

ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

52 Oriel Rd Clayfield Q 4011

Phone: 3262 2859

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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

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 12th November 2017

Readings

1st Reading: Wisdom 6:12-16; **2nd Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; **Gospel:** Matthew 25:1-13

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 13 November: 6.30am

Wednesday 15 November: 9am

Thursday 16 November: 9am

Friday 17 November: 9am

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.00pm

(1st Rite of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4.30pm)

Sunday 7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

Rosary before Mass.

Parish Calendar

NOVEMBER

• Monday 13th

Community and Mission

Council Meeting 6.30pm Parish

Office

• Monday 20th

SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish

Office

• Monday 20th

Youth Ministry Meeting 6.45pm

Parish Office

Many of us have put off doing something because we think we are too busy. We've all said, "I'll do it later when I have time." Unfortunately, too many of us apply this attitude to our Faith. Jesus' call is urgent, in the here and now, in your current circumstances. Don't delay, how is God calling you to use your gifts today?



Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim.

By those who love her she is readily seen,

and found by those who look for her.

Dear Friends,

The Melbourne Cup has been run and won for another year. Like watching the horses run down the Flemington straight, the remainder of the year always seems to go by in a flash. As if to acknowledge that, the Liturgy of the Word over the coming weeks begins to take a turn towards "the end times". This weekend, Jesus tells a story of a wedding. Usually, it's the bride who is late, but this time it is the bridegroom. The bridegroom turns up in the middle of the night (makes you wonder what he was up to), only to find that some the bridal party weren't prepared for the midnight arrival. The foolish bridesmaids have no extra oil for their lamps, so the bridal procession is only half as luminous as it might have been. To make matters worse, by the time they find oil for their lamps, they find themselves locked out of the wedding celebrations. Maybe the bridegroom didn't want such a large bridal party in the first place.

"So stay awake or you will miss out on the party!" is Jesus' final exhortation at the end of the parable. This time of the year is full of parties — we have one this Sunday to thank our children and families who have supported our P26 Masses throughout the year. Next Friday night, we have our end of year social to thank all those who have supported the parish community through their generous service throughout the year. But the Liturgy of the Word of the coming weeks serves as a warning about getting too distracted by the haste of the end of the year and its various festive celebrations. It is good to celebrate, to acknowledge and give thanks for one another and to build the bonds of community. But it is also true that we can let our lamps go out — we can become wearied by all the frantic activity, and our various celebrations can become one chore after another. Jesus' challenges us to save enough oil to keep the light of faith burning. Perhaps one way we can do that is to take a little time to name and be thankful for the blessings that God has bestowed on us this year. Thankfulness keeps the heart alive — and our lamps alight.

Fr. Anthony

The Wisdom of Pope Francis

Where does Jesus send us? There are no borders, no limits: he sends us to everyone. The Gospel is for everyone, not just for some. It is not only for those who seem closer to us, more receptive, more welcoming. It is for everyone. Do not be afraid to go and to bring Christ into every area of life, to the fringes of society, even to those who seem farthest away, most indifferent.

Clayfield Conversations

Noted Australian scripture scholar, Sr. Mary Coloe PBVM, shares this reflection on this Sunday's readings.

The Bridegroom Is Coming!

As the end of the liturgical year draws to a close the Gospel message becomes one of urgency. Time is running out. Be alert. Stay awake. Are *you* ready for the arrival of God's reign?

The parable draws on two familiar images for a first century audience. In the Old Testament, the reign of God is frequently likened to a wedding banquet with God as the bridegroom reaching out in love to Israel the bride.

On the day of the wedding, all those invited would gather and then the bride would process from her father's house to the house of her fiancé. This would be an opportunity to display her beauty and the wealth of her dowry to the entire village. She would enter the house with her companions to await the arrival of the bridegroom after the festivities. The bridegroom would also arrive in a procession and then the wedding festivities began, this was usually late afternoon. The companion of the bride and groom would escort the groom into the bridal chamber. A last minute delay could occur if there was some disagreement over the marriage contract and bridal gifts. In the parable some of the bridesmaids have come prepared for a long wait, while others were not ready.

After the Resurrection, there was at first an enthusiastic expectation that God's final reign was about to dawn. Some members of that first community no doubt expected to be alive for Jesus' final coming in glory. By the time of Matthew's Gospel fifty years have passed and still people are waiting this final coming. Some are prepared for this and they have made an effort to have the necessary resources, while others find the waiting too long and their resources dry up. The Gospel asks me to consider my own resources and what I am doing to ensure that these do not run out, as some of the companions ran out of oil. What resources my faith? Daily personal quiet time with God, joining with others for reflective reading and prayer, being part of a local worshipping community, reading spiritual books, taking time for a retreat day occasionally and setting aside days each year for a retreat, checking out what is being offered at the local Spirituality Centre or taking a short course on some aspect of faith, and most of all, having a close friend I can talk with, about where God is in my life. These are the ways I find that nourish my faith, that provide the 'oil for my lamp'. And yes, this takes some effort – the daily discipline of making time, the yearly determination to set aside some days, keeping an eye out for good reading or good seminars being offered. But without these resources, I suspect like some of the bride's companions I could soon lose sight of my purpose.

