



ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

52 ORIEL RD CLAYFIELD Q 4011

Phone: 3262 2859 After Hours Emergency Pager: 3835 9885
E-mail: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au Website: www.clayfieldparish.org.au
Facebook: facebook.com/St. Agatha's Catholic Parish Clayfield
Aggies Youth: facebook.com/aggiesyouth

Parish Administrator: Fr. Kevin Smith
Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosemary Greer
Family and Sacramental Ministry: 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) lsr.clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au
St. Agatha's Catholic Primary School 6 Hunter Lane Clayfield Qld 4011. Phone: 3326 9222
School Principal: Ms Anne-Marie Maw **ACTING APRE:** Mrs Thea Cowdroy-Ling
Outside School Hours Care Coordinator: Roxanne Grogan

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A) - 22 December 2019

Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14, 2nd Reading: Romans 1:1-7; Gospel: Matthew 1:23

WEEKDAY MASSES

No 6.30am Mass on Monday
See Christmas Mass times below
Thursday 26 December 9am
Friday 27 December 9am

WEEKEND MASSES

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

Parish Calendar

JANUARY 2020

Monday 6

* Parish Office reopens 8.30am
* SVDP Meeting 5pm
Parish Office

A VOCATION VIEW: Vocations from God are not always clear. Not all of us are like Joseph who had an angel appear to him saying: "Take Mary as your wife, and fear not." However, God still speaks – "Do not be afraid."



Psychology helps identify some guidelines for making better choices about whom to trust than relying simply on intuition. These include: don't act impulsively - take time to think; beware being pressurised; be careful of people who move too fast in relationships; ask yourself what you know about the person; be holistic - use both your emotions and your brain, your intuition and your experience of the world. In other words: take time to ensure that your trust is well placed.

At first glance, King Ahaz seems to be a good man who has complete trust in God; he refuses to ask for a sign: "I will not put the Lord to the test." In fact the reverse is true. Ahaz proves himself to be an evil king. Faced with invasion and imminent defeat, Ahaz turns away from the true God to worship pagan gods, even instigating child sacrifice to appease them. Ahaz doesn't want to put his trust in the Lord God and he definitely doesn't want a sign, because if the sign comes true, Ahaz will have no choice but to admit his mistake and turn back to the Lord. However, God promises a sign anyway: a maiden who is with child. And the child himself will be a sign of the very thing that Ahaz rejects: that the Lord is with his people.

Joseph also has to make a decision about whom to trust. Will he trust Mary, his betrothed? Will he believe the fantastical claim that though still a virgin she is pregnant and that this is God's doing? Joseph also has to decide whether to trust his dream in which God's angel gives him a message that harks back to that ancient promise of God of Ahaz, that the child will be the fulfilment of God's promise to be with the people. The Gospel doesn't tell us explicitly how Joseph makes the decision to trust Mary and to trust his dream. But clearly it has to involve a process of combining his intuition and his experience both of Mary and of God. Ultimately, of course, Joseph has to trust himself and his ability to listen both to his heart and his head.

Like Joseph, we can listen to the still, quiet voice of the God who speaks to our better self in the silence of our dreams and our hopes - the God who quietly yet persistently invites us to live our lives in hope and confidence, rather than insecurity and fear. To genuinely trust God - to believe that God is with us - has the most profound consequence for our lives and for our community.

Congratulations to Kristal Meekings who this weekend is received into full communion with the Catholic Church, is confirmed and shares Holy Communion for the first time. This will occur at the 5.30 Sunday Mass. Kristal was baptised in the Anglican church and there formed in her Christian faith. Her long association with Catholic Education has opened her life to the Holy Spirit who has now called her to continue her faith journey in the Catholic Church. To everyone who has been associated with her journey from baptism until today we give thanks to God. I pray every blessing to you Kristal and to all who are dear to you over these wonderful days.

God bless,
Fr Kevin

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2019

Tuesday 24 December
6.00pm Vigil Mass
with carols from 5.30pm

Midnight Mass
with carols from 11.30pm

Wednesday 25 December
8.00am Mass only

Clayfield Conversations

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)

Scriptural context

Today's first reading is from the prophet Isaiah and contains the prophecy that is quoted in the gospel passage. The book of Isaiah was written at a time when the people of Israel were under threat and had once again fallen away from their covenant with God. Isaiah's prophecy is one of the 'Messiah' prophecies but despite the future-focus is a promise to the people of the time that God-is-with-us. The promise is that God-is-with-us now, despite the conditions we find ourselves in, and God-will-be-with-us in the future when God's Messiah is born of a young woman.

