




# 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](mailto: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

## Third Sunday of Advent (Year A) - 15 December 2019

Readings

1st Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10; 2nd Reading: James 5:7-10; Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**NO 6.30am Mass on Monday**  
Wednesday 18 December 9am  
Thursday 19 December 9am  
Friday 20 December 9am

### WEEKEND MASSES

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

### Parish Calendar

#### DECEMBER

Parish Office Closed:  
Friday 20 December 12pm  
Reopens Monday 6 January  
8.30am

#### JANUARY

**Monday 6**  
SVDP Meeting 5pm  
Parish Office

#### Individual Reconciliation

Wednesday 18 December 9.30am  
Thursday 19 December 9.30am  
Friday 20 December 9.30am  
Saturday 21 December 10.00am

#### 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



On this third Sunday of Advent each year, John the Baptist features in the Gospel; only in Year A, however, do we encounter John in prison, near the end of his life. He has heard of the things that Jesus has done and said. John knows his life is likely to end very soon on the command of Herod, so he wants to make sure he has not been mistaken in identifying Jesus as the awaited one. He sends his disciples to ask Jesus, "Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?"

Jesus' answer is that to see the signs of God requires noticing what is all around. Jesus tells John's disciples to tell their master what they had seen and heard, the signs of the messianic age: "the blind see...the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor". There is one more statement that Jesus makes about the signs he has produced to show the kingdom of God is at hand. He says, "happy is the [one] who does not lose faith in me". Does this refer to John? Is John wavering now that his life is in danger? Perhaps it is more likely that Jesus is describing John as the one who is most likely to see the signs of the Messiah's presence.

Those who go back to John will need to do more than tell what they have seen and heard. They must describe with conviction the signs they have seen indicating that the kingdom of God is at hand. So why did people not see these signs? Isaiah spoke of people who "Hear and hear again, but do not understand; see and see again, but do not perceive." John clearly doesn't come into that category. He is the one of whom Jesus says, "happy is the [one] who does not lose faith in me".

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Congratulations to Brooke Gordon who is formally welcomed into the RCIA through the Rite of Acceptance. This will take place at the 9.00am Mass this weekend.

This ceremony also invites the Parish to encourage Brooke with our prayers and example as her preparation for the Sacraments of Initiation continues. We support her family as well and thank them for the faith they share with us and one another.

God Bless  
Fr Kevin Smith

# Clayfield Conversations

Third Sunday of Advent (Year A)

## Scriptural context – John the Baptist

Jesus is not recorded as asking the messengers about John's wellbeing. He doesn't appear to express any concern about John's imprisonment. Yet Jesus must have felt this situation very deeply. John the Baptist and Jesus were related; they were cousins. The depth of his feeling is reflected when Jesus speaks so positively and powerfully about John. It reads almost as a eulogy that might be given at a funeral; praising the greatness of the deceased. Yet regardless of John's greatness, Jesus assures his audience that even the least in the kingdom is greater than John.

## Living the Gospel – Gaudete!

The third Sunday of Advent was traditionally known as Gaudete Sunday. The word, gaudete, (pronounced gow-day-tay) is from Latin and means *Rejoice!* The name was given to this Sunday because the entrance antiphon for the day is: 'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.' When Advent was observed as a more penitential season, this third Sunday was a break from the sombre mood and was more celebratory. The rose-coloured candle in the Advent wreath and rose-coloured vestments convey a mood of joy and celebration....*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](http://www.stagathasclayfield.qld.edu.au)  
R.S.V.P. by Friday 28th February [pclayfield@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pclayfield@bne.catholic.edu.au)

 <p>School tours are available</p>	 <p>Assembly will be held at 8.45am in the Presentation Centre</p>	 <p>Visit classrooms from Prep to Year 6</p>
 <p>Meet the Principal Ms Anne-Marie Maw</p>	 <p>Friday 6 March 8.45am-10.30am</p>	 <p>School choir will perform</p>
 <p>Light refreshments will be served during the Open Day</p>		

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](mailto: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](http://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.



With great joy we welcome **William Cotter & Miles Quinn** who will be baptised this weekend.

A VOCATION VIEW: "As your models in suffering hardships and in patience, friend, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord." (James 5:10) A vocation is responding to the call of God.



