



ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

52 Oriel Rd Clayfield Q 4011

Phone: 3262 2859 After Hours Emergency: 0470 212 502 (Fr. Biju Thomas)

E-mail: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au Website: www.clayfieldparish.org.au

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday: 8.30am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-3.30pm, Friday: 8.30am-12.00pm

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, 6/7 February 2021

Feast of St Agatha

Our Parish Heavenly Patroness

St. Agatha is a virgin-martyr of the early Church. From her very early years, the notably beautiful Agatha dedicated her life to God. She became a consecrated virgin, a state in life where young women choose to remain celibate and give themselves wholly to Jesus and the Church in a life of prayer and service. That did not stop men from desiring her and making unwanted advances toward her.

However, one of the men who desired Agatha, whose name was Quintianus, a high diplomatic ranking, forced her to turn away from her vow and marry. He tortured her to possible death, but she simply reaffirmed her belief in God by praying: "Jesus Christ, Lord of all, you see my heart, you know my desires. Possess all that I am. I am your sheep: make me worthy to overcome the devil." With tears falling from her eyes, she prayed for courage.

To force her to change her mind, Quintianus had her imprisoned - in a brothel. But she never lost her confidence in God, even in her long suffering and pain. Quintianus heard of her calm strength and during her interrogation, she told him that to be a servant of Jesus Christ was her true freedom.

Again, Quintianus ordered her to be tortured. He had her stretched on a rack to be torn with iron hooks, burned with torches, and whipped. Noticing Agatha was enduring all the torture with a sense of cheer, he commanded further torture.

He then sent her back to prison with an order of no food or medical attention. But the Lord gave her all the care she needed. He was her Sacred Physician and protector. Agatha had a vision of the apostle, St. Peter, who comforted her and healed her wounds through his prayers.

After four days, Quintianus ignored the miraculous cure of her wounds. When she was returned to prison, Agatha prayed, "Lord, my Creator, you have ever protected me from the cradle; you have taken me from the love of the world, and given me patience to suffer: receive now my soul."

This sadly was the reality for many back in those days, to endure such horrific suffering through what we would consider today to be archaic methods of torture. I know this is hard to read but I wanted to share the truth of what St Agatha sacrificed for her faith. For all her suffering she is known as the patron saint of Sicily, bell founders, breast cancer patients, Palermo, rape victims and wet nurses. She is also considered to be a powerful intercessor when people suffer from fires.

St. Agatha pray for the Parish Community...



Your safety is always our first priority and we need to keep everyone COVID-safe

Our Patron Saint

St Agatha is the Patron Saint for Breast Cancer sufferers.

Today we acknowledge the pain and suffering she endured during her life. We ask that St Agatha watch over all those who have suffered and survived breast cancer and for those who have lost their lives. We pray for the families and carers of sufferers who provide invaluable, much needed care and support to loved ones.

As part of today's festivities we will be holding a cake/craft stall and raffling off a basket of goodies at our family event following today's service, with all proceeds to be donated to the McGrath Foundation. Thank you for your support.

Via Sacra

Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday during Lent after the 9am Mass (there will be no adoration during Lent)

Finance Council meeting

The Finance Council meeting was held on Tuesday 2nd February, discussing various finance matters of the parish. The council approved to update the projector for the PowerPoint, repair the sound system, and to install more storage space for the parish office. The Council reviewed the monthly balance sheet and the parish annual budget.

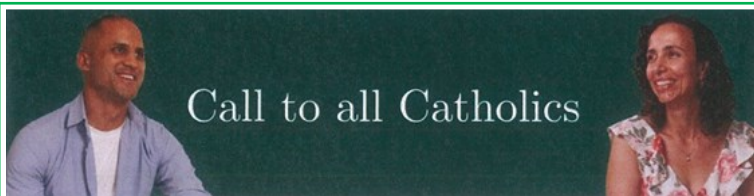
The Council also decided to use **the parish giving Mobile app for the Sunday Collections**. The community can also continue to use the planned giving envelopes, direct debit and online transfer for their offerings.

The Council was thanked for organising the **renovations of the O'Connell centre for the after school care**. We are receiving more admissions for children. It is also an income for the parish.

Word of God Sunday

The Church in Australia will celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February each year, starting with February 7 in 2021. Pope Francis last year instituted the celebration when issuing the apostolic letter *Aperuit Illis*. The letter encouraged the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God.

