



# ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

52 Oriel Rd Clayfield Q 4011

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 E-mail: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au Website: www.clayfieldparish.org.au  
 Aggies Youth: facebook.com/aggiesyouth

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Mellor Weekend Supply: Fr Paul Chandler/Fr John Grace  
 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

## The Ascension of the Lord - 28<sup>th</sup> May 2017

### Readings

1st Reading: Acts 1:1-11; 2nd Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23; Gospel: Matthew 28:16-20

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 29 May: 6.30am  
 Wednesday 31 May: 9am  
*The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary*  
 Thursday 1 June: 9am  
*Saint Justin*  
 Friday 2 June: 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

##### MAY

• Monday 29<sup>th</sup>  
 Catholics Returning Home  
 7.30pm Parish Office

##### JUNE

• Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup>/ Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Sacramental Preparation  
*Handing in of work books*  
 at any Mass Saturday 5pm;  
 Sunday 7am, 9am, 5.30pm  
 • Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>  
 Sacramental Preparation  
*Workshop 5pm & 7pm*  
 APAC St Agatha's School



*Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you*

Dear friends,

It is tempting to see the Feast of the Ascension as a kind of natural ending – the earthly presence of Jesus leaving us to make way for a more elusive and mysterious spiritual presence. However, Jesus isn't going home to get some rest and to leave the rest of the story to the Holy Spirit. That's not the point of the story at all. The story of the Ascension is *not* about not being able to see Jesus anywhere, but rather about being able to see Jesus everywhere.

The great tales never really end. We're still part of it and the tale goes on. We carry a light – a Christ-light. This is the gift of our baptism and this is why and how Jesus is everywhere. Jesus can be seen in everyone who lives, even if we need to look hard sometimes. Jesus is in everything that lives, even if sometimes we are blind. We are part of God's great story, and the story goes on through us. And the story of Jesus is the best story there is – because it is about everything and everyone. We are all part of the great tale, that it goes on, and it goes on in us and around us. Our lives are a part of its telling. We celebrate this in the Eucharist. With this in mind, may we hear St. Paul's prayer as a prayer for us: "May God enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope God's call holds for you, what rich glories God has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that God has exercised for us believers." Where Christ the head has gone, we his body, hope to follow. That is why we celebrate that the great stories never really end. And like all the best stories, they get better each time they're told. But we are not left to tell the story by ourselves. We are guided by the Holy Spirit, we are guided by scripture, we are guided by the faith of those who have gone before us and we are guided by those who stand beside us in our own time. Don't look up; look around. *Fr. Anthony*

### The Wisdom of Pope Francis

The world needs men and women who are not closed in on themselves, but filled with the Holy Spirit. Closing oneself off from the Holy Spirit means not only a lack of freedom; it is a sin. There are many ways one can close oneself off to the Holy Spirit: by selfishness for one's own gain; by rigid legalism; by neglect of what Jesus taught... However, the world needs the courage, hope, faith and perseverance of Christ's followers.

## Clayfield Conversations

Fr. Anthony has completed walking the ancient pilgrimage route of the Camino in Spain. Below is his sixth report of his journey.

### Step by Step along The Way (Week 6)



The church bells rang four o'clock in the afternoon as we reached the major square of Santiago de Compostela on Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> May. It had been a long day and a long few weeks, and yet, it was over in a flash. All of my walking companions have said that this was an unrepeatable experience. Certainly, we all could walk the Camino again, but it wouldn't be the same. What is it that makes particular moments in time "unrepeatable"? I don't know. I simply give thanks for having had the experience with these companions at this moment of my life.

Santiago, and Spain in general, has been associated with the relics of the Apostle St. James, the brother of John, the sons of Zebedee. There is no historical basis for this, other than the power of tradition. This tradition is only recorded from the 9<sup>th</sup> century onwards (but appears to be earlier), which is far too greater time-frame to be connected with anything that we would understand as "history". But that is not the point.

A few days out from Santiago, my mind was directed towards the Apostle, St. James. In a telling sense, there weren't twelve Apostles – there were nine and there were three. St. James made up one of the three. James' calling, along with John, is recorded in the Gospels. We know his parents' names, Zebedee and Salome. James was there, along with John and Peter, at particular moments of healing, recorded as having had an ambitious conversation with Jesus and then being put in his place, he was on the mount of the Transfiguration, and, sleepily, in the garden of despair before the crucifixion. James, along with John and Peter, had a privileged relationship with Jesus. So, in turn, this centre that contains his relics has become a privileged place of pilgrimage.

Upon arriving in Santiago, we all made it to the pilgrims' Mass that evening in the Cathedral. A few of us made the pilgrimage to the statue of the Apostle behind the main altar, and then prayed at the place where his relics are said to be kept. Herein lies the end of the pilgrimage.

