

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
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

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 29th October 2017

Readings

1st Reading: Exodus 22:20-26; 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10; Gospel: Matthew 22:34-40

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 30 October : 6.30am

Wednesday 1 November: 9am

All Saints

Thursday 2 November: 9am

All Souls' Day

Friday 3 November: 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

OCTOBER

• Monday 30th

Centenary Book Committee Meeting 6.45pm Parish Office

NOVEMBER

• Monday 6th

SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish Office

• Monday 13th

Community and Mission Council Meeting 6.30pm Parish Office

October

Month of the Holy Rosary



Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment."

Dear friends,

Last week in the newsletter, I raised the possibility of a stained-glass window project for our centenary celebration next year. Thank you for the initial feedback (some positive, some seeking more information, some negative). I will continue to keep you informed as we examine our options and decide on the best way to move forward. There may well be other possibilities that we will need to explore but I am sure that we can develop a creative plan that will add to the beauty and heritage of the church building, while also celebrating who we are now after one hundred years. There are other exciting centenary projects in the planning as well. Hopefully, just in time for Christmas, you will be able to purchase some centenary wine (red, white and a sparkling white) and a centenary port. These will be South Australian wines and of excellent quality. As they say in the classics, they will make excellent Christmas gifts! They will be on sale for \$30/bottle and available from mid-December. We will be taking orders soon.

We also finalised our children's entries in our 2018 parish calendar. There were many excellent drawings based on the theme: *My Memories of St. Agatha's*. Unfortunately, there are only twelve months of the year, so there can only be twelve successful entries. All our entries will be displayed in the church, but our successful artists will discover their drawing in the 2018 parish calendar which will be available soon.

Also in the near future, we will be collecting your recollections of St. Agatha's. A book will be available for you to write your own personal reminiscences of St. Agatha's. Feel free to write two sentences or a page. You might even like to share a photo or two. We will have more information soon, but in the meantime, you might like to start thinking about memories that you would like to publically share regarding your connection to St. Agatha's community. The year ahead will be an interesting time, and, I have no doubt, a time of great blessing.

Fr. Anthony

The Wisdom of Pope Francis

God's first step towards us is that of an anticipated and unconditional love. God loves first. God does not love us because there is some reason that causes love. God loves us because He Himself is love, and love tends to spread and give by its nature. God does not even tie his benevolence to our conversion: if anything this is a consequence of God's love. In Christ Jesus, we have been loved, beloved, desired. There is Someone who has engraved in us a primordial beauty, that no sin, no wrong choice will ever erase completely.

Clayfield Conversations

Just over ten years ago, spiritual writer Fr. Ron Rolheiser wrote this reflection on the test of Christian love. A decade on, it still packs a punch.

Measuring Ourselves in Love

When I was younger, I was pretty confident that I knew what love meant. After all, we all experience love in some way, being in love, loving someone, being loved by someone. Virtually everyone has known the love of somebody, a friend, a family member, an acquaintance. But the older I get the more I wonder sometimes whether I, or most anyone else, has much sense of what that over-used word, love, really means? When we are honest, we sense our own distance from its full meaning. Why?

Because, the older we get, the more we also begin to know love's dark side. Too common are these experiences: We fall in love and think it will last forever, but then fall out of love, feel love go sour, feel love grow cold, see love betrayed, feel ourselves wounded by love, and wound others. Finally, even more upsetting, we all find that there are always people in our lives who are cold, bitter, and unforgiving towards us so that it is not always easy to feel love and be loving.

In the light of this reticence, I would like comment on Jesus' most important commandment: "Love one another as I have loved you!" We too easily read that simplistically, romantically, and in a one-sided, over-confident manner. But this command contains the most important challenge of the whole gospel and, like the deepest part of the gospel to which it is linked, the crucifixion, it is very, very difficult to imitate. Why? It's easy to consider ourselves as loving if we only look at one side of things, namely, how we relate to those people who are loving, warm, respectful, and gracious towards us. If we rate ourselves on how we feel about ourselves in our best moments among like-minded friends, we can easily conclude both that we are loving persons and that we are measuring up to Jesus' command to love as he did. But if we begin to look at the skeletons in our relational closets our naive confidence soon disappears: What about the people who hate us, whom we don't like? What about the people whom we avoid and who avoid us? What about those people towards whom we feel resentment? What about all those people with whom we are at odds, towards whom we feel suspicion, coldness, anger? What about those people whom we haven't been able to forgive? It's one thing to love someone who adores you, it's quite another to love someone who wants you dead!

