

# ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

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Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Mellor (ph: 0448 840 040)  
Associate Pastor: Fr. Prem Kumar Rethnamony (ph: 0411 263 390)  
Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosemary Greer Admin. Assistant: Mrs Jane Cameron  
Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 8.30am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-3.30pm  
Friday: 8.30am-12.00pm

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 Amps



## Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr. B) - 16<sup>th</sup> September 2018

### Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:5-9; 2nd Reading: James 2:14-18; Gospel: Mark 8:27-35

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Monday 17 September:** 6.30am  
**Wednesday 19 September:** 9am  
**Thursday 20 September:** 9am  
*Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon,  
Paul Chong Ha-sang and  
companions  
Year 4 Mass*  
**Friday 21 September:** 9am  
*Saint Matthew*

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.00pm  
*(1st Rite of Reconciliation:  
Saturday 4.30pm)*  
Sunday 7.00am  
9.00am  
5.30pm

Rosary before Mass.

### Parish Calendar

#### SEPTEMBER

- **Monday 17<sup>th</sup>**  
SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish Office
- **Monday 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Youth Ministry Meeting 6.45pm  
Parish Office
- **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>**  
Social Justice Sunday



*Jesus asked his disciples,  
"But you, who do you say that I am?"  
Peter answered him,  
"You are the Messiah."*

Dear friends,

Sadly, we come to (almost) the end of our celebrations for our centenary year. It has been a great year of gathering together, sharing memories, enjoying friendships and celebrating in thanksgiving all that God has given us. The Centenary Ball was a joy-filled and very successful conclusion to a busy year. The many and varied celebrations of this year would not have been possible without our hard-working and dedicated centenary committee. They have performed above and beyond the call of duty this year and I would like to acknowledge the efforts of this talented and creative group: Erin Bledsoe, our chair, Mary-Caroline van Paassen, Liz O'Connor, Geraldine Swindells, Julianne Ryan, Amrita Moss, Eileen Duncan, Helen Roberts, Ainsley Crutcher and Cate Barrett. Of course, our parish staff of Rosemary Greer and Jane Cameron have also carried an extra load throughout the course of the year, and I deeply appreciate their constant generosity. This group have been a great joy to work with throughout this hectic year and they deserve a big "thank you" from everyone who has attended and enjoyed any of our celebrations this year. There has also been a great circle of volunteers and generous givers who have supported our centenary events throughout our centenary year. This is especially true of the Ball raffle and many people contributed towards our offerings of great raffle prizes. There will be a full list of winners and "thank yous" next week.

We now look ahead to the continued growth of this parish community in service and mission. We have a number of projects that we are looking to develop in the foreseeable future. The first is the addition of two new circular stained-glass windows where the current air vents are located. We already have some donations towards this project but we also need your support to make this a reality in the near future. Please consider making a donation to support this project which I have no doubt will enhance the beauty of our church. We also need to upgrade our AV equipment which we hope can happen in the not-too-distant future.

In the longer term, we need to update the lighting and electrical wiring of the church and we are also look toward building some form of gathering space for hospitality and meetings. And this lies ahead of us, as we celebrate 100 years since the first Eucharist celebrated in Clayfield on September 20, 1918. Next week, we will have centenary bookmarks available to mark the centenary of the First Eucharist. Make sure that you don't miss out! Thanks again to all for making this such a great year. *Fr. Anthony*



### The Wisdom of Pope Francis

Inner strength, as the work of grace, prevents us from becoming carried away by the violence that is so much a part of life today, because grace defuses vanity and makes possible meekness of heart. The saints do not waste energy complaining about the failings of others; they can hold their tongue before the faults of their brothers and sisters, and avoid the verbal violence that demeans and mistreats others. Saints hesitate to treat others harshly; they consider others better than themselves.

## Clayfield Conversations

Recently, Pope Francis issued a letter addressed to the people of God regarding the continued issues of the sexual abuse crisis. Over the last few weeks, the letter has been published in full in the newsletter. Here is final part.

### Letter of His Holiness Pope Francis to the People of God

... all suffer together with it (continued)



It is always helpful to remember that “in salvation history, the Lord saved one people. We are never completely ourselves unless we belong to a people. That is why no one is saved alone, as an isolated individual. Rather, God draws us to himself, taking into account the complex fabric of interpersonal relationships present in the human community. God wanted to enter into the life and history of a people”. Consequently, the only way that we have to respond to this evil that has darkened so many lives is to experience it as a task regarding all of us as the People of God. This awareness of being part of a people and a shared history will enable us to acknowledge our past sins and mistakes with a penitential openness that can allow us to be renewed from within. Without the active participation of all the Church’s members, everything being done to uproot the culture of abuse in our communities will not be successful in generating the necessary dynamics for sound and realistic change. The penitential dimension of fasting and prayer will help us as God’s People to come before the Lord and our wounded brothers and sisters as sinners imploring forgiveness and the grace of shame and conversion. In this way, we will come up with actions that can generate resources attuned to the Gospel. For “whenever we make the effort to return to the source and to recover the original freshness of the Gospel, new avenues arise, new paths of creativity open up, with different forms of expression, more eloquent signs and words with new meaning for today’s world”.

It is essential that we, as a Church, be able to acknowledge and condemn, with sorrow and shame, the atrocities perpetrated by consecrated persons, clerics, and all those entrusted with the mission of watching over and caring for those most vulnerable. Let us beg forgiveness for our own sins and the sins of others. An awareness of sin helps us to acknowledge the errors, the crimes and the wounds caused in the past and allows us, in the present, to be more open and committed along a journey of renewed conversion.

