



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. Prem Kumar Rethnamony

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr. B) - 21st January 2018

Readings

1st Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; **2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; **Gospel:** Mark 1:14-20

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 22 January: 6.30am

Wednesday 24 January: 9am

Saint Anthony

Thursday 25 January: 9am

Friday 26 January: 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

JANUARY

• **Monday 22nd**

SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish Office

• **Tuesday 23rd**

School resumes

• **Friday 26th**

Australia Day - Mass 9am

• **Monday 29th**

Youth Ministry Meeting

Parish Office 6.45pm

FEBRUARY

• **Sunday 4th**

St Agatha's Feast Day

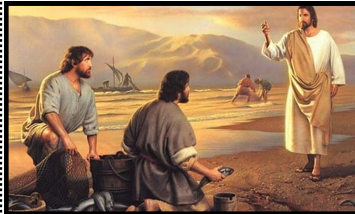
Celebrations - Mass 9am

• **Saturday 10th/Sunday 11th**

Caritas - Project Compassion introduction weekend

• **Sunday 11th**

P26 Mass - 9am



As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea — for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him.

Dear Friends,

I am Fr Prem (which means “Love” in Indian language), from Trivandrum, Kerala, India. I belong to the Syro-Malankara Catholic Church, which was reunited with the universal Catholic Church in 1930. Servant of God Mar Ivanios was the first Archbishop of the Syro-Malankara Rite. At present, His Beatitude Moran Mor Baselios Cardinal Cleemis is the head of the Syro-Malankara Rite, which is an Oriental Church.

I did my seminary studies in St Paul's Seminary, Tiruchirappalli, in Tamil Nadu, and was ordained on 27th December 1984. I was ordained for the Diocese of Marthandam in Kanyakumary District, in the southernmost tip of India, in Tamil Nadu. I speak Tamil, Malayalam and English. Marthandam Diocese, established in 1996, is a Mission Diocese where 60,000 people were received into the Catholic Church over the last 80 years. The new Catholics were economically disadvantaged and had low literacy rates.

I studied a degree in psychology and graduated in social work. As part of my graduate studies, I worked in the Catholic Education Office in Perth in 1994 for 3 months. Those 3 months' exposure changed my outlook and reshaped my personality for my work in the Diocese of Marthandam.

I was appointed as the Director of Social Work and Education in the new diocese. To facilitate economic development, I started 600 Self-Help Groups (SHG) for women, with 20 women in each SHG. This was organised under the Marthandam Integrated Development Society (MIDS). It empowered the women to undertake income-generating activities, create savings, and be more health-conscious, etc.

To motivate the students, I established four colleges namely the Malankara Catholic College in 1996, Kanyakumary Community College, Mar Chrysostom College of Education, and Mar Ephraem College of Engineering and Technology, with graduate degrees and research. Our Cardinal Cleemis asked me to work in the Archdiocese of Brisbane and to look after the Syro-Malankara communities in Brisbane, Perth and Canberra. I worked as associate priest in Jubilee Parish for four months. I am honoured to be here.

Fr. Prem

The Wisdom of Pope Francis

Local communities are sometimes afraid that the newly arrived (migrants) will disturb the established order, will ‘steal’ something they have long laboured to build up. And the newly arrived also have fears: they are afraid of confrontation, judgment, discrimination, failure. Having doubts and fears is not a sin. The sin is to allow these fears to determine our responses, to limit our choices, to compromise respect and generosity, to feed hostility and rejection. The sin is to refuse to encounter the other, the different, the neighbour, when this is in fact a privileged opportunity to encounter the Lord.

Clayfield Conversations

Father Dennis Hamm is a Jesuit priest, spiritual director and professor emeritus of theology at Creighton University (USA). An expert on the Ignatian examen prayer, he was recently interviewed by America magazine on the importance of this spiritual practice.

The Case for Taking up the Ignatian Examen in the New Year

What is an “Ignatian examen of conscience” and why do people pray it?

An Ignatian examen of conscience is any effort a person makes to pray using the method that St. Ignatius of Loyola prescribes in his Spiritual Exercises at number 43, “A Method for Making the General Examination of Conscience.” It contains five points: (1) to give thanks to God for the benefits I have received; (2) to ask for grace to know my sins and rid myself of them; (3) to ask an account of my soul from the hour of rising to the present examen, hour by hour or period by period; first as to thought, then words, then deeds; (4) to ask pardon of God our Lord for my faults, and (5) to resolve, with his grace, to amend them. Close with an Our Father.

