



ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

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 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

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe - 25th November 2018

Readings

1st Reading: Daniel 7:13-14; 2nd Reading: Revelation 1:5-8; Gospel: John 18:33-37

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 26 November: 6.30am
 Wednesday 28 November: 9am
 Thursday 29 November: 9am
 Friday 30 November: 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

DECEMBER

- Monday 3rd
SVPD Meeting 5pm Parish Office
- Friday 7th
End of school Mass 9.15am
- Friday 7th

NO BENEDICTION

Readers please note:
**"BREAK OPEN THE
 WORD 2019"**
 available for collection



*'Are you the king of the Jews?' Pilate asked....
 'It is you who say it,' answered Jesus. 'Yes, I am a king. I was
 born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to
 the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my
 voice.'*

Dear friends,

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. So it is a feast of peace and hope in the future.

It is also the feast that marks the end of one liturgical year and looks towards the start of another. So, in this, Christ the King is like the Church's New Year's Eve. Next Sunday is the beginning of Advent and the start of a new liturgical year. This last Sunday of the Church's year is an invitation to look back over the previous twelve months, look back at our own lives and our world, at everything that has happened – the good and bad, the happy and sad – and see in everything the redeeming presence of Christ.

It is easier to say that Christ is King if the past twelve months has been a happy and satisfying one. It is easier to say that Christ is King if we feel that we have been blessed this year through hard work or good fortune, or our talents have been appreciated and our presence valued. It is much harder to raise our voice in praise if this year has been hard for us; if we have lost someone close to us, if we have battled sickness or pain, if we have been suffering from grief or sorrow or heartache. And in a world that always seems on the brink of crisis of one form or another, are we still confident to say that Christ is, indeed, King? But that's the point.

Christ is King of the world, indeed all creation, as it is – today – not as how we would like to be. Christ is King in the midst of a world that knows suffering and death, sorrow and terror, grief and anguish. Christ is also King in the midst of a world that knows joy and hope, prosperity and abundance, peace and harmony. What we celebrate today is that given the reality of our lives, given everything, given all our failings and our sin, all our blessings and our triumphs, God holds the world firmly in the grip of love. On this day, the Church's New Year's Eve, we proclaim with confidence, "Christ is King!"

Fr. Anthony

The Wisdom of Pope Francis

Dear brothers and sisters, today we proclaim this singular victory, by which Jesus became the King of every age, the Lord of history: with the sole power of love, which is the nature of God, his very life, and which has no end. We joyfully share the splendour of having Jesus as our King: his rule of love transforms sin into grace, death into resurrection, fear into trust. It would mean very little, however, if we believed Jesus was King of the universe, but did not make him Lord of our lives: all this is empty if we do not personally accept Jesus and if we do not also accept his way of being King.

Clayfield Conversations

On 14th October, Pope Francis canonised Archbishop Óscar Romero. Below is an edited article by Paul Elie which explores the relationship between Pope Francis and Óscar Romero. It originally appeared in the November issue of *The Atlantic*.

The Pope and the Martyr

“I implore you, I beg you, I order you, in the name of God: stop the repression!” When the archbishop denounced the military government for its campaign of violence against its opponents—and called on soldiers carrying out the violence to disobey orders—some men in the military decided that it was time to kill him. El Salvador was on the brink of civil war — it was March of 1980 — and the archbishop had made his plea in a Sunday homily broadcast nationwide on the radio. He was asking for trouble; he deserved to be killed. The killing itself was easy. The next day’s newspaper named the chapel where the archbishop would be saying Mass that evening. The archbishop disregarded advice to stay home. The assassins drew lots to determine who would be the gunman. As the archbishop read the Gospel, the assassins pulled up to the chapel. As he raised the consecrated bread and wine, the gunman fired a shot to the heart. Nearly four decades later, Pope Francis has declared Óscar Romero a saint. An archbishop murdered at the altar, in the manner of England’s Thomas Becket, would seem a simple case. But Romero’s path to canonization — at an October ceremony at Saint Peter’s Basilica, in Rome — has been tortuous. More than 100,000 people thronged the cathedral plaza in San Salvador for Romero’s funeral, and yet the papal representative to El Salvador and all but one of the country’s remaining bishops stayed away, cowed by the regime and the Vatican alike. As the murdered man became the face of a “people’s Catholicism” in Latin America — a saint by acclamation — Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI slow-walked the official canonization process, precisely because of what the archbishop represented.