March 2020  
Pray 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



**DATE CLAIMER**  
**Caritas Kitchen**  
Sunday 29 March 2020  
following the 5.30pm Mass

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

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**  
Tickets  
\$2 each or 3 for \$5.  
Drawn  
Sunday 22  
December  
9.00am Mass  
Last chance this weekend (14/15)  
to get your lucky

## 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](mailto:clayfieldoshc@catholicearlyedcare.qld.edu.au)



## In our prayers we remember



### Those who have died recently:

Mathew Ready, Margaret Murphy, John Morahan

### Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Douglas Munt, Gene Frendo, Camie Ashton

### 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, Carmel See, Regina Hwan, Deanne Du Bour, Melissa Waka, Agnes Tam, Kerri Smith, Mel Purwo, Patrick Gallagher, Hellen Passente

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

### **ST AGATHA'S SVDP CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

will be conducted up to and including  
**this weekend 14/15 December.**

The Conference visits people in a large area from Pinkenba to Bowen Hills.

Assistance is provided for families and single people seeking food, clothing, furniture, and financial help. All donations will be gratefully appreciated. **Appeal envelopes** are available on the church seats.

If making a donation by cheque, make payable to "St Agatha's Clayfield SVDP Conference".

Thank you.

### **ST AGATHA'S GIVING TREE - 2019**

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 **this Sunday 15 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.

### **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 Readers, 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 23 December 5pm at the parish office.

### **PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR CLOSURE**

The Parish Office will be closed from 12pm Friday 20 December and will re-open 8.30am Monday 6 January 2020.

## **ST AGATHA'S FEAST DAY MASS & CELEBRATIONS**

**SUNDAY 9th February 2020**

Mass at 9am followed by  
a Family Fun Day

at the Presentation Centre, St. Agatha's School

Entry Cost: \$15 per family / \$5 per person  
Coffee & Tea can be purchased via coffee van.  
RSVP & pay by 2nd February 2020 via the link:  
<https://www.trybooking.com/BGUIJ>

For any enquiries contact the parish office 3262 2859  
or email: [clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au)

### **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://www.facebook.com/aggiesyouth>

Join us for refreshments after the 5.30pm Mass this Sunday 15 December.



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

**5.00pm**

**7.00am**

**9.00am**

**5.30pm**

**READERS:**

14/15 Dec	Katrina Murphy Ann Goves	Annette Riba	Luke Sutton Clare Smethurst	Life Teen Mass
21/22 Dec	Jack Williamson Ann Goves	Andrew Douglas Anne O'Connor	Jane Arkinstall Ryan Smethurst	Life Teen Mass

**COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

14/15 Dec	Edward Foley	Paulette Archer		Life Teen Mass
21/22 Dec	Christine Iannarella	Paulette Archer		Life Teen Mas

**“HOME” COMMUNION MINISTERS:**

15 Dec	Tom and Jeannine Treston
22 Dec	Karen Birtles

**ORGANISTS:**

14/15 Dec		Mark Leung	Jenny McKeon	Life Teen Mass
21/22 Dec			Robyn Cuming	Life Teen Mass

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

14/15 Dec	Volunteer/s	Volunteer/s	Volunteer/s	Volunteer/s
Until 26/27 Jan 2020				

**CHILDREN’S LITURGY:**

15 Dec	Jane Cameron and Ewan McPherson
22 Dec - 9 Feb 2020	No Children’s Liturgy



**BAPTISMS** at St Agatha’s are celebrated 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.

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 23 December

**SVDP CLOTHING BIN**  
located behind the Church with easy access.

**Plenary Council Prayer**

*Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.  
Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.*

*O God, bless and unite all your people in Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the Plenary Council.*

*Give us the grace to see your face in one another and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.*

*Give us the courage to tell our stories and to speak boldly of your truth.*

*Give us ears to listen humbly to each other and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.*

*Lead your Church into a hope-filled future, that we may live the joy of the Gospel.*

*Through Jesus Christ our Lord, bread for the journey from age to age.*

Amen.

*Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.  
St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.*



**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](http://www.olaparishchermside.org.au))  
146 Maundrell Terrace,  
Chermside West.



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



**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.