A couple of days later, our fine group of companions began to disperse. The initial six pilgrims with whom I started this adventure, made our way for a few days to Barcelona. My goal was to visit the grand minor basilica of La Sagrada Família. It is the life's work of famed Spanish architect, Antoni Gaudí, and is an amazing and splendid sculpture of the study of light and dark (some of my photos will be on the parish's website and Facebook page this week). It remains under-construction, but even so, the experience is difficult to describe. However, its grandeur is both inviting and off-putting. Your gaze is continually drawn upwards, towards glorious shards of light. It is a study of transcendence. However, is such overt grandeur really worship of the One, True God of Jesus Christ? I am left both drawn by its beauty and perplexed by its splendour.

There was, however, one final redemptive encounter. There is a Blessed Sacrament chapel there. My final act on the pilgrim trail was to make a visit. There was a guard at the entrance, who said to me, "This is for prayer. Do you want to pray?" "Yes," I said, in a rather offended tone.

I was delighted by the chapel's simplicity; a relatively small altar, dignified ambo, and, significantly, a simple tabernacle. Underneath the tabernacle was the Catalan (the local dialect) inscription: "Jo sóc la vida". In English, this translates as "I am the way." "The Way" is the common name for the Camino, the pilgrimage to Santiago. So all this walking came back to one point: Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. So what to do with such an insight? Keep walking along the way of truth and life.

I am now in Leuven, just outside Brussels, for a two week conference on "Catholic Identity" with 32 other people from all over Queensland. The Camino ends but the way ahead continues. And I am keeping in my prayers all the children and their families who are preparing for their First Communion. I look forward to celebrating with you soon.

### **ST AGATHA'S PARISH CARE & CONCERN MINISTRY – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We would like to put together a register of volunteers for the re launch of our Care & Concern ministry.

We desperately need drivers who can assist on occasion to commute those in our parish to appointments. We would ideally like to have at least 6 drivers available to share the load. We would also like to provide short term assistance with meal provision to parishioners of all ages when the need arises. If you would like to add your name to our register in either capacity or you would like any further information please contact the Parish Office.

### **On the Ascension of the Lord, here's a different way of considering the Great Commission**

When Jesus gave the 'great commission' to his disciples, as we hear about in the Gospel for this weekend, He may very well have had Catholic Mission's Ride to Reachout in mind. Not only will this bike ride, from November 15-26, focus on one of the most beautiful of "all the nations", Cambodia, but it will give participants a chance to see how Mission is unfolding, "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" across the Cambodia countryside.

Call our Brisbane office on 3336 9239 for more details or for a FREE information pack and be a part of this historic and life-changing – for all concerned – experience.

## *In our prayers we remember*



### *Those who have died recently:*

Tony Kilminster, Eileen McSweeney

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

May, Martin & Ivy Lehfeltd, Lily Best, Lila & Lionel Russell, Fleming & Molly Hickey, Maurice Griffin, Ray & Bell Logan, Ethel Wallin

### *Those who are sick:*

Camille Butler-Storms, Mary Ann Marcelo, Paul Gaynor, 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, 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

### **STRENGTHEN THE HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH**

Jesus asks us to demonstrate our love for Him through our generosity to others. In our everyday lives, He calls us to share our gifts. "Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25: 40). Please consider a gift in any amount given through your Will to strengthen our Parish.

For more information about how you can leave a legacy to St Agatha's Parish, call the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or call the parish office.

### **CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - ST AGATHA'S CLAYFIELD**

**Monday 29 May 7.30pm to 9pm** (final night) at St Agatha's Parish Office, 52 Oriel Road.

For more information, please contact Lisa on 0418 734 147

### **ST AGATHA'S PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - 2017**

**(For all children in Year 4 that have been Confirmed)**

#### **First Holy Communion**

Weekend **3/4 June** *Handing in of work books* at any Mass Saturday 5pm; Sunday 7am, 9am, 5.30pm

**Tuesday 6 June** *Workshop 5pm & 7pm APAC, St Agatha's School*

**First Holy Communion** celebrated on weekend **17/18 June**: Saturday 5.00pm; Sunday 9.00am and 5.30pm and **Sunday 25 June (9am Mass only)**



With great joy we welcome **Emily Bell, Rose Brassington, Lucia Cassar, Robert Hall, Rafe Mitchell and James Paul** who will be baptised this Sunday.



**THE PARACLETE** - Copies of "The Paraclete" are available at the back of the Church.

This edition includes highlights of the 75th Anniversary of the Holy Spirit Seminary.

### **CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION**

Procession through the city streets led by the Archbishop Sunday 18 June 2.00pm St Stephen's Cathedral Elizabeth Street, Brisbane. For parish bus schedule and more information: [www.corpuschristibrisbane.com](http://www.corpuschristibrisbane.com)

### **CORPUS CHRISTI FLOWER GIRLS**

The Corpus Christi Committee are looking for girls aged 10 to 18 to take part in the Corpus Christi procession Sunday 18 June as flower girls. Girls will need to wear a white dress or a black skirt and white blouse. Limited places. If interested please contact Catherine on 0431 117 139 or at [catherinemcdowall@hotmail.com](mailto:catherinemcdowall@hotmail.com) by Tuesday 6 June.