Living the Gospel – Advent

Emmanuel; God-is-with-us – that's what we celebrate through Christmas and that's what we've been preparing for during Advent. We celebrate God-with-us in a particular time and place through our celebration of the birth of Jesus. But we remember it every year because we also use the Christmas celebration to remind ourselves that God continues to be with us. That is what is so remarkable about the Christmas season: that God-is-with-us **now**, not just in a stable in Palestine so many years ago, but now! Advent is the time to remind ourselves of this **incredible** truth and prepare ourselves to acknowledge it once again.....Liturgy Help



St Agatha's
Parish School, Clayfield

OPEN DAY

Friday 6th March, 2020 • 8.45am - 10.30am

6 Hunter Lane, Clayfield Q 4011 | P 3326 9222 | www.stagathasclayfield.qld.edu.au
R.S.V.P. by Friday 28th February pclayfield@bne.catholic.edu.au

 School tours are available	 Assembly will be held at 8.45am in the Presentation Centre	 Visit classrooms from Prep to Year 6
 Meet the Principal Ms Anne-Marie Maw	 Light refreshments will be served during the Open Day	 School choir will perform

St Agatha's School Clayfield has limited vacancies in Year 6 for 2020.

Please direct all enquiries to the Enrolment Secretary:

wkwhite@bne.catholic.edu.au or phone: 3326 9222

St Agatha's School Clayfield PREP 2021

If you have a child born between 1/7/15 – 30/6/16, they are eligible to commence Prep in 2021.

All enrolment applications are now submitted online via our school website www.stagathasclayfield.qld.edu.au

Please note only completed applications will be considered for a place in Prep 2021.

Non Sibling applications close for Prep 2021 on 13 March 2020 and interviews will take place for Non Siblings in April 2020.

Sibling applications close for Prep 2021 on Thursday 9 April and interviews will take place for Siblings in May 2020.

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the bushfire appeal on the 24 November. We raised \$409.00 to assist the St. Rita's girls with their fundraising efforts. They also collected goods for Christmas hampers.

***HAPPY CHRISTMAS
FROM AGGIES YOUTH***



March 2020
Prav for Zimbabwe
World Day of Prayer

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER | St Mark's Anglican Church
Cnr Bonney Avenue and Bellevue Terrace Clayfield Friday 6 March
2020 10.00am. Everyone welcome



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish, Coorparoo invites applications for the part-time position of Finance Officer

(10 hours per week : 6 hours one day and four the next)
For a copy of the position description and to apply for this position, please visit the below link. Applications should include the name of two (2) referees one of which preferably should be a Parish Priest.

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/careers/>

Applications close Wednesday 8 January 2020.

The Archdiocese of Brisbane has standards of conduct for workers to maintain a safe and healthy environment for children. Our commitment to these standards requires that we conduct working with children checks and background referencing for all persons who will engage in direct and regular involvement with children and young people (0 - 18 years) and/or vulnerable adults. The organisation is fully committed to child safety and has a 0 tolerance to abuse of children or vulnerable adults.

DATE CLAIMER Caritas Kitchen

Sunday
29 March 2020
following the
5.30pm Mass

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

will be drawn this
Sunday 22 December
9am Mass

NOTE FROM AGGIES YOUTH

Through January we will take a holiday break from serving suppers and snacks after the 5.30pm Mass. Our next supper will be on Sunday 2 February. See you in the New Year!

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

Sammy Power, Brian McGrath, Jenni Mole, Mathew Ready, Margaret Murphy, John Morahan, Carmel See, Chris Graham

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Grazia Russo, Denise Clifford, Peter Turnbull, Eve Turnbull, Noel Turnbull, Dell Murphy, Stan McKenzie, Sid Tynan, Brad Tarrant, John McHugh, Douglas Munt

Those who are sick:

Duncan Pegg, Charlie Richards, Noreen Martin, Kateri Byrnes, Vireda Akhil, Dhirend Akhil, Patrick (Paddy) Ryan, Nick Newton, Eugene Gaynor, Lauren Carney, Patricia Beveridge, Janice Lewis, Michael Blanchard, Colleen Smythe, Flynn Crowley, Lyndell Sawyer, Ray Pavey, Michael Cashman, Donald Morrisson, Joseph Tam, Bryan Weaver, Alexander Clark, Rosemary Douglas, Danielle Johnson, Gordon Hodge, Maureen Long, 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, Regina Hwan, Deanne Du Bour, Melissa Waka, Agnes Tam, Kerri Smith, Mel Purwo, Patrick Gallagher, Hellen Passente

DATE CLAIMER!!!!!!

St Agatha' Feast Day Mass & Celebrations

Sunday 9 February 9am Mass followed by a Family Fun Day at the Presentation Centre, St Agatha's School.

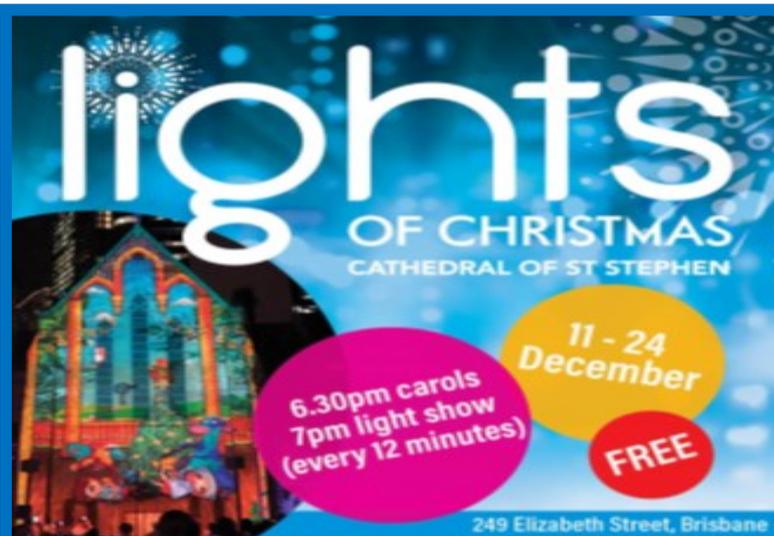
Cost: \$15 per family or \$5 per person.
Coffee & Tea purchased from Coffee Van.

