



ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

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*Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time
23 August 2020*

An Important Sacrament in our Christian life

During this weekend, we have two sessions for the children preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation guided by Lorraine Wynn in the school presentation space. This year 75 children are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. During these days let us remember them all in our prayers. I specially thank Jane Cameron, the sacramental coordinator for her great effort to bring the children together.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is a sacrament instituted by Christ and it is administered by the laying-on of hands and anointing with chrism oil accompanied by prayer. The chrism oil is blessed by the bishop and the bishop administers the sacrament.

The Bishop can also 'delegate' his apostolic authority to perform the Sacrament of Confirmation to the local priest who is then able to administer the sacrament without the bishop having to be present.

Confirmation deepens our baptismal life. Through Confirmation, our personal relationship with Christ is strengthened. We ask the Father to give the Holy Spirit to deepen our faith.

We believe that the Sacrament of Confirmation was established by Jesus Christ on Pentecost when he breathed the Holy Spirit onto the Apostles to strengthen them in their evangelization.

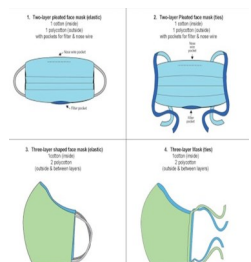
In the scripture, in various places we read about the Sacrament of Confirmation. In the Acts of the Apostles we read about Philip baptising many in Samaria (Acts 8:4-40), and then Apostles Peter and John rushing to Samaria to confirm the newly baptised with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

So the Sacrament of Confirmation is established by Jesus, recorded in scripture and administered by the ordained authority of Bishops during Apostolic times just as today.

This year, since our Archbishop is not able to be present for the Sacrament of Confirmation, he has delegated Fr Gerard Hefferen and Fr Biju to administer the sacrament. The sacrament of confirmation is so important and let us all help the children through our prayer and support for its reception with full heart and mind.

Face masks made by St Agatha's

A couple of parish ladies are making reusable face masks to raise money for the parish. They will be on sale after each Mass in the undercover area outside the Church. A big thank you to Jenny Close who took care of this initiative. You can view the styles online at : <https://photos.app.goo.gl/pY8EpCqqcYuxcfde6> and order by contacting Jenny : jeclose18@gmail.com



Why do we go to Holy Mass on week days...?

We are so blessed to have Holy Mass every weekend as well as weekdays. But to keep up this fortune we need the support of all parishioners, therefore, let us try to participate in the weekday Holy Mass also whenever we can.

On days we attend Mass, our participation in the Liturgy will be the most important of our actions. At Mass, we worship, adore, and thank God, ask forgiveness for our sins, and pray for others. We unite ourselves with the priest in the Sacrifice of the Mass and offer God our lives, prayers and works, thus actively participating in the Liturgy. There is something very special about participating at a weekday Mass: it changes our day, sanctifies it, unites us with Jesus and the Church, and reminds us that we belong to God.

Let us always remember that it is an important factor to have daily Holy Mass on weekdays to keep the parish alive. According to our ability and availability, I welcome you to attend the weekday Mass.

Praying with Body, Mind and heart...

In the celebration of Mass, we raise our hearts and minds to God. We are creatures of body as well as spirit, so our prayer is not confined to our minds and hearts. It is expressed by our bodies as well. When our bodies are engaged in our prayer, we pray with our whole person.

During Mass we assume different postures and we are also invited to make a variety of gestures. They have profound meaning and, when done with understanding, can enhance our participation in the Mass.

STANDING

Standing is a sign of respect and honour. It is also understood as the stance of those who have risen with Christ and seek the things that are above. When we stand for prayer, we assume our full stature before God, not in pride but in humble gratitude for the marvellous things God has done in creating and redeeming each one of us.



STANDING
Nehemiah 9:5;
Mark 11:25; Luke 18:13

KNEELING

In the early Church, kneeling signified penance. And also this posture has come to signify adoration, especially before the presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

SITTING

Sitting is the posture of listening and meditation, so the congregation sits for the pre-Gospel readings and the homily and may also sit for the period of meditation following Communion.

All should strive to assume a seated posture during the Mass that is attentive rather than merely at rest.

PROCESSIONS

Every procession in the Liturgy is a sign of the pilgrim Church, on their way to the Heavenly Jerusalem. The Mass begins with the procession of the priest and ministers to the altar. The gifts of bread and wine are brought forward to the altar. Members of the assembly come forward in procession—eagerly, attentively, and devoutly—to receive Holy Communion.

MAKING THE SIGN OF THE CROSS

We begin and end Mass by marking ourselves with the Sign of the Cross. Because it was by his death on the Cross that Christ redeemed humankind, we trace the Sign of the Cross on our foreheads, lips, and hearts at the beginning of the Gospel, praying that the Word of God may be always in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.

BOWING

Bowing signifies reverence, respect, and gratitude. In the Creed we bow at the words that commemorate the Incarnation. We also bow as a sign of reverence before we receive Communion.

GENUFLECTING

As a sign of adoration, we genuflect by bringing our right knee to the floor. Many people also make the Sign of the Cross as they bend their knee. Traditionally, we genuflect on entering and leaving church if the Blessed Sacrament is present in the sanctuary of the Church.

ORANS

The priest frequently uses this ancient prayer posture, extending his hands to his sides, slightly elevated. Orans means “praying.” When we recite ‘our Father’, we used to extend our hands as its praying gesture.