But that's the real test. Jesus' command to love contains a critical subordinate clause, "as I have loved you!" What was unique in the way he loved us? Where Jesus stretches us beyond our natural instincts and beyond all self-delusion is in his command to love our enemies, to be warm to those who are cold to us, to be kind to those who are cruel to us, to do good to those who hate us, to forgive those who hurt us, to forgive those who won't forgive us, and to ultimately love and forgive those who are trying to kill us. That command, love and forgive your enemies, more than any creedal formula or other moral issue, is the litmus-test for Christian discipleship. We can ardently believe in and defend every item in the creed and fight passionately for justice in all its dimensions, but the real test of whether or not we are followers of Jesus is the capacity or non-capacity to forgive an enemy, to remain warm and loving towards someone who is not warm and loving to us. We shouldn't delude ourselves on this. It is easy to rationalize this away and, if we do, no doubt there will be more than enough false friends around who will furnish us with both theological and psychological arguments that will justify us in not loving our enemies. But the gospel is uncompromising: We are loving or non-loving not on the basis of how we respond to those who love us, but on the basis of how we respond to those who hate us, and are cold, hostile, and murderous toward us. That's the hard, non-negotiable truth underlying Jesus' command to love and, when we are honest, we have to admit that we are still a long ways from measuring up to that.

NOVEMBER MASS ENVELOPES

are available from table in church foyer, Piety Stall or Parish Office. 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

REUNION

If you attended Holy Cross Convent and sat for the Scholarship Examination in 1953, please come to a reunion (Thursday 23 November 5-7pm) we are holding. Anyone who was in this class and left before Scholarship is also very welcome to attend. Please contact Patricia McGregor (Pat Lane) on trishmcgregor40@bigpond.com or 3397 7924

2018 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS

For sale at the Piety Stall - \$9.00 each

ST AGATHA'S PARISH P26 MASS SUNDAY 12 NOVEMBER - 9AM

All children in Grade Prep to Year 6 are invited to participate in our last P26 Mass for the year which will be at 9am on 12 November 2017. 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 3262 2859 or email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au by no later than Monday 6 November 2017. We will be having our annual Christmas party/morning tea afterwards as a way of saying thank you to our youngest parishioners for their contribution to Parish life over the year. All welcome.

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Kathleen Elliott, Paul Luxton, Tom Rathay, Fr Michael McKeaton, William McDermott, Dot Williams

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Nancy & Ernie Long, Glad & Jack McBride, Bridget Brumpton, Lou & Gene Bartels, Mary Johnson, Hazel O'Hagan, Paula Witman

Those who are sick:

Margaret-Mary Hayes, James Elliot, Michelle Toeke, Kahyam Baines, Lorraine Atkinson-McEwen, Paul Gaynor, Camille Butler-Storms, Mary Ann Marcelo, Isabel Leddick, Carmel Elms, Helen Orosz, Lisa Bowes, Sophia Horrocks, Mario Di Filippo, Norma Fiore, Joan Healy, 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, Patrick Gallagher, Eileen Clarke, Mel Purwo, Hellen Passente

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 stagathascenentarybook@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. 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.

MORNING TEAS AFTER 9AM MASS DURING OCTOBER

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. St Agatha is the patron Saint of breast cancer and to pay our respects to those suffering, recovering or who have died from breast cancer, we will be holding morning teas after each 9am Mass throughout October. You will have the opportunity to make a donation to the local charity "Mummy's Wish" at each of the morning teas.

