

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

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - 19th November 2017

Readings

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 20 November: 6.30am

Wednesday 22 November: 9am
Saint Cecilia

Thursday 23 November: 9am

Friday 24 November: 9am
Saints Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions

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 20th

SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish Office

• Monday 20th

Youth Ministry Meeting 6.45pm Parish Office



Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.

Dear Friends,

We all are human beings, but all are different and unique. Sometimes we compare ourselves with others and we feel others are intellectually, emotionally, economically, physically, and spiritually more fit than us. Sometimes we will be disappointed through these unhealthy comparisons. Often we don't think of our good qualities, abilities and blessings of God. We have wealth, health, intelligence and physical fitness... This weekend Jesus tells us a parable of 'Talents'. A land owner decided to go to abroad and he summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them: 'To one he gave five talents, to another two, and the third one he gave 'one' talent - each in proportion to his ability'. Actually this is what we are... and what we have. Therefore, don't compare, be jealous or be disappointed of other's talents... and at the same time we should not pride ourselves on our own talents - everything is the plan, grace and gift of God. Anyway, each one of us has talents; prudently we make use of our talents and use them for ourselves and others.

Intentionally Jesus distributes these talents to different people in different manners. Therefore, there are all types of people in our society or community. It is essential for the smooth and vibrant running of the society. This disparity is not to subdue anybody but to complement. If all people are equal in talents, we don't feel any vitality and life. St. Paul says "If the whole body were just an eye, how could it hear? And if it were only an ear, how could it smell? As it is, however, God put every different part in the body just as he wanted to be. There would not be a body if it were only one part (1 Cor.12: 17-18)". Therefore we all have our unique gifts and talents. When we use them well, we enrich our community. We bring joy to ourselves and others. Let us encourage each other to develop our gifts. Then we will hear our master say: "Well done, good and faithful servants; come and join in my happiness forever".

Fr. Saji

The Wisdom of Pope Francis

This parable urges us to not hide our faith and our belonging to Christ, to not bury the Word of the Gospel, but to make it circulate in our life, in our relationships, in our concrete situations, as a power that undermines, that purifies, that renews. Today, it would be a beautiful gesture if each one of you would open the Gospel at home. The Gospel of St. Matthew 25, 14-30. Read this and meditate it. My talents, my riches, all that God has given to me spiritually, the Word of God; how do I make this grow in others? Or do I just preserve it in a safe?



Clayfield Conversations



Pope Francis has declared that the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time of each year to be World Day of the Poor. Below is a reflection written by Deacon Vince Purcell of the UK for this year's World Day of the Poor.

Love Not in Word but in Deed

This World Day of the Poor Sunday has two focuses. First, it reminds us of the centrality of the Christian act of service, seeking to encounter those experiencing poverty and offering concrete assistance. Second, it encourages us to see the deeper truth of this encounter. The option for the poor includes talking with, and listening to, those who are living in poverty. It is not just thinking that we know what people want or need, but listening to people, sharing in their suffering, being the “voice for the voiceless” when it is not being heard, whilst enabling the voice, the experience, the needs of people to be heard by others in our communities, society, and the world. The theme for today's World Day of the Poor, chosen by Pope Francis, is from St John. Writing in the first century, his challenge remains one for us today: “If anyone is well off in worldly possessions and sees his brother in need but closes his heart to him, how can the love of God be remaining in him? Children, our love must be not just words or mere talk, but something active and genuine.” Our readings, too, challenge us to consider how we respond to those in poverty.

At face value the parable of the Talents is hard to read. It does not feel comfortable that those with riches will be given more, and those with nothing will have even the little taken away. However, if we understand this parable as suggesting that we should seek to get maximum financial returns from our money, we may entirely misunderstand what Jesus was inviting us to think about. The ‘currency’ in the parable is the faithfulness of the first two servants, to use what they have for the happiness of the master. Rather than the twofold and fivefold return, it is the work of the servants that is praised. It is this fruitful service that the master promises to give more to. And to the lazy servant who had ‘nothing’ - no faithfulness - even what he has will be taken away. The currency of the kingdom of heaven is about what we have been given, that can be put to good use. And put to good use, not so that we might get the benefit – but that the harvest might produce an abundance for others. Can we be faithful and use what we have not to build ourselves up, but to reach out to others; not to separate ourselves from them, but to deepen the communion between us?

The third servant could be described in modern language as being “risk averse” – he has decided to hoard his talent rather than seeking to “go outside of himself.” Perhaps the unprofitable, risk averse servant stands for those who seek to water down the radical nature of Jesus' preaching. The homily might, therefore, challenge any tendency towards clinging to former ways of doing things or seeking the kind of false security that results in “the complacent attitude that says: ‘We have always done it this way’”. Perhaps it was this temptation to indifference that overwhelmed the unprofitable servant – the homily might be used to challenge people to become more actively committed to the radical demands that the teaching of Jesus makes upon them. Speaking in 2015, Pope Francis said: “Take a risk! Take a risk. Whoever does not risk does not walk. 'But what if I make a mistake?' Blessed be the Lord! You will make more mistakes if you remain still”. And Pope Francis often appeals for a less “risk averse” Church whose members are prepared to side with the poor and the dispossessed. How do we take a risk in putting our God given gifts at the service of others? Doing this will mean going beyond the comfortable response. Yes, we need to help those in poverty. But how do we truly become one with them? Pope Francis has spoken about wanting a poor Church of the poor. How is our Church not just for those worse off, but also welcoming, including, and standing with them. We are to become one and the same.