WITH UPLIFTED HANDS
2 Chronicles 6:12-13; Psalm 63:4;
1 Timothy 2:8

In our prayers we remember

Those who have died recently:

Rev Fr Humphrey Joseph McGeehan,
Simon Sparkes, Antonina Letizia Flint,

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Pam McBride, Hugh McBride, Lew & Arthur
Brumpton, Elizabeth Griffin

And those who are unwell:

Shelley Winter, Muriel Moran, Anthony Menezes,
Margot Gooding, Duncan Pegg, Charlie Richards, Noreen
Martin, Kateri Byrnes, Dhirend Akhil, Patrick (Paddy)
Ryan, Nick Newton, 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, El Purwo, Patrick
Gallagher, Hellen Passente.

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

Parish Diary

August

Saturday	22	Confirmation Workshop
Sunday	23	Confirmation Workshop
Monday	31	Practice for Confirmation

September

Tuesday	1	Practice for Confirmation
Wed	2	Practice for Confirmation
Thursday	3	Practice for Confirmation

Sacrament of Confirmation

September

Monday	7	6pm
Tuesday	8	6pm
Wednesday	9	6pm
Thursday	10	6pm

THANK YOU...

Thank you so much for your generous contribu-
tions to the church. The offerings last weekend 8/9
August:

1st Collection \$572.40 2nd Collection \$525.00;
Loose \$195.40

Mass Intentions

When you offer Mass intentions, if you
have any preferred dates, please mention the
date. According to availability, your
intention will be offered on the preferred
date.

PROSTRATING

A posture of deep humility, it signifies our willingness to share in Christ's death so as to share in his Resurrection. It is used at the beginning of the Celebration of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday and also in the Rite of Ordination, when those to be ordained deacons, priests, and bishops prostrate themselves in humble prayer and submission to Christ.



SINGING

Singing together in church expresses so well the sacramental presence of God to his people. As we raise our voices as one in the prayers, dialogues, and chants of the Mass, as well as the other hymns and songs, we each lend our individual voices to the great hymn of praise and thanksgiving to the Triune God.

PRAYING IN UNISON

In the Mass, the worshiping assembly prays in one voice, speaking or singing together the words of the prayers. By saying the same words at the same time, we act as what we truly are—one Body united in Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism.

BEING SILENT

We gather in silence, taking time to separate ourselves from the concerns of the world and enter into the sacred action. We reflect on the readings in silence.

When we stand, kneel, sit, bow, and sign ourselves in common action, we give unambiguous witness that we are indeed the Body of Christ, united in body, mind, and voice.



We give praise and thanks for blessings given and prayers answered.

We pray for all our family members, parishioners and benefactors who are in need of prayer
and for all those who are facing difficult times.

Readings - Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 30 August 2020

1st Reading: Jer 20:7-9; 2nd Reading: Romans 12:1-2, Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27

New monthly roster

Thankyou so much to all of those who have volunteered to read over the past few months. We would now like to draft up a readers roster to cover all Masses until Christmas. If you would like to be added to the roster, please write your name in the attached form. For those who have been in contact with the office this week, it is not necessary for you to fill in form.

RCIA program in St Agatha

The RCIA journey will begin again in September. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is the process for people to both enter the Catholic Church and complete the Sacraments of Initiation as adults.

Have you (or someone you know) expressed an interest in becoming Catholic – or in receiving the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist? Or do you simply want to learn more about your faith?

If so, we offer an opportunity to gather in a small group to explore faith together. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. Our RCIA coordinator is Dr Jenny Close.

For information please contact: The parish office: Ph 3262 2859, E-mail clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS



1 COMMUNION UNDER ONE KIND

In those parishes (schools) where Communion is distributed under both kinds, the practice of distributing the precious blood will cease except for the celebrant only.



2 COMMUNION IN THE HAND

Given that one of the easiest ways to transmit a virus is by the transmission of saliva, Communion will be received only in the hand.



3 NO HOLY WATER

Holy water should be removed from stoops at the doors of Churches.



4 NO TOUCH AT SIGN OF PEACE

Clergy and parishioners should not touch each other by shaking hands at the kiss of peace. A nod or a smile is appropriate with the words "Peace be with you".



5 MINISTERS WASH HANDS

All ministers of Holy Communion (both ordinary and extraordinary) are to wash their hands with soap and hot water or alcohol-based sanitiser before distribution of Holy Communion.



6 IF SICK, STAY HOME

People who are sick with flu like symptoms are to stay at home and not come to Mass until their sickness passes.

We welcome you back to be part of the celebrations...

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.00pm
Sunday 7.00am
9.00am
5.30pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 9.00am
Tuesday 9.00am
Wednesday 9.00am
Friday 9.00am

Due to the complexities and restrictions in place, a booking system has been set up. The "Trybooking" link is: <https://www.trybooking.com/BKFQD>.

Please sign-in when you enter.

Parish Administration

Parish Administrator: Fr. Biju Thomas
Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosemary Greer
Family and Sacramental Ministry: Mrs Jane Cameron
Finance Council Chair: Jodi Sutton
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
Phone: 3262 2859, after hours: 0470 212 502
Facebook: facebook.com/St. Agatha's Catholic Parish Clayfield
Aggies Youth: facebook.com/aggiesyouth

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