Lenten Studies The 2021 Lenten program, is a six session resource for groups or individuals. It provides a process for reflection and discussion on the Sunday Scriptures during Lent. Please contact the parish office if you would like to join or lead these discussions.



Who the campaign is for:

You may have already begun to see or hear advertising on billboards, the radio, and social media encouraging the 700,000+ Catholics in this region to think about what it means to be a Baptised Catholic.

All Catholics, with a particular focus on the 90% of Catholics who for whatever reason do not regularly engage with the faith community, are being encouraged to get in touch with the adult formation team of the Archdiocese to receive support, as they seek to know more about what their baptism might mean for them.

What they are being invited to:

They will be offered a simple faith development resource that provides a gentle, prayerful introduction into the meaning and implications of baptism. They will receive follow up support from members of the Archdiocesan adult formation team and other staff at Evangelisation Brisbane.

What we each are being invited to do:

Over this period we will, as a parish community, pray at Mass for this initiative. We are also, individually, asked to play a larger role by signing up to be part of the prayer campaign, distributing brochures to invite people to respond to the campaign and accompanying people who have responded to the campaign.

You are asked to prayerfully think about your network of family, friends, colleagues, and neighbours, and, if you feel that they would benefit from this initiative, pass them the invitation brochure which is available at all churches from this weekend. If you want to find out more about this initiative, you can visit the Evangelisation Brisbane website [www.evangelisationbrisbane.org.au] or contact the Adult Formation team at formation@bne.catholic.net.au



Singers/Musicians

If you love to sing or can play an instrument, why not join our Choir. We are always looking for new members. If you are interested please contact the Parish Office (3262 2859 or email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au) and we can get you started. Rehearsals are held before the Easter and Christmas Masses and any other major Church event. Please come along... we would like to see you.

ASH WEDNESDAY - 17 February

6.30AM Holy Mass, Ash Wednesday Prayers

9.00AM Holy Mass, Ash Wednesday Prayers

St Agatha's school: Years 4-6 will be attending the 9.00am Holy Mass.

Keeping in line with the recommendation from the congregation for Divine Worship, parishes in the Archdiocese of Brisbane will sprinkle ashes on the heads of the faithful instead of the traditional marking on the forehead.

In our prayers we remember

Those who have died recently:

Anne Richards, Michael Bryce

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Sarina Caruso, Peter Howard, Helen Richards

And those who are unwell:

Lorraine Mary Lamond, Sr Maureen Martin FCJ, Delphine Schulz, Shelley Winter, Margot Gooding, Duncan Pegg, Charlie Richards, Noreen Martin, Kateri Byrnes, 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.

Blessed

I am so happy that as I complete one year of parish life in our wonderful parish, many have invited me to have a cuppa together. I am looking forward to having a cuppa with you / your family at your home, at a coffee shop or at the presbytery. I enjoy listening about parish history and other stories of the parish.

Fr Biju

Don't wanna book online...?!

When can we go to Church without booking...?!

Fortunately, we can accommodate 250 people in our Church for the Holy Mass. If you forget to book online you can register at the entrance of the church.

As of March, you will no longer need to book for any weekend Masses. When you arrive, just write your name and phone number in the folder kept at the entrance of the Church (there will be marshals to help you), and then, please move to the front or centre of the Church, therefore those who are late may get a seat easily.



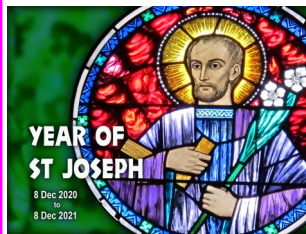
Parking

Parking is available up at the school for weekend Masses.

Boom gate times

Saturday - boom gate goes up at 4.30pm, down at 5.15pm

Sunday - boom gate goes up at 6.30am, down at 9.00am and boom gate goes up at 4.30pm, down at 5.45pm Please note that when you are ready to leave the boom gate will **automatically** come up as you approach it.



**Saint Joseph,
Pray for us...**

You were chosen by God to be the foster father of Jesus, the most pure spouse of Mary, and the head of the Holy Family.

We ask your intercession...

Protect our Pope and all who labor for souls amid the trials and tribulations of this life, and grant that all peoples of the world may follow Christ.

Protect us from the disease present in our world.

Remove all fear from our hearts.