The community in Thessalonica was one of the first Christian groups in Europe to be evangelised by Paul. This is an enthusiastic community who have received the Gospel with joy and anticipate that Jesus will be returning to them any day soon. But, as time passes some of the community die and this raises many questions for them. Will those who have died miss out on the joyous grace of Jesus' return? Are they dead forever, and now cut off from Christ? This seems to have been the idea in Matthew's community – Paul's response is to assure the Thessalonians that those who have died will not be disadvantaged. In Paul's thinking, when Jesus returns the dead will rise first. And then those left alive, and Paul includes himself in this group, will somehow join with the risen ones to meet Christ.

Both readings give us a sense of the strong expectation felt by these two early communities, twenty and fifty years after the Easter event. The challenge for us is that the delay of Jesus' return is now two millennia. We have lost that sense of urgency, longing, hope, and joyful preparation.

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.

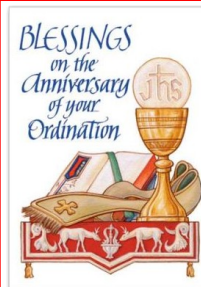
NOVEMBER:

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



2018 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS

For sale at the Piety Stall - \$9.00 each



BLESSINGS FR ANTHONY

Fr Anthony celebrates his 20th Anniversary of his ordination to the Priesthood on Sunday 12 November.

Blessings Fr Anthony on your Special Day!

Best wishes from your parish family!

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.

PIETY STALL

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

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently :

Joan Betts, Maria Patti, Les Grehan, Ian Hockings, Ann Doyle, Delia Heredia

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Doreen Haine, Bill Lim, Molly Mellor

Those who are sick:

Maureen Long, Anne Seymour, Bev O'Brien, Margaret-Mary Hayes, James Elliott, Michelle Toeke, Kahyam Baines, Paul Gaynor, Lorraine Atkinson-McEwen, 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 stagathascenarybook@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.

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

"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.

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

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.

THE LOFT STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

Only few rooms left for 2018 intake.

Affordable accommodation for tertiary students and apprentices in Brisbane. A project of St Paschal's Church.

Must book by 20 November. For further details contact 0468 515 130, 3359 0239

or email theloftsa38@yahoo.com | www.theloftsa.com.au | 38 Ferguson Road, Wavell Heights.

A VOCATION VIEW: We usually put a great amount of preparation into big events like weddings, anniversaries and parties of all kinds. We should prepare much more for the final banquet in the Kingdom of Heaven!

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

5.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

11/12 Nov	Graham Gibson Julie-Anne Gibson	Jeanine Bygott Andrew Douglas	St Agatha's P26 Mass	Life Teen Mass
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18/19 Nov	Jack Williamson Ann Goves	Sr Cecily Foster Aleira Egan	Joseph O'Brien Joseph O'Brien Wilma O'Connell	Life Teen Mass
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COMMUNION MINISTERS:

11/12 Nov	Edward Foley	Paulette Archer	Amrita Moss	Life Teen Mass
18/19 Nov	Deborah Hall	Helen Roberts	<i>Volunteer</i>	Life Teen Mass

ORGANISTS:

11/12 Nov	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	Robyn Cuming / Paul Fiumara	Life Teen Mass
18/19 Nov	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	Jenny McKeon	Life Teen Mass

ALTAR SERVERS:

11/12 Nov	Eve Ryan Claire Ryan	<i>Volunteer/s</i>	Bart Marino Charlotte Shepherd Felicity Shepherd	Caitlin Marshall Ella Shepherd
18/19 Nov	Joe Douglas Lachlan Hinneberg	<i>Volunteer/s</i>	Xavier Coorey Dominic Coorey	Tia Manuel Sharon Mathew

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

12 Nov	<i>No Children's Liturgy - P26 Mass Jane Arkinstall and Mel Ryan</i>
19 Nov	

SANCTUARY CARERS:

18 Nov	Beverley O'Brien
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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.

ST IGNATIUS PARISH TOOWONG

Invitation to attend a weekend of Thanksgiving and farewell for the Jesuits from the Parish at all Parish Masses on the weekend of 25-26 November.

6.00pm Vigil Saturday - St Ignatius Church

7.00am Sunday - St Ignatius Church

8.30am Sunday - Holy Spirit Church

5.00pm - St Ignatius Church / Refreshments after each Mass.

DAILY MASS BOOK 2018 - \$25.00 each

For sale at the Piety Stall.



SCHOOL NEWS

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

All families are invited to attend our annual Christmas Concert at 6.30pm on Friday 24 November in the Presentation Centre. All students will be participating in this fun, community event this year. We will be enjoying traditional Christmas Carols lead by our wonderful teachers' music group "The Lanterns". Our thanks also go to THE CHRISTMAS TREE CO for their provision of a live Christmas tree for the school. A special visitor will also be bringing some extra Christmas cheer, so make sure you stay until the end of the concert.

Our final school assembly will be held on Tuesday 28 November at 2pm. (Please note the earlier starting time).

At this special assembly we will:

- * thank all parents who have supported our school community in so many, various ways. Please come along to assembly if you have volunteered your time and talent throughout the year. We will especially be thanking our members of both the School Board and Parents and Friends Association who may be retiring from their positions at the end of the year.
- * celebrate the hand over of Student Leadership from our current Year 6 students to Year 5.
- * farewell our Year 4 boys and other students who may be exiting the school at the end of the year. This is our traditional "Moving On" celebration.
- * present our donations collected for the Vincent de Paul Christmas Appeal to the local SVDP President.

Peace to you and your family, *Carol Sayers, Principal*

Readings - Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time - 19 November 2017

1st Reading: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30