

# ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

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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 (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-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr. B) - 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Readings  
1st Reading: Numbers 11:25-29; 2nd Reading: James 5:1-6; Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Monday 1 October:** 9.00am  
*Saint Therese of the Child Jesus*  
**Wednesday 3 October:** 9am  
**Thursday 4 October:** 9am  
*Saint Francis of Assisi*  
**Friday 5 October:** 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

#### SEPTEMBER

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> OCT**

• School Holidays

#### OCTOBER

• **Monday 8<sup>th</sup>**

SVDP Meeting 5pm Parish Office

### REMINDER

Monday 1 October  
*(Public Holiday)*  
Mass at 9.00am



*Jesus said, "For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward."*

Dear friends,

This Sunday is Social Justice Sunday. The Australian Catholic Bishops have released a statement on homelessness called, "A Place to Call Home". The latest Census figures show that more than 116,000 Australians are homeless – something unacceptable for a rich and well-resourced nation like ours. Yet these people are only the tip of the iceberg: welfare agencies report growing numbers of families and individuals struggling to meet the cost of mortgages or rents and turning to specialist housing services, which are often unable to meet demand. House prices and even rents are spiralling out of reach of too many families and placing huge financial stress on ordinary people, even when they are employed. For those living on pensions or allowances, finding secure housing can be a far greater challenge – one that often takes a terrible toll on social wellbeing and mental health. The Statement draws on the example of people who have gone out of their way to assist sisters and brothers in great need, of agencies and charities of the Church that have provided shelter, safety and care, and of Pope Francis, who himself has reached out to men and women on the streets of Rome and reminded us forcefully of the rights of people experiencing homelessness around the world. The Bishops consider the extent of our housing crisis and Australia's falling rates of home ownership. They focus especially on those in our society who are most vulnerable to housing insecurity and homelessness. We are reminded that safe and secure housing is a human right, asserted both by the Church's social teaching and by the Declaration of Human Rights. It is the inherent dignity of each brother and sister in need of a place to call home that urges us on to confront the growing challenge of homelessness and housing insecurity in Australia.

As the Social Justice Statement says, "Having a place to call home is essential for personal security, for the stability and flourishing of families, the education of children and the health and wellbeing of each family member. It is the place where friends are welcomed and where the memories of generations are fostered. It is a sanctuary from the stresses and demands of the world as well as the threshold from which we step into society to engage in school, work and community life. A place to call home is indispensable to our sense of self. Without it 'our spirit and identity are adrift, and our capacity for community engagement is weakened'". For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website @ [www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au).  
*Fr. Anthony*

### The Wisdom of Pope Francis

Lack of housing is a grave problem in many parts of the world, both in rural areas and in large cities, since state budgets usually cover only a small portion of the demand. Not only the poor, but many other members of society as well, find it difficult to own a home. Having a home has much to do with a sense of personal dignity and the growth of families.

This is a major issue for human ecology.

## Clayfield Conversations

This year's Social Justice Statement from the Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference focusses our attention on homelessness. Below is an extract.

### A Place to Call Home: Making a Home for Everyone in our Land

Homelessness involves significant social and economic costs not just for those it affects but also for society as a whole. Some studies have estimated the basic cost of a person sleeping on the streets is over \$25,000 per year. Increased investment in emergency accommodation and affordable rental homes can help decrease the immediate and longer-term costs relating to health, human services and policing. It makes economic sense to invest more in homelessness services and affordable and social housing. But the real cost to society relates to the damage done to people's human dignity and the weakening of the community. These costs are far more than financial. In the words of one person who is homeless:

*Homelessness separates you from society because, or you feel, yeah, really you do become separated from society cause you don't live the same as other people. You don't have a home to go to. You don't have something to do with yourself like a job ... your hygiene becomes poor because you don't have access to washing facilities. Your diet, your eating, becomes affected because you don't have access to food the same as you would if you have your own home.*

Homelessness destroys the bonds of solidarity and 'neighbourhood'. Its roots lie in structural injustices – a market that fails to accommodate, policies that distort access to that market, and programs that are failing to address the symptoms of homelessness. We must remember that the difficult circumstances surrounding the homelessness of all of the groups we have just mentioned cannot be treated simply as a collection of individual tragedies that evoke feelings of sympathy. They require a national response that addresses the structural causes of homelessness as a shared social responsibility.

The lawyer who challenged Jesus asked 'who is my neighbour?' If we ask the same question, we will find that the answer includes the tens of thousands of our fellow citizens who are homeless. Their circumstances reveal the state of our community's health, where it is wounded and where it needs to heal. Pope Francis raises the challenge directly in his apostolic exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate*:

*If I encounter a person sleeping outdoors on a cold night, I can view him or her as an annoyance, an idler, an obstacle in my path, a troubling sight, a problem for politicians to sort out, or even a piece of refuse cluttering a public space. Or I can respond with faith and charity, and see in this person a human being with a dignity identical to my own, a creature infinitely loved by the Father, an image of God, a brother or sister redeemed by Jesus Christ.*

Will we assist the person lying by the side of the road or will we pass on the other side?

It is time for Australia to reassert the value of housing as a basic human right. A house is not merely an investment whose value is determined by the laws of supply and demand. Houses are built to become homes. We want to find again the ideal we once prized – that housing for all should be seen as an uncontested public good. Housing is not just one more item on a checklist of what makes a good society. It is fundamental to the wellbeing and equal opportunity of every citizen. Social exclusion is inevitable where secure and affordable housing is lacking.