Likewise, penance and prayer will help us to open our eyes and our hearts to other people’s sufferings and to overcome the thirst for power and possessions that are so often the root of those evils. May fasting and prayer open our ears to the hushed pain felt by children, young people and the disabled. A fasting that can make us hunger and thirst for justice and impel us to walk in the truth, supporting all the judicial measures that may be necessary. A fasting that shakes us up and leads us to be committed in truth and charity with all men and women of good will, and with society in general, to combatting all forms of the abuse of power, sexual abuse and the abuse of conscience. In this way, we can show clearly our calling to be “a sign and instrument of communion with God and of the unity of the entire human race”.

“If one member suffers, all suffer together with it”, said Saint Paul. By an attitude of prayer and penance, we will become attuned as individuals and as a community to this exhortation, so that we may grow in the gift of compassion, in justice, prevention and reparation. Mary chose to stand at the foot of her Son’s cross. She did so unhesitatingly, standing firmly by Jesus’ side. In this way, she reveals the way she lived her entire life. When we experience the desolation caused by these ecclesial wounds, we will do well, with Mary, “to insist more upon prayer”, seeking to grow all the more in love and fidelity to the Church. She, the first of the disciples, teaches all of us as disciples how we are to halt before the sufferings of the innocent, without excuses or cowardice. To look to Mary is to discover the model of a true follower of Christ. May the Holy Spirit grant us the grace of conversion and the interior anointing needed to express before these crimes of abuse our compunction and our resolve courageously to combat them.

FRANCIS, Vatican City, 20 August 2018

### ST RITA'S COLLEGE PANTRY CO-CONVENOR

St Rita's College is seeking applications for the position of Co-Convenor at its Tuckshop – known as The Pantry - responsible for the day to day running and operation until the end of the school year. Competent food preparation and cooking skills for large numbers, stock ordering and control knowledge, as well as a high standard of food hygiene and cleanliness is required. The position is Monday to Friday until 7 December. Interested applicants are asked to contact the College's Manager of Community and Development for the position description. Email: [employment@stritas.qld.edu.au](mailto:employment@stritas.qld.edu.au) or telephone Mrs Anna Roberts on 3862 1615.

## St Agatha's Parish Calendar Art Competition

Submit your artwork to feature in our 2019 calendar

**Theme:** “God is Love” Draw how you see God’s love in action.  
(Some ideas: caring for someone, special moments with family, kindness towards others)

**Categories:** Pre-School-Prep, Year 1-3 & Year 4-6.

4 entries from each category will be chosen & allocated a month each to feature in our 2019 calendar.

**Specifics:** Drawings to be done on **A4 Landscape**.

Please write your Name and Grade on the back of your entry.

Submit all entries to the Parish office by Friday the 14th of September 2018.

## In our prayers we remember



### Those who have died recently :

Elaine Thomas, Vince McCahon, Sr Joan Wynne, Mary Rose Fraser

### Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Glad McBride, Jim Cuming, Bernadette Comerford, Robert Maguire, Frank Maguire

### Those who are sick:

Lorraine Douglas, Alexander Clark, Rosemary Douglas, Danielle Johnson, Warwick Jones, Gordon Hodge, Maureen Long, Anne Seymour, James Elliott, 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, 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

### **CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF TYING THE KNOT**

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 041 7792212.

### **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)

### **GOOD READS FROM ST AGATHA'S PARISH LIBRARY.**

This week we have some new books in our display.

We recommend **GOD IS GOOD FOR YOU**

by Australian journalist Greg Sheridan.

Its subtitle is "a defence of Christianity in troubled times" and it sets out with honesty why Christianity is so vital for the personal and social well-being of the modern world.

### **Our Church, our community. Doing good.**

**Thank you** for your generous support of the Annual Catholic Campaign! Your donation will be carefully spent on the good works of the Church.

Your gift helps educate our future priests, care for elderly priests, ensures children from impoverished families can access Catholic education, and reaches out to our most vulnerable neighbours who live with the heartache of mental illness, domestic violence and social isolation.

Your generosity – great and small – is the answer to someone's prayer.



**2018 ANNUAL  
CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN**  
Our Church • Our Mission • Our Community

There is still time to donate  
[online.catholiccampaign.com.au](http://online.catholiccampaign.com.au) or call 07 3324 3200

When we truly believe that all we have is a gift from God, then we must be willing to give up some things so that we can share our blessings as God intended. Living a stewardship lifestyle means not only being responsible for our own life, but the lives of others as well.

**save the date**

**ST JOHN FISHER COLLEGE**

**ALUMNI**

**Afternoon Tea**

**SATURDAY 13 OCTOBER**

**2 : 0 0 P M – 4 : 0 0 P M**

ST JOHN FISHER COLLEGE  
JOHN FISHER DRIVE  
BRACKEN RIDGE QLD 4017

Our former students, near and far, are making a huge mark on the world. We would like to invite them all to this afternoon tea to meet and share stories with other former Fisher Girls whilst taking a tour of the College.  
Champagne and light refreshments will be served.

**RSVP**

Please email [sjfc@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:sjfc@bne.catholic.edu.au) for more information and to RSVP by 21/9/18  
or visit us on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnfishercollege)