Food, Fun and entertainment provided.

RSVP by 2 February 2020 via link:

<https://www.trybooking.com/BGUII>

For any enquiries, please contact the parish office on 3262 2859 or email clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au



ROSTERS FOR CHRISTMAS

Still a few spots left on our rosters.

If you are available to help out please fill in the sheets on the clipboard near the Sacristy.

We need Communion Ministers and Altar Servers.

ST VINNIE'S IN ACTION

St Agatha's SVDP recently made a considerable donation to Charleville SVDP to assist with drought relief by paying bills for graziers in the town. This way, both the farmer and the town businesses are assisted.

- * You can assist local families in need this Christmas by providing goods for hampers - for needed items, please take some tags from the Christmas tree
- * Immediate impact for people in our area: please give generously to St Vinnie's Christmas appeal. Online or via envelopes supplied in the church
- * Bushfire Appeal: please donate online to provide food, clothing, essential items and grocery vouchers for people who have lost everything. Join the team and join in the good works! Please contact the office (3262 2859) to register your interest or come along to our next meeting on Monday 6 January 2020, 5pm at the parish office.

PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR CLOSURE

The Parish Office will re-open 8.30am Monday 6 January 2020.



LIFE TEEN MASS EVERY SUNDAY 5.30PM

Join our talented musicians at this celebration of the Eucharist, where youth and young adults are invited to minister to each other. If you would like to help with music or singing just talk to the musicians.

Phone Anne O'Connor: 3256 6013 or 0419796988.

Visit Aggies Youth: [https://](https://www.facebook.com/aggiesyouth)

www.facebook.com/aggiesyouth

Next supper will be held on Sunday 2 February 2020

ST AGATHA'S OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE CLAYFIELD

Before School Care 6.45am - 8.45am After School Care 2.45pm - 6.00pm
Vacation Care 7.00am - 6.00pm

Phone 07 3326 9208

Email clayfieldoshc@catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au



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

5.00pm

7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

READERS:

21/22 Dec

Jack Williamson
Ann Goves

Andrew Douglas
Anne O'Connor

Jane Arkinstall
Ryan Smethurst

Life Teen Mass

28/29 Dec

Kirsty Stevens
Sr Cecily Foster

Tim Hancock

Life Teen Mass

COMMUNION MINISTERS:

21/22 Dec

Christine Iannarella

Paulette Archer

Life Teen Mass

28/29 Dec

Ann Goves

Life Teen Mass

"HOME" COMMUNION MINISTERS:

22 Dec

Karen Birtles

29 Dec

Lisa Carter

ORGANISTS:

21/22 Dec

Robyn Cuming

Life Teen Mass

28/29 Dec

Jenny McKeon

ALTAR SERVERS:

Until 26/27 Jan

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

Volunteer/s

CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

22 Dec - 9 Feb 2020

No Children's Liturgy



BAPTISMS at St Agatha's are celebrated on the 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. For bookings and further information, please phone the parish office on 3262 2859.

SVDP meetings are held every second Monday at 5pm (except Public Holidays).

New members are always welcome. Any enquiries phone John 0408 985 709. Next meeting Monday 6 January 2020

SVDP CLOTHING BIN

located behind the Church with easy access.



Every 1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday of each month during school term, a small team of us conduct Children's Liturgy during the 9am Mass. We are seeking more volunteers to

assist with this very rewarding ministry particularly if you have small children of your own. You would take on role as assistant only and move to leader only if you feel confident to do so. Please contact the Parish Office for any further details.

Our parish has implemented the Archdiocesan Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults policy. We are committed to high standards of recruitment, screening and selection of all of our employees and volunteers and undertake intentional strategies to maintain a safe and healthy ministry environment for all.

ST GERARD'S CHRISTMAS

nightly to 23 December Including New Carols by Candlelight Outdoors 21 December at 7pm with Renata and Paradise City Band. Massive Light Display, Gift Shop and Op Shop, Coffee Shop, BBQ. Free Musical Entertainment every night. See website for schedule (www.olaparishchermside.org.au) 146 Maundrell Terrace,

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Available for sale at the Piety Stall Packet of 8 for \$5.00



POLICY STATEMENT

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded by all.



THE WAY

Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2019 for sale at the Piety Stall \$4.00 each

2020 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS

Columban Calendars are now available and for sale at the Piety Stall for \$9.00 each.

Readings - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (Year A) - 29 December 2019
1st Reading: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14, 2nd Reading: Colossians 3:12-21; Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23