Fill us with confidence.

Dear St. Joseph, accept the offering I make to you. Be my father, protector, and guide in the way of salvation.

Amen.

Holy Thursday 1 April

6.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday 2 April

10.00am Stations of the Cross

3.00pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

EASTER

Saturday 3 April

6.00pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 4 April

7.00am and 9.00am Mass

Please Note: NO 5.30pm Mass

You will be required to book online for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses

Sacrament of Reconciliation 2021

First Rite of Reconciliation:

22 / 23 March 2021

Sacrament of First Holy Communion 2021

Rite of Enrolment: 1/2 May 2021 at any of the Holy Masses.

Sacrament of Baptism

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.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Every Saturday at 4.15pm to 4.45pm or any time by request.

COVID 19 The following guidelines remain in place:

- * If you are feeling unwell, please stay home.
- * Keep the physical distancing of 1.5m, whilst standing in the queue to check-in, during Mass and whilst in the Communion procession.
- * Hand hygiene (sanitising your hands before entering the church and when exiting)
- * Respiratory hygiene (coughing/sneezing into elbow)
- * Thank you for your co-operation.

Readings - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 14 February 2021

1st Reading: Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46; 2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1; Gospel: Mark 1:40-45

Weekend roster for Ministers of the Word: February 2021

Readers

DATE	5.00pm	7.00am	9.00am	5.30pm
6/7 Feb	Nic Kure		Joseph Tan	Giselle Hossinger
	Tomos Walters	Karen Birtles	Wilma O'Connell	Bernadette O'Connor
13/14 Feb	Ann Goves	Kirsty Stevens	Phill Ryan	Max Van Balen
	Edward Foley		Luke Sutton	Amelia Cebulski-Marino
20/21 Feb	Jenny Close	Andrew Douglas	Jane Arkinstall	
	Annette Riba		Chanelle Simpson	
27/28 Feb	Jack Williamson	Sr Cecily Foster	Erin Bledsoe	Max Van Balen
	Ann Goves	Marie Flynn	Dan Butler	

Leaders/ Marshals

DATE	5.00pm	7.00am	9.00am	5.30pm
6/7 Feb		M. Maher	P. Ryan	Aggies
13/14 Feb	A. Hall		L. Crowe	Aggies
20/21 Feb	K. McEwan	M. Maher	S. Bledsoe	J. Perkins
27/28 Feb	L. Crowe	K. McEwan	H. Dalisay	Aggies
6/7 Mar		M. Maher	D. MacGinley	
13/14 Mar				

You are invited to celebrate...

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.00pm
Reconciliation 4.15pm-4.45pm

Sunday 7.00am
9.00am
5.30pm

The "Trybooking" link is:

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 8th 9.00am
Tuesday 9th 9.00am
Rosary 9.30am
Wednesday 10th 9.00am

Friday 12th 9.00am
No Adoration
Saturday 13th 9.00am

THANK YOU...

Thank you so much for your generous contributions to the church.

The offerings from weekend 30/31 January 2021

1st Collection \$527.00

2nd Collection \$204.00

If you are not part of the Planned Giving Program and would like to contribute via online internet banking, details are as follows: **PLEASE NOTE NEW BANK DETAILS**

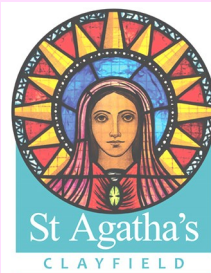
Account name: St Agatha's Parish

BSB number: 064 786 Account number: 100006157

New parishioners are encouraged to complete the census form, which is included in the New Parishioner Pack, located at the entrance of the Church. Once completed please submit it to the parish office, so that we can enter your details in the parish register.

If you have any queries regarding volunteering in the church please contact the office.

The Parish secretary prepares the rosters for all the ministries.



*A warm,
open and
welcoming
Church*

Parish Administration

Parish Administrator: Fr. Biju Thomas
(thomasb@bne.catholic.net.au)

Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosemary Greer

Family and Sacramental Ministry:
Mrs Jane Cameron

Finance Council Chair: Jodi Sutton

**Community and Mission Council
Chair:** Manus Maher

Aggies Youth: Ewan McPherson

**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: Ms Anne-Marie Maw

APRE: Mr Jake Knowles

**Outside School Hours Care
Coordinator:** Roxanne Grogan