How does an Ignatian examen differ from the examination of conscience a Catholic would make before going to confession?

The description in my first answer is clearly the traditional examination of conscience in preparation for confession (the Sacrament of Reconciliation) that many of us grew up with. But notice that for Ignatius this inventory of one’s faults and sins is done in the context of *prayer* from start to finish—prayer of thanksgiving, prayer for self-knowledge, petition for pardon, prayer to do better, and finally the Lord’s Prayer itself. What has developed in the practice of the Ignatian examen during the past 40 years is that some people have taken a cue from the fact that in French and Spanish the word for conscience also can mean consciousness. In French the word is *conscience*, and in Spanish *conciencia*. Whether or not Ignatius meant it that way, the fact that the word for conscience can also mean *consciousness* has encouraged people to pray about the remembered experience of the day in *all* of its dimensions — including, of course, one’s faults and sins, which tend to present themselves whether we are looking for them or not.

Why do people pray it?

I suppose the motives vary for each person. My own motives include the conviction that, along with the special communication of Scripture, God also reaches me through the experience of a given day. So I am glad to recall and relish the memories of the past 24 hours. There is always something to pray about—whether the experience is positive or negative. The prayer confronts me with the reality of my life and gives me something to speak with God about.

What’s the format for an Ignatian examen and how long does it take to pray?

Ignatius’ format is number 43 in his Exercises. My own format improvises on Ignatius’ just a bit, and goes like this:

- *Prayer for light.* This is not daydreaming about the past, but a search for graced understanding;
- *Thanksgiving.* Go through your memory of the past 24 hours looking for things that evoke gratitude to God;
- *Feelings.* Revisit the day again, alert to memories that carry distinct feelings, positive or negative, for these are where the action was, and therefore good starting places for prayer;
- *Focus.* Pick just one of those stronger memories, and speak to the Lord as you are moved;
- *Future.* Face the future, to the extent it is predictable, using your appointment book as a prompt if that helps, and pray about anything that stirs some emotional response, positive or negative.

How long? Give it at least ten minutes, but after that, as long as you have time for.

How might the Ignatian examen continue to be a helpful form of prayer for people today?

Joseph Tetlow, S.J., calls the examen “the most post-modern prayer.” I guess he uses that description because, in this historical moment of conflicting worldviews, change and crises, we have a greater need than ever to process our inner and outer experience in conscious contact with God. What worked in the expansive 16th century still works in the globalizing, greedy and violent 21st.

THANK YOU

St Vincent de Paul Conference Clayfield, would like to thank all the Parishioners and the St Agatha’s Primary School community for their outstanding support with our Christmas Hampers for 2017.

Collectively we distributed hampers to 36 homes. The school community contributed such a generous bounty of hand chosen presents and individual Coles Food vouchers. The first 13 hampers were delivered to groups of families who were especially in need of our support.

The second group of hampers are supplied to other members in our conference area who are in need of a hand up at this time of the year. Many of these individuals were visiting children who do not live with them, so we were able to include items for them to pass on to these family members. Most importantly the food and practical household goodies, and special treats to devour were received with gratitude.

Your wonderful generosity has enabled our group of volunteers to hand out these donations to the appropriate people. We wish you all a very safe 2018 - *St Vincent de Paul, Clayfield.*

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently :

Thérèse McCabe, Maybelle Jirkovsky, Paul Rush, Grove Johnson, Fechine McMorro, Emily DelDot, Emily Pham, Maureen Thorpe, Phillip Eviston

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Restituta Limas, Ismael Limas, Livinia Nimmo, William Nimmo, David Nimmo, John O'Connell, Agnes O'Connell, Fr Francis O'Connell, John O'Brien, Tom McCormack, Philip Collins, Sue McSweeney, Peter Stephenson, Eric O'Hagan, Craig Andrews

Those who are sick:

Maureen Long, Anne Seymour, Bev O'Brien, Margaret-Mary Hayes, James Elliott, 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, 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

PARISH CENTENARY RECOLLECTIONS BOOK – DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

Commemorating our Parish Centenary is all about the people of our Parish, past and present. We need your stories, memories, photographs, snippets, recipes. We will be collecting your contributions at each of the Masses over the next weeks. All contributions are welcome – even if it is only a few lines!