For the Catholic left, Romero’s assassination is as epochal as Martin Luther King Jr.’s, and his canonization — long awaited — is apt. At a moment when bishops in the United States and around the world are being called to account for their criminal cover-up of priestly sexual abuse, Óscar Romero stands in stark contrast as a bishop who strove to be holy by being accountable—a voice for the voiceless rather than for the Church and its patrons. To celebrate Romero, the Church has to address unholy episodes in its past—episodes as troubling, in their own way, as the current sexual-abuse scandal. The canonization also forces us to consider Francis in a different light — as a figure scarred by Latin American politics and his own encounter with fear and violence, compromise and complicity.

On one level, the canonization represents a wrong finally righted. On another, it is an occasion for Francis to confront the darkness of the late 1970s — the struggles he faced, the decisions he made. There is no one right way for religious leaders to challenge repressive governments in every circumstance. Francis is now taking a conciliatory approach with China, for example, remaining quiet on human rights in order to gain space for the Church to operate there. And outspokenness, for its part, is not guaranteed to bring results. But this canonization marks a real change: The Vatican has legitimated Romero’s way of denunciation and confrontation, recognizing that it is not the path of a reckless maverick.

Pope Francis, greeting pilgrims from El Salvador in the fall of 2015, went off script to speak candidly about Romero’s posthumous ordeal, making clear that he laid the blame for the long delay not on Central American despots but on princes of the Church, whom he placed among Romero’s persecutors: “He was defamed, slandered, soiled — that is, his martyrdom continued even by his brothers in the priesthood and in the episcopate.” He went on to lament that the same posthumous fate had been suffered by Rutilio Grande, the Jesuit organizer of poor agricultural workers whose murder in 1977 prompted Romero to commit his life to social justice. Asked once about prospects for Romero’s canonization, Francis had said, “Yes, yes, yes ... And right after that comes Rutilio Grande.” Typically, a candidate for sainthood must be associated with miracles. Francis responded to that notion in a brief encounter with Grande’s biographer two years later. He said, “Rutilio Grande’s great miracle is Óscar Romero.”



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.

FAREWELL MORNING TEA Sadly we are having to say our goodbyes to Fr Anthony who has been appointed the Dean of St Stephen’s Cathedral. We will be holding a farewell morning tea after the 9am Mass on Sunday 9 December. All welcome.



In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently :

Lucia Turrisi, Tessa Jones, Sr Gemma Moore, Sr Rosa MacGinley, Anne Crowley, Phil Auer, Robert Burton, Lyliane Poupardin, Angela Reilly

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Dr Vincent Halsall, Joseph Riba, Rosemary Ryan, Jennifer Leutenegger, Alan Leutenegger, Max Leutenegger

Those who are sick:

Harrison (Harry) Wiseman, Bryan Weaver, 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, Mel Purwo, Hellen Passente

Reminder to let us know when names are no longer required to be shown on the sick list.

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 stagathaweddings@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: stagathacentenarybook@gmail.com

CENTENARY MERCHANDISE SPRING SALE - Make this Christmas a little merrier

Wine, Sparkling or Port \$20 a bottle | Hessian bags \$10 | Tea towels \$10 | Shopping lists \$2
Pens \$1.50 | Keyrings \$2.50 | Fridge magnets \$1.50 | or a combo of pen, keyring, fridge magnet \$5
Order forms are available at the back of the Church. Please complete and email or drop off to the Parish Office.



SAVIOUR Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2018 **FOR SALE AT PIETY STALL \$4.00 each**

This year's reflection book, *Saviour*, provides an opportunity for us to be still each day, listen to God and hear him declare to us as the angel declared to the shepherds:

"Today in the town of David a *Saviour* has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11).

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Tickets \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Raffle drawn Sunday 23 December.



With great joy we welcome *Eva Borggaard*, *Eve MacKenzie*, *Jonty Van Niekerk* and *Lawrence Wallace* who will be baptised this weekend.

