



ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

52 Oriel Rd Clayfield Q 4011

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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

Fourth Sunday of Lent 13/14 March 2021

We adore you O Christ and we praise you, because by your holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

Every Friday, during Lent we practice the Stations of the Cross in our church. The Stations of the Cross is a powerful way to contemplate, and enter into, the mystery of Jesus' gift of himself to us. It brings us closer to Christ as we meditate on the great love He showed for us in His most sorrowful Passion! We also do this as an act of penance. The Stations of the Cross involve Jesus enduring suffering, insults, moments of support, and relay the intense sacrifice that we know Jesus undertook for human salvation.

From the earliest of days, fathers of the church told the story of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection. When pilgrims came to see Jerusalem, they were anxious to see the sites where Jesus was. These sites become important holy connections with Jesus. Eventually, following in the footsteps of the Lord, along the way of the cross, became a part of the pilgrimage visit.

The stations, as we know them today, came about when it was no longer easy or even possible to visit the holy sites. In the 1500's, villages all over Europe started creating "replicas" of the way of the cross, with small shrines commemorating the places along the route in Jerusalem. Eventually, these shrines became the set of 14 stations we now know and were placed in almost every Catholic Church in the world.

Through His Passion, Christ saved us in satisfying Divine Justice for humanity's offenses going back to Adam and Eve's fall from grace and Original Sin. Yet, while He opened the gates of Heaven for us, He didn't promise us paradise here on earth. Jesus handled His suffering with great dignity and grace. This is not meant to diminish our own trials and tribulations but rather to give us a sense of perspective, as we look upon Christ as a model of patience and perseverance in His Passion! As St. Gregory once noted, "If we recall the Passion of Christ, nothing seems so hard that it cannot be borne with equanimity."

Let us remember the words of our Lord "He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me" (Matt 10:38).

Please join us for Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on next Friday, at 9.30 am, after the Holy Mass (there will be no adoration during Lent).

Reconciliation for Easter

1st Rite of Reconciliation: Monday 29 March 9.30am

2nd Rite of Reconciliation: Tuesday 23 March 6.00pm

St Agatha's School

Congratulations to the Year 6 students who were commissioned as school leaders on Thursday 4th March. As part of the liturgy, the students were presented with their leadership shirts and badges.

Last Friday, 5th March St Agatha's welcomed prospective families to their Open Day. The school choir performed and the Year 6 students led prospective parents on tours of the school.

As many of you are aware, St Agatha's is an excellent primary school. The school specialises in educating students from 5 to 12 years of age. At St Agatha's your child is not one in a crowd, your child is known by name and as a learner. The school is a family and a community. We are friends with a rich history of educating students from Prep through to Year 6.

Easter Raffle

Tickets are on sale for our Easter Raffle. Tickets are \$2.00 each of 3 for \$5.00. Try your luck to win one of our great prizes.

Feasts of the week

Saint Patrick, Wednesday 17th March; Saint Joseph, Friday 19th March.

They call me 'father', yes I am their spiritual father.

What a joy I have to baptise so many little children.

Each time, I baptise children I look at their face and say 'I baptise you in the name of the father and of the son and of the Holy spirit, and the little child born again in water and spirit (Jn 3.5) and I feel I am becoming a spiritual father for this little child.

Later, when they come to the church, on the way to school and on the streets when they see me, they call me father. Yes, I am their spiritual father, and when I am in the church, I remember them, and pray for them...

At their first Holy Communion, as a spiritual father I am blessed to feed the children the most divine food. When the young couple, join in the sacrament of matrimony I am there with them to thank God with an excited heart. And on their continued spiritual journey as a spiritual father I am with them always. I know when they are sick, hungry, sad, confused, the priest must be with them and support them.

When I am at the funeral, at the burial place, I experience the tears of dear ones. When I shower the flowers to the body to say goodbye our relationship is not ending, because at their anniversary I remember and offer mass for them.

What I experience is so meaningful to be called a father as I am a spiritual father.

What did Jesus say...

Jesus says not to call anyone on earth by the title "Rabbi," "Father," or "teacher," in the sense of arrogating to oneself an authority which rests with God and of forgetting the responsibility of the title. In a similar vein, Jesus said, "Whoever loves father or mother, son or daughter, more than Me is not worthy of Me" (Mt 10:37). Because of the authority of the heavenly Father and the respect due to Him, Jesus freely referred to His Heavenly Father as "Father,". To understand the Scriptures fully we need to understand their context.

We do use these titles in our common parlance: We call those who instruct us and others "teacher"; our male parent, "father"; and Jewish religious leaders, "rabbi." St. Paul identifies himself as a spiritual father. In writing to the Corinthians, he said, "I am writing to you you as my beloved children.you have only one father. ..(1 Cor 4:14-17).

Moreover, our Lord Himself used the title "father" for several characters in His parables: In the parable of the rich man and the Lazarus, the parable of the Prodigal Son (cf. Lk 15:11-32). Our Lord used the title "father" in so many teachings, including when repeating the fourth commandment, our Lord did not intend to prohibit calling a father by the title "father"; rather, He prohibited misusing the title.

To the young parents

Today we celebrate our children's Mass and let me repeat these words once again here.

Young parents, please come to the church. When you are here, the church is filled with a joyful noise and the Body of Christ is more fully present. When you are here, I have hope that these pews won't be empty when your kids are old enough to sit quietly and behave in the celebration of Holy Eucharist. I know that they are learning how and why we worship now, before it's too late. They are learning that coming to church is important.

