



# 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

## Fifth Sunday of Lent (Yr. B) - 18<sup>th</sup> March 2018

### Readings

**1st Reading:** Jeremiah 31:31-34; **2nd Reading:** Hebrews 5:7-9; **Gospel:** John 12:20-33

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Monday 19 March:** 6.30am

*Saint Joseph*

**Wednesday 21 March:** 9am

**Thursday 22 March:** 9am

**Friday 23 March:** 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

#### MARCH

##### • Monday 19<sup>th</sup>

SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish Office

##### • Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>

2nd Rite of Reconciliation 7pm

##### • Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>

Lenten Group 7pm Parish Office

##### • Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>

Lenten Group 9.30am Parish Office

Choir Practice 6pm

##### • Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>

Stations of the Cross 8.30am

### CHRISM MASS

Cathedral of St Stephen

**Thursday 22 March 2018**

7.00pm. All welcome.



### "WE WISH TO SEE JESUS"

"We wish to see Jesus." This was the request of the Greeks. They were not saying, "We would like to see the beautiful temple," or "We would like to have an audience with the high priest, Caiaphas." We don't come to church just to see a beautiful building or hear the choir or look at stained glass windows. We come here, saying, as the Greeks did, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Why should we want to see Jesus? There are so many

reasons, but I will list a few here:

**Jesus has the authority to forgive our sins.** Salvation is found in no one but Jesus, the eternal Son of God. It is this Jesus who asked his disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" The answer came by divine revelation: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." It is this Jesus concerning whom the Father said at his baptism, "This is my Son whom I love; with him I am well pleased" (Matt. 3:17). It is this Jesus about whom God spoke again on the Mount of Transfiguration, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased listen to him." That is why we must say with the Greeks, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."

**Jesus is the Messiah.** He made this profound statement to the Samaritan woman in John 4:26 "I who speak to you am he," he told her, meaning, "I am the Messiah." There is no other messiah, no other saviour, no other deliverer. That is why we must say, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."

**Jesus is the living bread.** In John 6:51 Jesus declared, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven," meaning, "I am the living bread for your soul, the one who came down from heaven. Others ate manna in the wilderness and died, but I have come down from heaven as the living Bread to make you alive." So we can say, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus, because he alone is the living Bread."

**Jesus is the resurrection and the life, the beginning and the end.** In John 11:25 Jesus told Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life," meaning eternal life is found in him alone. In Revelation 1:8 the resurrected Christ tells us, "I am the Alpha and the Omega. I am the First and the Last."

**Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life.** He is the only way to the Father.

These are but a few reasons why we should want to see Jesus. What about we? Do we wish to see Jesus? Lenten season is the right time to wish to see Jesus in our life. And if we really see him, our life will change. We will be transformed from a sinner to a saint and brought out of death and darkness into life and light. That is why we wish to see Jesus.

Fr Prem

### The Wisdom of Pope Francis

How truly difficult it is to let ourselves be loved! We would always like a part of us to be freed of the debt of gratitude, while in reality we are completely indebted, because God loved us first and, with love, He saves us completely. Let us now ask the Lord for the grace to know the greatness of his love, which wipes away our every sin. Let us allow ourselves to be purified by love, in order to recognize true love!

## Clayfield Conversations

### PROJECT COMPASSION FOR A JUST FUTURE



*Project Compassion enables us to contribute to creating a better world for others through our weekly giving. Each week during Lent, we will share a story from different parts of the world. This week we meet Ditosa from Mozambique.*

### Ditosa from Mozambique

Ditosa is a young girl from Mozambique who hopes to go to university and become a police officer. Featured in Project Compassion 2013, Ditosa faced a challenging future with food scarcity, little education and few job prospects. Cared for by her grandmother and aunt, after her parents died of AIDS-related illnesses, they also lost their home and livelihoods in severe flooding. Thanks to the support of Project Compassion, Caritas Australia and Caritas Regional Chokwe (CRC) helped Ditosa's family to build a new house and assisted with transport fees, school materials and fees, to help Ditosa to stay at school. Ditosa attended the Matuba Children's Centre daily (set up by Caritas in 2007) which provides vulnerable children, like Ditosa, with lunch, study help, and computer and income-generating skills training. In 2018, Ditosa has graduated from school and is ambitious for the future. "Without the support of the people from Australia and Caritas I would not have been given this opportunity to continue my schooling." Ditosa dreams of going to university to continue studying and secure an even brighter future.

