hands and his feet and his heart
in the world. Be people of light.



Am I Being Unfair to You?
- theme for World Day of Prayer 2017



Wednesday
8 March



Readings - First Sunday of Lent - 5 March 2017

1st Reading: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7; 2nd Reading: Romans 5:12-19; Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11