The Book of Parish Recollections will not be the same without YOUR contribution.

Please pass this onto those who have left the Parish – we would love to hear from them too.

The Book Team: stagathascentenarybook@gmail.com

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.

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

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets in our Christmas Raffle.

A total of \$795 was raised.

Our lucky winners were:

Jenny McKeon, Stegalls' family,
Phil Sheedy and Pip!!

Thank you also to our kind parishioner for the donation of the 1st and 2nd prizes



ST AGATHA'S CENTENARY WINE - NOW AVAILABLE!!

If you would like to order a bottle/case of St Agatha's Centenary Wine, please complete order form found on table at the back of the church and email to Parish Office.

LENTEN REFLECTION GROUPS (14 February - 28 March)

"***Blessed + Broken***" is the title of this year's Lenten program. The Lenten reflection group will commence on Wednesday 14 February, 7pm Parish Office, and will continue each Wednesday until 28 March. Please call or email Parish Office if you are interested in attending. Each meeting runs for approx. 80 minutes.



AUSTRALIA DAY - Friday 26 January

Mass will be celebrated at 9.00am.

Followed by morning tea. Parishioners are asked to bring a plate to share.

All welcome!



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

5.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

20/21 Jan

Ann Goves
Katrina Murphy

Anne O'Connor
Volunteer

Trish Ryan
Ryan Smethurst
Jane Arkinstall

Life Teen Mass

27/28 Jan

Graham Gibson
Julie-Anne Gibson

Helen Roberts
Aleira Egan

Heidi Cooper
Michael Crutcher
Eileen Duncan

Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

20/21 Jan

Ann Goves

Helen Roberts

Christine Iannarella

Life Teen Mass

27/28 Jan

Deborah Hall

Volunteer

Volunteer

Life Teen Mass

ORGANISTS:

20/21 Jan

Volunteer

Volunteer

Robyn Cuming

Life Teen Mass

27/28 Jan

Volunteer

Volunteer

Robyn Cuming

Life Teen Mass

ALTAR SERVERS:

9/10 Dec-20/21 Jan *Volunteer/s*

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

27/28 Jan

Ella Shepherd

Joe Douglas

Xavier Coorey

Caitlin Marshall

Dominic Coorey

Alex Oliveri

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

3 Dec - 21 Jan 2018

28 Jan

No Children's Liturgy - School Holidays

SANCTUARY CARERS:

3 Feb

Victor Podesta

**YEAR OF
YOUTH
2018**

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 sympathy, thank you and birthday cards; and various gifts.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help with the St Agatha's Feast Day Celebrations on Sunday 4 February 2018. If you can help in any way, please write your name on the sheet at the back of the Church.

**VOLUNTEER WELCOMER AND GUIDE -
CATHEDRAL OF ST STEPHEN**

Do you enjoy meeting people? Do you love your Cathedral? Do you revel in good art and juicy history? Do we have an opportunity for you! You are invited to talk with us about becoming a volunteer welcomer and guide at the Cathedral of St Stephen. Join us for an information session to be held in the Hanly Room of the Francis Rush Centre on 1 February 2018 from 10.30am-12.30pm. For more information, contact Carmel Devery at the Cathedral office on 3324 3030 or e-mail deveryc@bne.catholic.net.au by 25 January 2018.



PALMS ENCOUNTERS are ethically run group tours that provide participants with authentic, hard to come by experiences. The tours have been carefully designed to give you an insight into the daily life of people of another culture, an understanding of sustainable approaches to reducing poverty, and an insight into the life and work of Palms development volunteers.

We still have **limited places** available for our next trip to **Timor-Leste 11-23 March** if you book by **5pm Thursday 25 January**. Please contact Palms on 02 9560 5333 or see www.palms.org.au/encounters

With great joy we welcome **Jack Caughey** and **Elizabeth Gecks-Preston** who will be baptised this weekend.

Readings - Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time - 28 January 2018

1st Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Gospel: Mark 1:14-20