PARISH OFFICE will close at 12.00pm on Wednesday 12 December.

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR CLOSURE The Parish Office will be closed from 12pm Friday 21 December and will re-open 8.30am Monday 7 January 2019.

PLenary COUNCIL 2020 Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

The last time the Catholic Church in Australia held a Plenary Council was in 1937. It has been more than 80 years since we gathered all of the Church together and much has changed. In 2020, we will have a Plenary Council about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia.

What are we called to do? Who are we called to be? How do we need to change?

The journey toward the Plenary Council will help us to prepare to listen to God

by listening to one another. We invite all people to engage, to be a part of the listening and dialogue encounter in the next two years. <http://plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au>



Plenary Council 2020
Listen to what the Spirit is saying...

2019 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS For sale at the Piety Stall \$9.00 each



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

5.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

24/25 Nov

Jenny Close
Edward Foley

Annaliese Beckmann
Jeanine Bygott

Amrita Moss
Wilma O'Connell
Dominic Ryan

Life Teen Mass

1/2 Dec

Graham Gibson
Julie-Anne Gibson

Nick Eden
Dianne Eden

Lauren McMullan
Trish Ryan
Clare Smethurst

Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

24/25 Nov

Volunteer

Volunteer

Julianne Ryan

Life Teen Mass

1/2 Dec

Ann Goves

Paulette Archer

Amrita Moss

Life Teen Mass

"HOME" COMMUNION MINISTERS:

25 Nov

Georgia Allan

2 Dec

Lisa Carter

ORGANISTS:

24/25 Nov

Volunteer

Josephine Warda

Robyn Cuming

Life Teen Mass

1/2 Dec

Volunteer

Volunteer

Robyn Cuming

Life Teen Mas

ALTAR SERVERS:

24/25 Nov

Xavier Coorey
Dominic Coorey

Joseph Douglas

Bart Marino Cebulski
Amelia Marino Cebulski

Tia Manuel
Sharon Mathew

1/2 Dec

Ella Shepherd

Lachlan Hinneberg

Sophia Perkins
Amelia Marino Cebulski

Caitlin Marshall
Alex Oliveri

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

25 Nov

Mel Ryan & Erin Bledsoe

2 Dec

Jane Cameron & Julia Cochrane

SANCTUARY CARERS:

1 Dec

Victor Podesta

ST AGATHA'S SVDP CHRISTMAS APPEAL Envelopes will be available next weekend 1/2 December

BAPTISMS

We celebrate baptisms 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 29 December 6.00pm - 7.00pm in the Church. New members welcome

ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL PREP SIBLINGS ENROLMENTS FOR 2020

If you have a *sibling* child born between 1/7/14 - 30/6/15, they are eligible to commence Prep in 2020. The enrolment process for Prep 2020 commences at the beginning of 2019. 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 2020 please register online.

CHRISTMAS VIGIL - MONDAY 24 DECEMBER 6PM

It's that time of year again where we are seeking any interest from the parish children to play the role of *Mary and Joseph* at our Vigil Mass. If you are aged 9-13 years old and would like to be in the running, please ask mum or dad to email (clayfield@bnc.catholic.net.au) so your name can be placed in the draw. You can also write your name on the sheet provided at the back of the Church. The names will be drawn out of a hat and the lucky pair will be notified in the week before Christmas. We would also like to invite all children (no age restrictions) to come dressed as **shepherds or angels** to take part in the opening procession, no need to notify us, just turn up on the 24th.

ST AGATHA'S GIVING TREE - 2018 At Christmas time we may be overindulged with food and presents whilst many go without basic necessities. The Giving Tree is loaded with gift ideas which will help bring a smile to others on Christmas Day. You are encouraged to take a tag and return the gift and leave it at the base of the tree. Gifts to be in by **Sunday 16 December**, as members of St Vincent de Paul will be collecting the gifts and distributing them for Christmas. If you will be away for Christmas, and would like to donate any non-perishable gifts please leave them at the Parish Office.



Readings - First Sunday of Advent (Year C) - 2 December 2018

1st Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16; 2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2; Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 34-36