*You may remember that we are supporting a refugee family through MDA's Work and Welcome Program. Bahiya is working in our parish office on Tuesdays until May. Over the coming weeks we will read Bahiya's story which first appeared in The Catholic Leader last week. The story was written by Emily Ng.*

### Syrian Refugee Family Find Happiness in Brisbane (Part 1)



Syrian refugee couple Bahiya and Adnan Al Mhanna lost all their money and nearly their lives in Damascus, but for the first time in years they have something to smile about. The Melkite Catholic married couple along with their two sons are now celebrating their first offer of employment in Australia. The Al Mhanna family were among the 12,000 displaced Syrian and Iraqi refugees welcomed into Australia under the Federal Government's 2015 resettlement agreement. They narrowly escaped several bombings in their home city before finding refuge in Australia in late 2016. Late last year Mrs Al Mhanna, who received a degree in Modern History in Syria, began volunteering for Our Lady Help of Christians School, Hendra, where her two children Emil, 8, and Eilia, 5, attend. Within months principal Margaret Tomov, who has been a pillar of strength for the Syrian family, offered the young mum paid work at the school. "I worked here as a volunteer first, and they gave me the first chance to work here in Australia in the tuckshop," Mrs Al Mhanna said. It's an enormous breakthrough for the Syrian family who are trying to forget the horrific life they left behind. Mrs Al Mhanna said the war zone in Damascus, the capital of Syria, left her "nervous and scared" and fearing for her children's life. "Death followed us everywhere," Mrs Al Mhanna said.

*(To be continued...)*

### SCHOOL NEWS



The St Agatha's Cross Country Carnival will be held at Windsor Park, 78 Grafton Street, Albion, for all students on **Wednesday 28 March**.

On **Thursday 29 March** St Agatha's as a school will celebrate the Passion of Jesus in our annual Holy Week Celebration.



St Agatha's is participating in the Coles Sports for Schools 2018 program. This program gives us the opportunity to earn sports gear just by collecting vouchers from Coles stores across Brisbane.

Please start collecting the vouchers and send them to the school or parish office.



### **CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME - ST AGATHA'S CLAYFIELD**

Have you been away from the Church and you are seeking to reconnect and get an update on your Catholic faith? Perhaps you know someone who has left the Church? or just beginning to worship with us again?

Please invite them to join us for 6 sessions, "Catholics Returning Home",

Mondays from **16 April, 7.30pm to 9pm** at St Agatha's Parish Office 52 Oriel Road.

Please use the **pink** brochures to invite people you know.

For more information, please contact Lisa on 0418 734 147



## *In our prayers we remember*

### *Those whose anniversaries occur about now:*

Francis & Richard Martin, Valma Jones, Gene & Lou Bartels

### *Those who are sick:*

Warwick Jones, Shirley Odenhal, Gordon Hodge, Maureen Long, Anne Seymour, Margaret-Mary Hayes, James Elliott, 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, 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## **CARITAS KITCHEN**

Aggies Youth will be holding another **Caritas Kitchen this Sunday 18 March**. For the price of a donation join us after the 5.30pm Mass for a tasty dinner. This year we would like to experiment with more international cuisine.

If anyone would like to help us cook up some interesting dishes for the night please let me know.

Please contact Anne O'Connor 0419796988 or 32566013. We can make a difference to vulnerable and marginalised people around the world. You can donate on the night or at <https://fundraise.caritas.org.au/fundraisers/aggiesyouth>.



## **FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT**



Ditosa in Mozambique is cared for by her grandmother after her parents died of AIDS-related illnesses. Featured in Project Compassion 2013, aged 12, thanks to Caritas Australia's support, Ditosa has now graduated from school with plans for university.

