

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

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

Readings

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 27 November: 6.30am

Wednesday 29 November: 9am

Thursday 30 November: 9am

Saint Andrew

Friday 1 December: 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

NOVEMBER

• **Thursday 30th**

Choir practice 6pm-7pm

DECEMBER

• **Saturday 2nd Sunday 3rd**

Annual Peter's Pence Collection
(retiring collection after all
Masses)

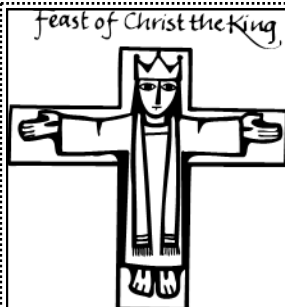
• **Monday 4th**

SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish
Office

• **Wednesday 6th**

Finance Meeting 6pm Parish
Office

"...whatever you did for one of the
least of my brothers, you did for
me" - MATTHEW 25:40



I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me.

Dear Friends,

Friday evening of last week, we celebrated the contribution of all our volunteers who have generously supported the community throughout the last twelve months. Thank you again to all who serve our community in ways small and great, noticed and unnoticed. Our community would be less without your contribution, and so, once again, a heartfelt thank you to all.

Last Sunday, we formerly initiated Nicola Warda into the faith community of the Catholic Church. Nicola has been a regular around our parish for a number of years, in particular with her guidance of our children's choir. Thank you to those who have journeyed with Nicola over the last few months, especially our RCIA team of Trish Hickey, Jill Weld, Donna Howard and Nicola's sponsor, Robyn Cuming. We will continue to accompany Nicola, and her children Josephine and Stephen, as she deepens her connection to the church.

The secular year is fast drawing to a close, but the liturgical year is coming to end much sooner. Today is the last Sunday of the liturgical year. The feast of Christ of the King draws together all that we celebrated throughout the year and reminds us to continue to place our trust in the providence of God.

The Feast of Christ the King is a relatively young feast. It was initiated by Pius XI in 1925 – the period between two world wars. It was really a feast which promoted peace. The way toward peace, Pius XI said, was to allow Christ to reign in our hearts and our relationships. In the gospel, Jesus is clear that the way to promote peace in our heart and peace in our world is through service of others. There is very little room for ambiguity in Jesus' words: "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." Jesus isn't so much interested in our motivations, but in the actual runs we put on the board. In the end, good intentions won't cut it when we stand before Jesus. Now that does give us something to think about with a new liturgical year on the doorstep. *Fr. Anthony*

The Wisdom of Pope Francis

Through his victory, Jesus has opened to us his kingdom. But it is for us to enter into it, beginning with our life now, by being close in concrete ways to our brothers and sisters who ask for bread, clothing, acceptance, solidarity.

If we truly love them, we will be willing to share with them what is most precious to us,

Jesus himself and his Gospel.

Clayfield Conversations

Christian Brother Damien Price is a former teacher in Brisbane schools including St Joseph's, Gregory Terrace; St Patrick's College, Shorncliffe; and St Laurence's College, South Brisbane. He continues to work with schools across the country, and when in town, attends St. Agatha's. Here is part of Br. Damien's story from last week's Catholic Leader.

My Feet of Clay

One of the most sacred moments of my childhood was to wake up in the middle of the night, the lights all on in our Proserpine home, and ambulance bearers quietly taking my wonderful father away on a stretcher. Dad was having a chronic nose-bleed, linked to his poor health and bad nerves. The sacred part was my wonderful mother Zena shuffling along next to Dad, holding his hand. That image of love and commitment has never left me. When I was born, Dad was a patient in Bailey Henderson Mental Hospital in Toowoomba. All his life, my father fought the battle of mental illness; paranoia and depression. The nervous breakdowns of Dad's courageous life broke him in so many ways. He had longed to make a career in journalism, to influence people through Christian writing, to get a doctorate and to own and successfully manage a newspaper. The breakdowns ended that dream and left behind a beautifully gentle man who would ride his bike down Faust Street to the Catholic Church for a "visit" before work; who would volunteer at Meals on Wheels and his beloved St Vincent de Paul Society; who was loved by every "no-hoper" in our small town and who would write hundreds of letters to all sorts of people - his own personal apostolate of spreading the Word of a God who loved us totally and unconditionally.

Leonard Cohen has a beautiful song, Anthem, and in it he reflects, "There is a crack in every-thing - that's how the light gets in." Yes, there is a crack in everything - we all have feet of clay - and, yes, that is gift. I can remember as a young Brother thinking that I had to be perfect and that life was about finding answers to all the questions that tugged at my heart. As time went by, the questions found no answers, new questions came, partial answers teased and, in the midst of all the confusion, I learned that life was not about answers, but about fidelity to the journey. On this journey the day came when I, like my father before me, faced my own battle with mental illness. Looking back, I had had several patches in my life where I had been depressed though at the time I did not name it as such. But the day came when upon taking my seat on a flight from Christchurch to Brisbane, I experienced a panic attack. Slowly, I calmed down, but upon my return to Brisbane I knew I was not well. I could not sleep, I experienced claustrophobia, I was constantly on the edge of tears and I was scared. After several fear-filled days I phoned up a doctor friend of mine and said, "Phil, I am not well." Just below the surface was a fear that I was going to be like Dad with his lifelong struggles with mental illness. My doctor was brilliant, diagnosed an anxiety disorder, explained things simply to me and put me on medication. In the midst of this pain and brokenness a small voice gained strength - a voice that told me "it would be okay". More than that, I was loved totally and unconditionally. This same voice gently tugged at me and whispered an invitation to be gentle with myself, to self-accept, to self-forgive, to celebrate who I am warts and all. On this journey to better health I knew that I did not walk alone. I had a shepherd who called me to green and running water in the midst of my every day.

