

# ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

52 Oriel Rd Clayfield Q 4011

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Facebook: facebook.com/St. Agatha's Catholic Parish Clayfield  
Aggies Youth: facebook.com/aggiesyouth

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Anthony Mellor (ph: 0448 840 040)

**Associate Pastor:** Fr. Saji George, CMI.

**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

## Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### Readings

**1st Reading: Sirach 27:30-28:7; 2nd Reading: Romans 14:7-9; Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35**

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Monday 18 September:** 6.30am

**Wednesday 20 September:** 9am

*Saints Andrew Kim Tae-Gon,  
Paul Chong Ha-Sang and  
Companions*

**Thursday 21 September:** 9am

*Saint Matthew*

**Friday 22 September:** 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

#### SEPTEMBER

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> - Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

#### October

School Holidays

#### SEPTEMBER

• **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>**

Social Justice Sunday

• **Monday 25<sup>th</sup>**

SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish  
Office

#### OCTOBER

• **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>**

P26 Mass 9.00am

### REMINDER

Monday 2 October

*(Public Holiday)*

Mass at 9.00am



*Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, a brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times."*

Dear friends,

Congratulations to our 74 children who were confirmed by Archbishop Mark Coleridge on Tuesday night. Both celebrations were joyous and I am very grateful to all who prepared the children, including parents and grand-parents. A special thank you to Jane Cameron and Rosemary Greer for all the administrative and preparatory work that is done behind the scenes. Of course no celebration at St. Agatha's happens without the diligent work of Peter Bowden, nor complete without the musical skill of Robyn Cuming. Thank you to all and we look forward to continuing the journey next year with First Communion.

Included with this newsletter is Archbishop Mark Coleridge's Pastoral Letter on same-sex marriage (I doubt that when I was ordained 20 years ago that I thought that I would use those words on the front page of the newsletter — but then again I've written a few things on the front page of newsletters that I never thought that I would write). Please read the letter, and there more copies available if you wish to share the letter with others.

The following little thought comes from the late US bishop, Ken Untener. Here, Bishop Untener opens up for us some thoughts on this Sunday's gospel about forgiveness:

It's interesting that when Jesus speaks here of forgiveness - and elsewhere in the Gospels too - the Gospel writers use a Greek word that really means "let go of" or "abandon." It's the same word, for example, that is used when Peter and Andrew abandoned their boat and nets to follow Jesus. That can be a helpful insight. You realize that it takes only one person to forgive. One person. Me. I simply let go of the unforgiving thoughts and feelings within me. Reconciliation is another matter. It takes two people to bring about reconciliation, and both have to cooperate. That, of course, is something much to be sought after. But I can't control the other person and working out reconciliation can take time. On the other hand, forgiveness takes only one person. Me. And forgiveness takes about two minutes. *Fr. Anthony*

### The Wisdom of Pope Francis

We have just heard the parable where Jesus teaches us to forgive. Why should we forgive someone who has offended us? Because we were forgiven first, and of infinitely more. The parable says exactly this: just as God has forgiven us, so we too should forgive those who do us harm. The debts are our sins in the sight of God, and our debtors are those whom we, for our part, must forgive.

## Clayfield Conversations

*Last week, Pope Francis visited the troubled South American nation of Colombia.  
Below is a report from The Crux website of the Pope Francis' final day of his five day visit to Colombia.*

### Pope Francis in Colombia

After delivering more than 10 speeches, visiting an orphanage, leading prayers of reconciliation in a country devastated by conflict, celebrating Masses before vast crowds, and meeting politicians, social elites, and bishops alike, Pope Francis closed his Sept. 6-11 visit to Colombia surrounded by those he loves the most: The poorest of the poor, including young women who are recovering victims of human trafficking. Among other things, Francis told them that God teaches through the example of the humble and discarded. He also vigorously lamented that today, as in the 1500s, human beings are being traded as slaves. Speaking at his traditional Sunday Angelus address, which he usually delivers from a window overlooking Rome's St. Peter's Square, the pope focused on Our Lady of Chiquinquirá and Jesuit St. Peter Claver, both patrons of Colombia. Cartagena is a coastal city, once a gateway for the slave trade in the New World. The Spanish-born Jesuit Claver, who died in 1654, is honored throughout Latin America. After his ordination, he wanted to be known as the "slave of the blacks forever." According to Francis, the saint witnessed the "responsibility and care that we should have for one another." Claver, the pope said in his remarks before praying the Angelus from the atrium of the church dedicated to the saint, and where he's buried, faced opposition from those who feared that his ministry would undermine the lucrative slave trade. Though Francis didn't make the connection, many of Latin America's modern-day martyrs are killed for that same reason: persuading the faithful against joining the guerrilla groups in Colombia when they were active, as was the case of Bishop Jesús Emilio Jaramillo Monsalve, murdered by the National Liberation Army, whom the pope declared blessed on Thursday. The pope also denounced the modern-day slave trade, something he's done many times before, speaking against human trafficking, the world's third most profitable industry, after arms and drugs. The low end estimations put the number of victims at 21 million. "Here in Colombia, and in the world, millions of people are still being sold as slaves; they either beg for some expressions of humanity, moments of tenderness, or they flee by sea or land because they have lost everything, primarily their dignity and their rights," he said. Before the Angelus, Francis paid a visit to one of Cartagena's poorest neighborhoods in his Popemobile, where he blessed the foundation stone for a house for the homeless at the St. Francis square surrounded by hundreds of homeless and girls helped by Talitha Kum, an international network of religious women who work to fight human trafficking. He also visited a house Talitha Kum operates here, and entered the home of Lorenza Pérez, a 77-year old community leader who has been volunteering as a cook for a neighboring community center. Speaking to the national TV network ahead of the pope's visit, she said that "a group of bishops from abroad, dressed in white" told her not to change anything in her house or the way she dresses daily, and not to be scared when the pope arrives. "I don't know if when the pope arrives, I'll have the words to ask him 'pope, give me a blessing,'" she said. "But I'm praying to the Lord for him to give me the opportunity that, when the time comes, I can, despite my knee problems, bend and kneel in front of him."