**Please donate to Project Compassion 2018 and help young women like Ditosa to grow up with an education, confidence and hope, providing them with a just future.**

**A Just Future starts with your support!**

You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

**Envelopes available on the seats.**

**HOLY WEEK MASSES 2018**  
**Monday 26 March** - 6.30am Mass  
**Wednesday 28 March** - 9.00am Mass  
**Holy Thursday 29 March**  
No 9.00am Mass  
7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper  
**Good Friday 30 March**  
10.00am Stations of the Cross  
3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
**Holy Saturday 31 March**  
7.00pm Easter Vigil  
**Easter Sunday 1 April**  
7.00am and 9.00am Mass  
**Please Note: NO 5.30pm Mass**  
**Easter Monday 2 April**  
9.00am Mass

## **ROSTERS FOR EASTER**

We are still in need of readers and Passion readers for Palm Sunday, oil carriers for Holy Thursday, Cup Ministers, Host Ministers and Altar Servers for various Masses. Please see highlighted sections on roster sheets at the back of Church. Thank you.

## **PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPE USERS**

**Please Collect Your New Packet**

Your assistance is appreciated as it saves volunteers giving of their time to personally deliver them. Thank you.



With great joy we welcome **Oliver Poiner, Oscar Poiner, Isabella Maddison and Coco Stanborough** who will be baptised this weekend.

## PARISH ROSTERS

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

**5.00pm**

**7.00am**

**9.00am**

**5.30pm**

### READERS:

17/18 Mar	Katrina Murphy Lauren McMullan	Anne O'Connor Annette Riba	Ryan Smethurst Eileen Duncan Tim Hancock	Life Teen Mass
24/25 Mar	Ann Goves Anne O'Connor	Volunteer Volunteer	Wilma O'Connell Dominic Ryan	Life Teen Mass

### COMMUNION MINISTERS:

17/18 Mar	Deborah Hall	Volunteer	Erin Bledsoe	Life Teen Mass
24/25 Mar	Volunteer	Helen Roberts	Amrita Moss	

### ORGANISTS:

17/18 Mar	Volunteer	Robyn Cuming	Jenny McKeon	Life Teen Mass
24/25 Mar	Volunteer	Volunteer	Robyn Cuming	Life Teen Mass

### ALTAR SERVERS:

17/18 Mar	Eve Ryan Claire Ryan	Volunteer/s	Charlotte Shepherd Felicity Shepherd	Caitlin Marshall Ella Shepherd
24/25 Mar	Lachlan Hinneberg	Volunteer/s	Amelia Marino Joy Kordic	Tia Manuel Sharon Mathew

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

18 Mar		Katrina Murphy & Naoko Leotta
25 Mar		Mel Ryan & Sophia Vangnaitham

### SANCTUARY CARERS:

7 April	Victor Podesta
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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 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month

For bookings and further information, please phone the parish office on 3262 2859.

### **EASTER RAFFLE**

\$2.00 a ticket or 3 tickets for \$5.00.  
Drawn Easter Sunday.



*Congratulations to Angus Halligan  
and Sally Harrison who were married  
this weekend.*

### **CHOIR PRACTICE FOR EASTER**

Thursday 22 March 6.00pm - 7.00pm in  
the Church. New members welcome.

### **OLIVE BRANCHES**

Olive branches or golden cane palms (small to large) are required for Palm Sunday. If you are able to supply any, please deliver to the back of the Church, outside the back door on Friday 23 March.

### **St Agatha's Parish Sacramental Program - 2018 (For all children in Year 4 that have been Confirmed)**

\* \* \* **SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** \* \* \*

**Parent Information Evening: 18th & 19th April, 6.30pm in APAC, St Agatha's School**

(N.B. Parents need only attend 1 of these sessions)

**Rite of Enrolment: 21<sup>st</sup> & 22nd April at any of the Masses**

Mass times: Saturday 5.00pm; Sunday 7.00am, 9.00am & 5.30pm

**First Holy Communion dates: Saturday 26th May at 5.00pm & Sunday 27th May at 9.00am**

**Saturday 2 June at 5.00pm & Sunday 3rd June at 9.00am**

For further information call Jane Cameron at the Parish office: 3262 2859 or email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

### **ST AGATHA'S CENTENARY WINE / MERCHANDISE**

If you would like to order a bottle/case of St Agatha's Centenary Wine or Centenary Merchandise or perhaps order one of our "great" valued packs, please complete order forms found on table at the back of the church and email to Parish Office.

**Readings - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - 25 March 2018**

**1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7; 2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11; Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47**