I had my "Beer Garden God" longing to sit with me and I had God's arms wrapping me, God's eyes loving me, God's smile accepting me and God's feet walking beside me in the brothers and sisters and Earth itself that filled my every day. Dad's mental illness and my feet of clay have led me to savour my heart journey. It is that journey that led me to the writings of theologian Edwina Gateley. Edwina who spent most of her life working with prostitutes on the streets of Chicago knew first-hand the struggles to self-love that the hurt and hurting know. These relationships and these struggles led Edwina to write:

"Let God Love you. Be silent. Be still. Alone. Empty. Before your God.
Say nothing. Ask nothing. Be silent. Be still. Let your God look upon you. That is all.
God knows. God understands. God loves you With an enormous love,
And only wants To look upon you With that love. Quiet. Still. Be. Let your God - Love you."

That was the God shuffling beside Dad, dreaming through Dad's brokenness, cutting me slack and nudging my fragile heart and honouring my feet of clay. Each day is a glorious invitation to allow that God to love me.

2018 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS

For sale at the Piety Stall - \$9.00 each

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets for sale this weekend 25/26 November.
Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

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

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 sympathy, thank you and 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

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Joseph Riba, Rosemary Ryan

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.

CHOSEN - Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2017 - **FOR SALE AT PIETY STALL \$4.00 each**

Based on the Lectionary, the reflections in this handy pocket-sized book aim to help us exploit day-by-day, the richness of the Church's Advent-Christmas experience as we prepare for and celebrate the ground-breaking fact that the eternal Almighty God sent his Son, Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, to live in our world and be our Saviour and Redeemer, Emmanuel - God with us (*Matthew 1:23*).

ANNUAL PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION - next weekend 2/3 December

The Peter's Pence Collection is an annual collection of the Catholic Church around the world. The collection allows the Holy Father to respond to the most needy throughout the world, to offer timely, effective emergency assistance to our suffering brothers and sisters.

This very special collection will be taken up as a retiring collection after all the Masses next weekend.

"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.

Feast of Christ the King - A

A VOCATION VIEW: The Church year ends today. We can proclaim Christ as King because we sense our vocation as being members of Christ's Royal Family, called to serve God and one another. Pray for young people as we prepare for National Year of Youth.

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

5.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

25/26 Nov	<i>Volunteer</i> Edward Foley	Sr Cecily Foster Kate O'Neill	Clare Smethurst Trish Ryan Jane Arkinstall	Life Teen Mass
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2/3 Dec	Marian Nolan Ann Goves	James Robinson <i>Volunteer</i>	Heidi Cooper Ryan Smethurst Michael Crutcher	Life Teen Mass
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COMMUNION MINISTERS:

25/26 Nov	Ann Goves	Paulette Archer	Christine Iannarella	Life Teen Mass
2/3 Dec	Deborah Hall	<i>Volunteer</i>	Julianne Ryan	Life Teen Mass

ORGANISTS:

25/26 Nov	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	Jenny McKeon	Life Teen Mass
2/3 Dec	<i>Volunteer</i>	<i>Volunteer</i>	Robyn Cuming	Life Teen Mass

ALTAR SERVERS:

25/26 Nov	Ella Shepherd		Daniel Benjamin Sofia Iannarella	Caitlin Marshall Alex Oliveri
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2/3 Dec	Billy Crutcher Dash Crutcher	Joe Douglas	Bridget Birchley Milly Ryan	Sophia Lazzarini Max Lazzarini
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CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

26 Nov
3 Dec - 21 Jan 2018
Giulia Coorey and Erin Bledsoe
No Children's Liturgy - School Holidays

SANCTUARY CARERS:

2 Dec Victor Podesta

Most of us are generous when it's convenient for us. We are generous when we have the time or the money.

But, generosity is the opposite of that. It means giving of one's time, money, compassion, forgiveness or mercy when it's not convenient; when it's not on our schedule, but on the other person's schedule.

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.



CHOIR PRACTICE FOR CHRISTMAS

Thursday 30 November 6.00pm - 7.00pm
in the Church. New members welcome

DAILY MASS BOOK 2018

\$25.00 each

For sale at the Piety Stall.

ORGAN CONCERT

Mother of Mercy Parish, Hendra, Northgate and Hamilton is pleased to announce that a new organ has been installed in Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Hendra (OLHC). It is a great joy to have such a wonderful gift from generous donors to the Parish and we therefore wish to thank them and display this beautiful instrument to our community and friends in a concert.

All are invited to attend an organ concert to be held in OLHC, Church after the 5.30pm Mass on Saturday 9 December

ST AGATHA'S PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM - 2018

Reconciliation - *For children in Grade 5*

ENROLMENT WEEKEND: 17/18 February at any of the Masses

Saturday 5.00pm; Sunday 7.00am, 9.00am & 5.30pm

Enrolment forms available from the Parish Office.

1st Rite of Reconciliation: 17 March 4pm & 18 March 4.30pm

For further information call Jane Cameron at the parish office: 3262 2859

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 Chrétiens 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

Readings - First Sunday of Advent (Year B) - 3 December 2017

1st Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8; 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Gospel: Mark 13:33-37