INVITATION - ALPHA

Aggies Youth invites all young adults 18+ to join us for ALPHA evenings. These evenings started Friday 15 September and will run 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

ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL PREP SIBLINGS FOR 2019

If you have a *sibling* child born between 1/7/13 – 30/6/14, they are eligible to commence Prep in 2019.

The enrolment process for Prep 2019 commences at the beginning of 2018.

Please note all applications are submitted online via our website www.stagathasclayfield.qld.edu.au

If you would like your sibling child included in the enrolments for Prep 2019 please register online.

ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL has limited vacancies in Year 6 for 2018.

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

ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE MASS

The Lourdes Hill Past Pupils will be holding their Annual Remembrance Mass on Saturday 4 November at 10.00am in the Lady of Lourdes Chapel, Lourdes Hill College; they are once again having a procession of candles during the Mass to remember past pupils who have died during each decade since 1916. If you are aware of past pupils who have passed away since their Remembrance Mass in 2016, please send their names to: paparker15@bigpond.com, notify the college or bring the names with you to the Mass.

Do you put other "gods" before God? Is your love of money, power, status or some personal possession greater than your love for God?

Do you really recognize that everything you have and everything you are is a gift from God?

The good news – it's not too late to put God first in your life in all things.

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

5.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

28/29 Oct	Jack Williamson <i>Volunteer</i>	Helen Roberts James Robinson	<i>Volunteer</i> Eileen Duncan <i>Volunteer</i>	Life Teen Mass
4/5 Nov	Phil Zammit	Helen Roberts Mark Burton	Denis Keating Don Macpherson Amrita Moss	Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

28/29 Oct	Ann Goves	Paulette Archer	<i>Volunteer</i>	Life Teen Mass
4/5 Nov	Jan Zammit	<i>Volunteer</i>	Erin Bledsoe	Life Teen Mass

ORGANISTS:

28/29 Oct	Robyn Cuming	<i>Volunteer</i>	Jenny McKeon	Life Teen Mass
4/5 Nov	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	Catrina McPherson	Life Teen Mass

ALTAR SERVERS:

28/29 Oct	Ella Shepherd	<i>Volunteer/s</i>	Bridget Birchley Milly Ryan	Caitlin Marshall Alex Oliveri
4/5 Nov	Billy Crutcher Dash Crutcher	<i>Volunteer/s</i>	Kate Taylor Amelia Marino	Sophia Lazzarini Max Lazzarini

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

29 Oct			Katrina Murphy & Naoko Leotta	
5 Nov			Erin Bledsoe, Michelle Wille, Sophia Vangnaitham	

SANCTUARY CARERS:

4 Nov	Victor Podesta			
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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.

PIETY STALL

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

FAURÉ REQUIEM (Martin's Mass for Double Choir) - 5 November, 3.00pm
St Stephen's Cathedral Choir, Schola and Orchestra - James Goldrick conductor
St Stephen's Cathedral | 249 Elizabeth Street
Parking available from 2.30pm | Tickets: \$30 Full | \$25 Concession
Tickets available at the door and online.
For tickets and further information: www.ststephensmusic.com

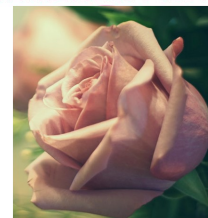
Position Vacant – Pastoral Associate - Hendra Catholic Parish

Applications are open for a position at the Hendra Catholic Parish. A person with sacramental and liturgical knowledge is required for a part time position of pastoral associate 25 hours a week working across a variety of days during the week and weekends including nights.

For additional information, please visit the Archdiocese of Brisbane website:
<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/> and to careers.

The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for employees and volunteers to maintain a safe and healthy environment. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults.

OCTOBER IS
**BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH**



WOMEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT

Vocations Brisbane is running a weekend retreat for young women who are keen to explore more about a vocation to religious life. All young women 18-40yrs old are welcome to come along and discover more about where God is calling you!

Date: Saturday 25 - 26 November 2017 | Time: 9am Saturday - 5pm Sunday

Venue: Canossian Spirituality Centre, 169 Seventeen Mile Rocks Rd, Oxley

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

Readings - Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time - 5 November 2017

1st Reading: Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10; 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13; Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12