Children learn in the midst of the cries, whines, giggles and in the midst of the crinkling of papers. I see a little girl who insists on going two pews up to share peace with someone she's never met.

I watch a child excitedly colour-in a cross and point to the one in the front of the sanctuary. I hear the echoes of Amen just a few seconds after the rest of the community say it together.

I remember a little girl gave me a high five when I lifted up my hands to give a blessing... so innocent.

I know how hard it is to do what you're doing, but **I want you to know**, it matters. It matters to all. It matters to the community to know that families care about faith, to see young people....

Let the children learn that they are an integral part of this church, that their prayers, their songs, and even their cries and whines are a joyful noise because it means they are present.

I know it's hard, but **thank you for what you do when you bring your children to church**. Please know that you are part of this parish family- with all of its noise, struggle, commotion and joy – you are a vital part of the community.

"Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might bless them...Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me...Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." ([Lk 18:15-17](#); See also [Mt 19:13-15](#) and [Mk 10:13-16](#))

When we have our children in the church celebrating with us, we not only benefit from having them with us, but we also give them something each time we gather. When we stand, sit, sing, pray, recite, confess, read, listen, watch, eat, and drink—our children witness us glorifying God.

The distractions and noise of the children are also part of real life. And the church should be the one place on this earth where God's people can be real with one another. God wants us to be real with him in prayer.

In our prayers we remember

Those who have died recently:

Trevor Copas, John Tully

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Fraser Ross

And those who are unwell:

Garry Dennien, Joseph Meese, John Hohl, Celso Limas, 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.

A Blessed time for Children

Children's Lenten Liturgy will continue next Sunday 21st March so that our children can understand the greater meaning of the season of Lent through discussion and activities. Parents are most welcome to join.

No Lenten liturgy this Sunday 14th due to the Children's Mass.

Palm Sunday

Saturday 5.00pm

Sunday 7.00am, 9.00am and 5.30pm

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

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

for each of the Masses during Holy Week that you wish to attend.

Clayfield Catholic Parish

Our faith sustains us through challenging times. Now, your support is needed to help our parishes to continue their valuable pastoral activities and to provide on-going sustainability.

You can make a donation via our Parish Giving online payment system or download and use the Parish Giving mobile applications. You will need to create an account the first time you log in. After you are logged in, you will need to select the Clayfield Parish from the group and fill out the prompts. Please click on one of the buttons or QR Code below to make an online payment to the Parish. You will need to create an account the first time you log in. For your convenience, the App is also available in both the Apple App Store and Android Google Play. Please click on one of the buttons below or use the QR Code.

To assist you to support our Parish you can now give via



<http://parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au>

Remember to select Clayfield Catholic Parish as your favourite parish when giving with this app.

We thank you for your kind support.

You can continue using planned giving envelopes, Direct Debit or credit card, or if you wish to make a direct payment into our bank account, then please refer to the details below.

Donate directly into the parish account, stating your name as a reference.

Account Name: Clayfield Catholic Parish

BSB: 064:786

A/C No. 100006157

Weekend roster for Ministers of the Word: March/April 2021

Readers

DATE	5.00pm	7.00am	9.00am	5.30pm
13/14 Mar	Annette Riba	Andrew Douglas	Children's Mass	Giselle Hossinger
	Nik Kure	Karen Birtles		Tony Charlesworth
20/21 Mar	Ann Goves	Paul Marshal	Erin Bledsoe	Max Van Balen
	Jack Williamson	Jeanine Bygott	Hannah Dalisay	Jo Hayes
27/28 Mar	Edward Foley	Kirsty Stevens	Phill Ryan	Amelia Marino-Cebulski
	Jenny Close	Chris Maher	Luke Sutton	
10/11 Apr	Alison Hall	Andrew Douglas	Joseph Tan	
	Tomos Walters	Karen Birtles	Chanelle Simpson	

THANK YOU...

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

The offerings from weekend 6/7 March 2021:

1st Collection \$293.00 2nd Collection \$253.00

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 Clayfield

BSB number: 064 786 Account number: 100006157

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.00pm
Reconciliation 4.15pm
Sunday 7.00am
9.00am
5.30pm

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 provided (marshals will be there to assist you).

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 15th 9.00am
Tuesday 16th 9.00am
Rosary 9.30am
Wednesday 17th 9.00am
Friday 19th 9.00am
Stations of the Cross 9.30am
No Adoration during Lent
Saturday 20th 9.00am

Preparing for the next Sunday's Readings

Fifth Sunday of Lent, 21 March 2021

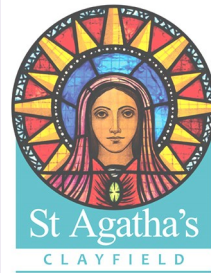
Ezekiel 37:12-14; Romans 8:8-11; John 11:1-45

If you have any queries regarding volunteering in the church please contact the office. The Parish secretary prepares the rosters for all the ministries.

Have a cuppa with the Parish Priest

Let us have a cuppa together at your home or in the coffee shop or at the presbytery.

Fr Biju



*A warm,
open and
welcoming
Church*

Parish Administration

Parish Administrator: Fr. Biju Thomas
Email: thomasb@bne.catholic.net.au
Phone: 0470212502

Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosemary Greer
E-mail: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au
Phone: 3262 2859

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

Outside School Hours Care

Did You Know that

**EASTER
SCHOOL
HOLIDAYS**

Are coming soon keep an eye out for the
Vacation care program coming your
way.

**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