### **"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.

### **THE HOSPITALLER ORDER OF ST LAZARUS OF JERUSALEM**

an ecumenical order - is holding a function BRUNCH on the GREEN Sunday 7 October 11am-2pm in the grounds of St Augustine's Anglican Church Racecourse Road Ascot. We raise money for charities who are not traditionally government funded. Anyone interested in receiving an invitation could contact Diane Andrews [dachart@bigpond.com.au](mailto:dachart@bigpond.com.au) or phone 0412 529 854

Does your life reflect the life of Jesus? Remember, we were made in His image. We tend to forget this. When others see you, do they see the face of Jesus? When you look at others, do you see the face of Jesus in them?

### **POSITION VACANT – SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR**

Applications are open for a position at the Hendra Catholic Parish. A person with sacramental and liturgical knowledge is required for a casual position of Sacramental Coordinator working across a variety of days during the week and weekends including nights during term time to begin in February 2019.

For additional information, please visit the Archdiocese of Brisbane website <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/> and to careers.

*The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for employees and volunteers to maintain a safe and healthy environment. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children, young people and/or vulnerable adults.*

## In our prayers we remember



### Those who have died recently :

John Ruddy, Brenda Caitlin

### Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Bill Howard, Ken Russell, Henry Weld, Wil Hinson

### Those who are sick:

Val Barrett, 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 0417792212.

### **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.

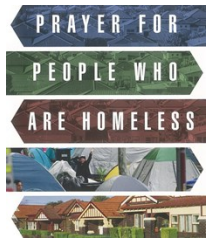
We need your stories, memories, photographs, snippets, recipes. We will be collecting your contributions at each of the Masses over the next weeks. All contributions are welcome – even if it is only a few lines!

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)



### **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

This Sunday 30 September we celebrate Social Justice Sunday. This year, the Australian Bishops' Social Justice Statement is titled: *A Place to Call Home: Making a home for everyone in our land.*

The Statement challenges us all to confront Australia's growing rate of homelessness and unaffordable housing. For further details about the Social Justice Statement, visit the Australian Catholic Social Justice Council website ([www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au](http://www.socialjustice.catholic.org.au)) or call (02) 8306 3499. Statements, prayer cards and brochures can be found at the back of the church.

### **BOOKMARKS**

We have had special bookmarks made up in commemoration of our Centenary Year. Feel free to take one. They are located on the tables at the back of the church.



### **YOU ARE INVITED**

Please join us at one of the Parish Plenary Council discussion groups:

After 9am Mass Sunday 21 October - Parish Office  
Evening 7.00pm Monday 22 October - Parish Office

After 9am Mass Sunday 4 November - Parish Office  
Evening 7.00pm Monday 5 November - Parish Office

Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested in attending one of the discussion groups. At the meeting we will reflect on the future of the Catholic Church in Australia – using the three questions below as a guide:

- \* *What do you think God is asking of us in Australia at this time?*
- \* *What questions do you have about the future of the Church in Australia that you would like the Plenary Council to consider?*
- \* *What stories would you like to share of your experiences of faith or of the Church?*

You are also invited to submit your own responses to these questions online – go to the official website: <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/>

You are welcome to form your own discussion group with family or friends. Please contact the parish office for more information and resources.



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

**5.00pm**

**7.00am**

**9.00am**

**5.30pm**

**READERS:**

29/30 Sept

Eric van der List  
Edward Foley

Mark Burton  
Kirsty Stevens

Eileen Duncan  
Tim Hancock  
Heidi Cooper

Life Teen Mass

6/7 Oct

Jack Williamson  
Ann Goves

Rafael Chase  
Ruby Chase

Don Macpherson  
Lauren McMullan  
Joseph O'Brien

Life Teen Mass

**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

29/30 Sept

Ann Goves

Helen Roberts

Julianne Ryan

Life Teen Mass

6/7 Oct

Volunteer

Volunteer

Christine Iannarella

Life Teen Mass

**"HOME" COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

30 Sept

Tom & Jeannine Treston

7 Oct

Lisa Carter

**ORGANISTS:**

29/30 Sept

Volunteer

Volunteer

Jenny McKeon

Life Teen Mass

6/7 Oct

Volunteer

Volunteer

Jenny McKeon

Life Teen Mass

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

29/30 Sept

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

6/7 Oct

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:**

30 Sept

No Children's Liturgy - School Holidays

7 Oct

No Children's Liturgy - School Holidays

**SANCTUARY CARERS:**

6 Oct

Victor Podesta

"It is true that the primacy belongs to our relationship with God, but we cannot forget that the ultimate criterion on which our lives will be judged is what we have done for others." (GE 104)

- Pope Francis, Apostolic Exhortation *Gaudete et Exsultate* On a Call to Holiness in Today's World

**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.

**ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL**

St Agatha's School Clayfield has limited vacancies in Year 5 for 2019.

Please direct all enquiries to the Enrolment Secretary:

[wkwhite@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:wkwhite@bne.catholic.edu.au)  
or phone: 3326 9222

**PIETY STALL/PARISH LIBRARY**

Variety of items for sale including Rosary Beads, Bracelets, Youth Bibles, Holy Picture Plaques and various cards for birthdays, sympathy and thank you.

Feel free to also browse the lending library before and after Mass. These books are available for LENDING ONLY and NOT for sale.

**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.

**Banyo Nundah Catholic Parish "Fine China Sale".**

Saturday 27 October 10am -3pm and Sunday 28 October 9am -12noon Nolan Hall, Leslie Street, Nundah (next to St Joseph's Primary School). Everyone welcome - \$5 entry includes Devonshire Tea. You may wish to purchase from a selection of crockery, vases, bowls and ornaments for sale. Contact Monica 0411 154 905; Kathleen 0411 419 966



*Congratulations to David Rolfe and Sarah Caporale who will be married this Sunday.*



**Readings - Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - 7 October 2018**

**1st Reading: Genesis 2:18-24; 2nd Reading: Hebrews 2:9-11; Gospel: Mark 10:2-16**