Last weekend the Annual Catholic Campaign was held across the Archdiocese. Thank you to everyone who responded generously to the Archbishop's call for support of the vital works of the Church across this Archdiocese. If you didn't get a chance to make a gift last week, there is still time. Your contributions are deeply appreciated and can be the answer to someone's prayers. Please place your donation inside a **Campaign envelope** (which can be found on church seats), seal it and place with the parish collection today. It is **important** you use a Campaign envelope, so there is no confusion about the intention of your gifts. Your tax-deductible gift will be put straight to work to support our seminarians, to give the gift of Catholic education bursaries for children experiencing severe hardship, to provide medical and housing for retired priests and to extend Catholic support services in prisons, hospitals, psychiatric care and to those experiencing family and domestic violence. We also ask you to prayerfully consider a regular monthly gift. Monthly giving reduces costs helps the ministries in the Archdiocese plan ahead and build further programs to help people in need. Thank you again for your generosity.

Your gift is the answer to someone's prayer

## Thank you!

It's a great joy to see the support coming in from generous people like you all across the Archdiocese. You are helping to grow those ministries that are central to the Church's mission of mercy.

On behalf of all those who will benefit from your generosity, we hope that your life is enriched, knowing your gift is far greater than your donation.

**Your prayers and your gifts are a shining light to others.**

A special thank you to those who were able to make an ongoing commitment at this time - your faith in the future of the Church will bear fruit for many.



**2017 ANNUAL  
CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN**  
Our Church • Our Mission • Our Responsibility

There is still time to give a last minute gift:

Give now 07 3324 3200 or [catholiccampaign.com.au](http://catholiccampaign.com.au)

## In our prayers we remember



### Those who have died recently :

Francis Jirkovsky, Betty Rogers, Zoe McGinty, Ron Brassington, Joseph Pilly, Arnold Just

### Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Henry Weld, Ernie & Nancy Long, Helena Lewandowska, Pat Killoran, Robert Maguire, Frank Maguire

### Those who are sick:

Maureen Sherriff, Michelle Toeke, Kahyam Baines, Lorraine Atkinson-McEwen, Camille Butler-Storms, Mary Ann Marcelo, Paul Gaynor, Michael Hogan, Isabel Leddick, Carmel Elms, Helen Orosz, Lisa Bowes, Sophia Horrocks, Mario Di Filippo, 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

## GIVE THE GIFT OF FAITH

Your generosity towards St Agatha's Parish can go on forever when you include our parish endowment fund in your Will. 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 parish ministries forever. For more information on naming St Agatha's Parish in your Will, please call the Catholic Foundation at 3324 3200 or the parish office.

## JOIN THE TEAM... if you have any of these skills

Writing | Scrapbooking | Research | Journalism | Pinterest | Photo shopping | Graphics and design  
Photography | Editing/proof reading | Proficiency in IT e.g. Microsoft & Adobe | Scanning photographs  
Interviewing (parishioners' stories)

We need you to help compile our **Parish Centenary Celebration Book**.



Interested? - please contact, Cate, Eileen, Helen and Geraldine through the designated email [stagathacentenarybook@gmail.com](mailto:stagathacentenarybook@gmail.com) or contact the Parish Office 3262 2859 and they will pass on your details.

As part of our centenary at St Agatha's, we are also planning to celebrate 100 years of *tying the knot* at the parish. By sending in your wedding image, you will have a chance to be part of a commemorative poster to mark the centenary. So if you were married at the church or know someone who was, feel free to email your wedding shot (at the church) to [stagathasweddings@gmail.com](mailto:stagathasweddings@gmail.com). Please use the following wording in the subject line of the email: "WEDDING - (YOUR SURNAME)". This will make it easier for us to keep a track of the photos. Please also include the names of the couple, their wedding date and a contact number in the email so we can get in touch. Some images may be used on our social media platforms. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Ainsley Crutcher on 0417792212.