### **HOLY LAND TOUR 2018**

12 Days from Sunday 28 January to Thursday 8 February 2018:

Following inspirational tours over the last several years, Fr Paul Chackanikunnel, CMI, Parish Priest of Mother of Mercy Parish, Hendra, Northgate and Hamilton, formerly Our Lady Help of Christians Parish, Hendra, will once again lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in January/February next year, his last pilgrimage for the foreseeable future due to parish commitments. You are invited to join a remarkable journey through the Holy Land, following in the footsteps of Christ, the Apostles and the early Christians. Fr Paul would very much like others to experience the Holy Land in the profound and meaningful way previous groups have experienced it. A fascinating 12 day tour combining visits to all the important sacred Christian sites in Bethlehem, Nazareth, Galilee and Jerusalem with other historical attractions will provide unforgettable experiences of the Holy Land. For further information please contact Fr Paul on 0428 624 287, Monica in the Parish Office on 3268 3040 (email: [hendra@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hendra@bne.catholic.net.au)) or Harvest Journeys on 1800 819 156 (visit [harvestjourneys.com](http://harvestjourneys.com)).

This weekend we welcome Fr Paul Chandler for the 5pm & 5.30pm Masses and Fr John Grace for the 7am & 9.00am Masses. We welcome Damien Everitt (7am & 9am), Matthew Hasking (9am) and Tom Zaranski (5.30pm),

**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 May

Marian Nolan  
Lauren McMullan

Andrew Douglas  
James Robinson

Joseph O'Brien  
Wilma O'Connell  
Trish Ryan

Life Teen Mass

3/4 June

Edward Foley  
Katrina Murphy

Rafael Chase  
Ruby Chase

Dominic Ryan  
Robert Standish-White (*Reader Exchange*)  
Heidi Cooper

Life Teen Mass

**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

27/28 May

*Volunteer*

*Volunteer*

Amrita Moss

Life Teen Mass

3/4 June

Edward Foley

Helen Roberts

Christine Iannarella

Life Teen Mass

**ORGANISTS:**

27/28 May

*Volunteer*

*Volunteer*

Catriona McPherson

Life Teen Mass

3/4 June

*Volunteer*

Mark Leung

Robyn Cuming

Life Teen Mass

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

27/28 May

*Volunteer/s*

*Volunteer/s*

Charlotte Corrigan  
Xavier Coorey  
Dominic Coorey

Sophia Lazzarini  
Max Lazzarini

3/4 June

Felicity Shepherd  
Charlotte Shepherd  
Laura Barrett

*Volunteer/s*

Sofia Iannarella  
Joy Kordic  
Milly Ryan

Caitlin Marshall  
Tia Manuel  
Alex Oliveri

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:**

28 May

Ewan McPherson, Giulia Coorey

4 June

Ewan McPherson, Mel Ryan

**SANCTUARY CARERS:**

3 June

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 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.

**ANNUAL RACING MASS**

will be held at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Manson Road, Hendra - Sunday 4 June 2017, 11.00am. Light refreshments will be served after Mass. All welcome.

**MAY IS DOMESTIC and  
FAMILY VIOLENCE  
PROTECTION MONTH**

**AUSTRALIAN CATHOLICS**

Magazine (Winter 2017 issue) is now available. Please take a copy home.

**DAY OF PRAYER**

The Canossian Sisters are running a day of prayer and reflection for young women and men from 18 - 40 years.

Date: Saturday 10 June 2017 | Time: 9am-5pm

Venue: Lay Centre, Canossa Complex, 169 Seventeen Mile Rocks Rd, Oxley

Cost: \$10 (Includes lunch)

For more information or to RSVP contact Sr Melissa 0484 007 508

**LOURDES HILL COLLEGE PAST PUPILS ASSOCIATION**

Annual Seniors Past Pupils Morning Tea

Venue: Duhig Hall ~ Lourdes Hill College

Date: Tuesday 20 June 2017 | Time: 10am | Cost \$25

Bookings essential please by Thursday 15 June 2017

Enquiries: Marilyn Loth 0422854737 or email [marilynloth@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynloth@hotmail.com)

Loreto Lotz 0412769708 or email [rlvlotz@gmail.com](mailto:rlvlotz@gmail.com)

You are invited to the Teams Oceania Conference on **MARRIAGE BEYOND THE WEDDING - You're not alone on this journey** 1 & 2 July 2017 at Marist College, Ashgrove.

Come along and hear some great speakers who will enrich your marriage:

Fr Adrian Farrelly | Dr Ryan Messmore

Shayne & Shanelle Bennett - and many more!

For the full program, flyer and prices go to Teams Oceania website:

[www.teamsoceania.com.au](http://www.teamsoceania.com.au) and click on upcoming events +.

You can also go to [www.trybooking.com/256672](http://www.trybooking.com/256672) to book.

Early Bird price for 2 day conference is only \$75/person!

(Ends 31st May) Everyone is welcome!

**Readings - Pentecost Sunday - 4 June 2017**

**1st Reading: Acts 2:1-11; 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13; Gospel: John 20:19-23**