Pope Francis says: “We need to let ourselves be evangelised by them... We are called to find Christ in them, to lend our voice to their causes, but also to be their friends, to listen to them, to speak for them and to embrace the mysterious wisdom which God wishes to share with us through them.” This is indeed a demand of our faithfulness.

2018 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS

For sale at the Piety Stall - \$9.00 each

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

With great joy we welcome *Millicent Best, Jarviz Ducao and Iliaria Lanza-Volpe* who will be baptised this weekend.



BREAK OPEN THE WORD

Readers are asked to collect their copy of *Break Open the Word 2018*. Books (with your name on them) are available on table in church foyer.

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 :

Pat Sheeran, Constance Atkinson, Joan Betts, Maria Patti, Les Grehan, Ian Hockings

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Rosemary Ryan, 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 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. 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.

"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.

INVITATION: SOS CHRÉTIENS D'ORIENT AND THE FUTURE OF THE CHRISTIAN MIDDLE EAST.

SOS Chrétiens d'Orient is a French Catholic humanitarian organisation providing essential aid to persecuted Christians in the Middle East. On Tuesday November 28 at the Hanly Room, adjacent to St Stephen's Cathedral, SOS Chretien's d'Orient co-founder, Benjamin Blanchard, will be talking about the condition of Christians in the Middle East and what his organisation is doing to help them. Benjamin spends much of his time working in Syria and Iraq. Also, meet Ora Duffley, a Catholic volunteer who worked with the organisation in Iraq this year. Ora is a finalist in the Archdiocese of Brisbane Volunteer of the Year Awards 2017. Come, hear our story and find out what you can do to help. Join us!

Free parking available in Cathedral car park. Tea, coffee and chat afterwards

FATHER FRANK BRENNAN SJ

You are invited to a lecture by Father Frank Brennan SJ (*Being Catholic in Today's Australia*).

Thursday 23 November | 6.30pm for 7pm at Holy Spirit Church | Harriett Street, Auchenflower
Gold Coin entry (for *Jesuit Mission*) | Followed by light supper.

Frank is a famous Queenslander, Jesuit Priest and presently CEO of *Catholic Social Services Australia*.

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

5.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

18/19 Nov

Jack Williamson
Ann Goves

Anne O'Connor
Aleira Egan

Joseph O'Brien
Joseph O'Brien
Wilma O'Connell

Life Teen Mass

25/26 Nov

Volunteer
Edward Foley

Sr Cecily Foster
Kate O'Neill

Clare Smethurst
Trish Ryan
Jane Arkinstall

Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

18/19 Nov

Deborah Hall

Helen Roberts

Volunteer

Life Teen Mass

25/26 Nov

Ann Goves

Paulette Archer

Christine Iannarella

Life Teen Mass

ORGANISTS:

18/19 Nov

Volunteer

Mark Leung

Jenny McKeon

Life Teen Mass

25/26 Nov

Volunteer

Volunteer

Jenny McKeon

Life Teen Mass

ALTAR SERVERS:

18/19 Nov

Joe Douglas
Lachlan Hinneberg

Volunteer/s

Xavier Coorey
Dominic Coorey

Tia Manuel
Sharon Mathew

25/26 Nov

Ella Shepherd

Daniel Benjamin
Sofia Iannarella

Caitlin Marshall
Alex Oliveri

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

19 Nov

26 Nov

Mel Ryan and Jane Cameron

Susan DeMedici and Eleonora Kowitz

SANCTUARY CARERS:

2 Dec

Victor Podesta



Congratulations to Daniel Mowat and Courtney Bowen who were married this weekend.



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

We welcomed visitors from Brisbane Catholic Education on Friday who joined us to discuss the movement forward that our students have made in all year levels in their literacy. Our goals in reading, writing and spelling for this year have been surpassed and our tracking of each student ensure that every child's progress is reviewed and planned in collaboration between staff and the school's administration. Our special visitors were very impressed with both the culture and academic rigour of our learners and congratulated us on our achievements this year.

Congratulations

On behalf of the Executive Director, Pam Betts and Fr Stephen Bliss ofm, Parish Administrator of the Ipswich Catholic Community, the community of Immaculate Heart Catholic Primary School, we are pleased to announce the appointment of **Mrs Tricia Howard** to the position of Acting Assistant Principal Religious Education, from the commencement of the 2018 academic year.

Tricia is currently teaching at St Agatha's Primary School, Clayfield. She is a well-respected and accomplished educator. We congratulate Tricia on her appointment and look forward to her returning to us in 2019.

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

Readings - Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe - 26 November 2017

1st Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17; 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28; Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46