## SOCIAL JUSTICE

Next Sunday 24 September we celebrate Social Justice Sunday. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: *'Everyone's Business: Developing an inclusive and sustainable economy'*. The Statement calls for an economy that is founded on justice and offers dignity and inclusion to every person. For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website ([www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)) or call (02) 8306 3499.

## GOOD READS FROM ST AGATHA'S LIBRARY

Our new display is about talking to God on our journey. We have chosen books of prayers, meditations and poems that help us to do this. More books of this kind can be found at number 242 on the library shelves.

## INVITATION - ALPHA

Aggies Youth invites all young adults aged 18 to 25 years to join us for ALPHA evenings, starting on Friday 15 September and running through to 1 December. ALPHA is a weekly opportunity for a group to meet, to share a simple meal, watch a short film and talk about God, the world and faith in Jesus. It is not a lesson. It is a journey of discussion and discovery. **Where:** Nundah Library Meeting Room, 1 Bage St. Nundah  
**Time:** 6.30pm-8.30pm **Contact:** Ewan McPherson 0423 452 011 or Anne O'Connor 0419 796 988

## GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Couples celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary (or longer) and their family and friends, are invited to the annual Mass with Bishop Brian V. Finnigan at the Cathedral of St Stephen. The Mass will be celebrated on **Saturday 7 October, commencing at 10.00am**. Light refreshments will be served in the Hanly Room, following the Mass and for catering purposes you are asked to RSVP to [cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au) or telephone 3324 3030 by Friday 29 September. The 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:**

16/17 Sept	Ann Goves <i>Volunteer</i>	James Robinson Helen Roberts	Peter Gilroy Tim Hancock Eileen Duncan	Life Teen Mass
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23/24 Sept	Jack Williamson Katrina Murphy	Mark Burton Kirsty Stevens	Don Macpherson <i>Volunteer</i> Denis Keating	Life Teen Mass
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**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

16/17 Sept	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	Christine Iannarella	Life Teen Mass
23/24 Sept	Ann Goves	Helen Roberts	Julianne Ryan	Life Teen Mass

**ORGANISTS:**

16/17 Sept	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	Catriona McPherson	Life Teen Mass
23/24 Sept	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	Robyn Cuming	Life Teen Mass

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

16/17 Sept	<i>Volunteer/s</i>	<i>Volunteer/s</i>	<i>Volunteer/s</i>	<i>Volunteer/s</i>
23/24 Sept	<i>Volunteer/s</i>	<i>Volunteer/s</i>	<i>Volunteer/s</i>	<i>Volunteer/s</i>

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:**

17 Sept				<i>No Children's Liturgy - School Holidays</i>
24 Sept				<i>No Children's Liturgy - School Holidays</i>

**SANCTUARY CARERS:**

7 Oct Victor Podesta

THIS IS THE ESSENCE OF STEWARDSHIP – EVERYTHING WE HAVE AND EVERYTHING WE ARE IS A GIFT FROM GOD. WE AREN'T "OWNERS" OF ANYTHING, WE ARE MERELY "STEWARDS" OF THE GIFTS THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US, ESPECIALLY OUR VERY OWN LIVES. PRAY TO GOD, DAILY, AND ASK HIM HOW HE WANTS YOU TO USE THE GIFTS HE HAS GIVEN YOU.

**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.

**PIETY STALL**

Variety of items for sale including birthday cards, rosary beads and various gifts. Come in and have a browse.



Congratulations to Nathan Arnold & Bianca Magpoc who were married this weekend.



With great joy we welcome **Isabella Marshall, Luke Marshall and Isabelle Schemkes** who will be baptised this weekend.

**BANYO NUNDAH CARE AND CONCERN**

Banyo Nundah Care and Concern are hosting a Morning Tea on Friday 29 September following 9am Mass with Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick in Corpus Christi Church, Nundah. The venue is Nolan Hall, Leslie Street, Nundah.

Guest Speaker is Trish Carroll, *Elder Matters*

For enquiries and RSVP by 25 September, call Monica Mob: 0411 154 905 everyone is welcome

**IGNITE CONFERENCE 2017**

Ignite Conference is a national Catholic youth conference held in Brisbane for adults, students, kids, ministry leaders, teachers, priests and religious. It's about encountering Jesus Christ and the Church, experiencing dynamic faith, being equipped for living the Christian life, and being empowered to impact the Church and the world. It's the biggest Catholic youth event in our Archdiocese so be sure to check it out!

**Cost:** night rallies are free; starting at \$285 for four day pass

**Date:** 4pm Thursday 21 - 3:30pm Sunday 24 September

**Venue:** Mueller Performing Arts Centre (75 Morris Rd, Rothwell)

**Who for:** High schoolers, young adults, youth leaders

**More Info:** <https://igniteyouth.com/conference17>

**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.

"For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's" - ROMANS 14:8

**Readings - Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 24 September 2017**

**1st Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9; 2nd Reading: Philippians 1:20-24, 27; Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16**