



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. Biju Thomas
Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosemary Greer
Family and Sacramental Ministry: Mrs Jane Cameron
Community & Mission Council Chair: Mrs Mary-Caroline van Paassen
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

APRE: Mr Jake Knowles

Outside School Hours Care Coordinator: Roxanne Grogan

Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year A) - 28/29 March 2020

Readings

1st Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14; 2nd Reading: Romans 8:8-11; Gospel: John 11:1-45

Dear Friends,

Due to the upgraded restrictions from the Government in response to the Covid-19 virus pandemic, and after clear directives from the Archdiocese of Brisbane, ALL masses and liturgies (on weekends and weekdays) have been suspended until further notice.

Church will remain closed...

Our church buildings will remain closed during this time. Office hours and the availability of office staff will remain unchanged until otherwise notified.

Sacramental Program...

The Parish Sacramental Program for Confirmation and First Holy Communion will be postponed until further notice.

However, we ask that all families who have children wishing to celebrate these sacraments to still register their interest with the parish office so that we can remain in contact with you and inform you of the new dates when it is appropriate to do so.

Understandably, these new directives will drastically impact our observance of Holy Week and Easter. We will continue to update everyone on what the Parish will offer during this most holy season of the Church's liturgical year. The Archdiocese will also assist us with this.

Let us share parish contact

If you know of someone who is not already on our mailing list to receive digital updates please invite them to contact our parish office (3262 2859 or clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au) with their email address or encourage them to follow us on Facebook.

Care and Concern

Our Care and Concern Ministry is now activated and a "Parish buddy" system has been set up to look out for our elderly and most vulnerable. The idea is for a buddy to take charge of making phone contact with a parishioner to keep that connection and sense of community going over the coming months. If you know of anyone that would benefit from our program or you would like to be a buddy, please contact Jane at the Parish Office 3262 2859.

In the case of an emergency please contact the Parish Office (during office hours) 3262 2859; clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au or contact Fr Biju 0470 212 502; email: thomasb@bne.catholic.net.au.

Archdiocesan Mailing List

If you would like to stay up to date with the latest news, subscribe to the Archdiocesan mailing list at <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/news-events/mailling-list/>

Please continue to pray and support each other during this difficult time.

Blessings of peace and grace

Fr Biju



THE MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP OF BRISBANE

23 March 2020

TO THE PASTORS AND PEOPLE OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE

On Sunday night the Federal Government suspended all non-essential gatherings for an initial 4 weeks to reduce the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and to give the community time to understand fully social distancing requirements. The ruling applies from noon Monday (23 March).

The ruling includes a suspension of *all religious gatherings, places of worship or funerals (in enclosed spaces and other than very small groups and where the 1 person per 4 square metre rule applies)*.

Therefore, all parishes in the Archdiocese of Brisbane are required to suspend with immediate effect all Masses, including weekday Masses.

Parish churches should close immediately until further notice. Mass will not be celebrated publicly; nor will there be other celebrations such as Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Stations of the Cross. However, the Cathedral of St Stephen will for the time being remain open for private prayer, with the current restrictions and precautions applying. This is because, in a way not possible for parish churches, the Cathedral is able to ensure a supply of the necessary cleaning materials and the staff to ensure that the space and its furnishings are properly cleaned on a regular basis. It is also a symbolic way, at the heart of the city, of pointing to the necessity of prayer at a time when prayer is more needed than ever.

Funerals

Funerals should be a private event strictly limited in size and in line with Queensland Health guidelines. The 4 square meter rule shall be adhered to and social distancing of 1.5 metres observed throughout. If you need advice in this matter please contact aomail@bne.catholic.net.au. *(Please note that as of midnight Wednesday 25 March, weddings are a maximum of 5 people including the couple, two witnesses and the celebrant and funerals are a maximum of 10 people, as per the Prime Minister's announcement).*

Other Sacraments

The Sacrament of Reconciliation should not be celebrated until further notice. The Holy See has given permission for the celebration of the Third Rite in exceptional circumstances which are unlikely to apply in this country. Approval should be sought from me or Bishop Howell for any proposed celebration of the Third Rite.

Baptism and weddings should be delayed if at all possible. If these celebrations need to proceed, attendance should again be strictly limited, with the 4 square metre rule and social distancing of 1.5 metres observed in line with the advice I gave last week.

First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Communion should be postponed until the pandemic is over.

Other events

All other parish events, both outdoor and indoor, should be cancelled. This would include events such as outdoor Stations of the Cross on Good Friday.

Meetings should be conducted by phone or skype wherever possible, and where held in person, need to be conducted in line with the 4 square metre rule and social distancing of 1.5 metres throughout.

In days to come, I will provide Archdiocesan directives for the celebration of Holy Week, which will be based upon the guidelines already produced by the Holy See.

The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference is submitting to the Holy See texts for a Mass in Time of Pandemic, which we hope to have approved in the near future.

Amen.

As always in the Lord,

Mark Coleridge Archbishop of Brisbane

LET US PRAY

O God, healer of all our ills,
to whom we turn in this time of distress,
grant, we pray in the power of faith,
eternal rest to the dead and comfort to those who mourn,
health to the sick and peace to the dying,
strength to medical workers, wisdom to our leaders
and a spirit of kindness to us all.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, Amen
one God, for ever and ever. Amen

Planned Giving COVID-19 Style

With the prospect of our Church being closed for some months we would appreciate your ongoing support which is still very much needed to cover the running costs of the Parish, Church, Presbytery and grounds. Call into the Parish Office to collect your envelopes, Monday to Thursday 8.30am-3.30pm or Friday 8.30am to 12pm. Your options are then to drop your planned giving envelopes through the slot next to the presbytery front door (on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis). These envelopes begin on 04/04/2020, so please discard any old/outdated envelopes.

Direct Debit

If you wish to contribute via Direct Debit, please contact Rosemary at the parish office on 3262 2859 or email clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au. Fr Biju

Little White Books

Six-minute reflections on the Sunday Gospels of Easter (Year A), The Little White Books are available for sale at \$4.00 each. If you would like a copy for yourself or know of someone who would appreciate a copy, please call into the Parish office. EFTPOS available.

Watch Holy Mass live

Follow these instructions to watch Masses from St Stephens Cathedral.

The weekday Mass will be streamed live at 12.30 pm and Sunday 10 am Mass will be live streamed.

1

Turn on your device

Make sure your computer, iPad / tablet or smart phone is connected to the internet.

2

Open your internet browser

Google Chrome, Safari, Internet Explorer, Firefox, or whatever you usually use to surf the web.

3

Go to our website:

archbne.org/bzw

4

Watch Mass live

Click the play button on the video on this page

You can also watch archived Masses on the webpage

archbne.org/bzw

when there is no Mass being shown live



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To stay up to date with news from the Archdiocese follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/archbne
www.brisbanecatholic.org.au

In our prayers we remember

Those who are sick:

Edward Chan, Duncan Pegg, Charlie Richards, Noreen Martin, Kateri Byrnes, 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

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

Watch Mass online

Join us online for Mass broadcast live from St Stephen's Cathedral 12.30pm weekdays, 8am and 10am Sunday at www.archbne.org/bzw. You can also watch an earlier Mass recorded on the same website.

Read the latest news from The Catholic Leader

The online edition of The Catholic Leader newspaper will be extended to all parishioners for free during this time. Keep faith with the Leader at www.catholicleader.com.au.

Get the latest social media updates

Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/archbne and follow us on Instagram @archbne

Receive inspiration in your inbox

Sign up to receive regular emails, including two-minute homilies, daily readings and updates from the Archdiocese by visiting archbne.org/dwlk

Keep in touch with your parish

Your parish is here to support you. You can find full parish contact details at archbne.org/qbw

Support your parish

Our faith will sustain us through challenging times. Please keep helping your parish community by continuing your weekly offering via direct debit. Call the Archdiocesan Development Fund at 07 3324-3777 to find out how.



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**For more information on how to stay healthy and help stop the spread of COVID-19:
Go to www.health.gov.au or call the national hotline on 1800 020 080.**

Catholic Leader

Please find below a message from the Editor regarding The Catholic Leader's response to the COVID-19 pandemic:

"In these unprecedented times, The Catholic Leader has decided to share our news for free.

With the recent announcement to suspend all Sunday and Saturday vigil Masses until further notice, you, our readers, will be unable to buy The Catholic Leader at parishes on weekends. So, we are making our digital newspaper free at our website, catholicleader.com.au.

This digital newspaper will be free for readers to access until parishes reopen across the Brisbane archdiocese. It is our commitment to ensure that everybody has access to stories of connection, inspiration, and faith.

We will also have up-to-date daily news published on our website and shared to our social media channels, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. We will strive to maintain our reputation as a truthful, Catholic news service for leaders locally, across the province and beyond.

Thank you for helping us to share the Good News and we pray that all Catholics who feel disconnected will find hope, purpose, and renewed faith from our content."

Fifth Sunday of Lent

The raising of Lazarus is the focus of the gospel reading today. Jesus shows us that God has the power to draw life from death. Death has no ultimate power over believers, because Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

