



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

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 24/25 July 2021

On July 26 the Roman Catholic Church commemorates the parents of the Virgin Mary, Saints Joachim and Anne. The couple's faith and perseverance brought them through the sorrow of childlessness, to the joy of conceiving and raising the immaculate and sinless woman who would give birth to Christ.

The New Testament contains no specific information about the lives of the Virgin Mary's parents, but other documents outside of the Biblical canon do provide some details. Although these writings are not considered authoritative in the same manner as the Bible, they outline some of the Church's traditional beliefs about Joachim, Anne and their daughter.

The "Protoevangelium of James," which was probably put into its final written form in the early second century, describes Mary's father Joachim as a wealthy member of one of the Twelve Tribes of Israel. Joachim was deeply grieved, along with his wife Anne, by their childlessness. "He called to mind Abraham," the early Christian writing says, "that in the last day God gave him a son Isaac."

Joachim and Anne began to devote themselves to rigorous prayer and fasting, in isolation from one another and from society. They regarded their inability to conceive a child as a surpassing misfortune, and a sign of shame among the tribes of Israel.

As it turned out, however, the couple were to be blessed even more abundantly than Abraham and Sarah. An angel revealed this to Anne when he appeared to her and prophesied that all generations would honour their future child: "The Lord has heard your prayer, and you shall conceive, and shall bring forth; and your seed shall be spoken of in all the world."

After Mary's birth, according to the Protoevangelium of James, Anne "made a sanctuary" in the infant girl's room, and "allowed nothing common or unclean" on account of the special holiness of the child. The same writing records that when she was one year old, her father "made a great feast, and invited the priests, and the scribes, and the elders, and all the people of Israel."

"And Joachim brought the child to the priests," the account continues, "and they blessed her, saying: 'O God of our fathers, bless this child, and give her an everlasting name to be named in all generations' ... And he brought her to the chief priests; and they blessed her, saying: 'O God most high, look upon this child, and bless her with the utmost blessing, which shall be forever.'"

The protoevangelium goes on to describe how Mary's parents, along with the temple priests, subsequently decided that she would be offered to God as a consecrated Virgin for the rest of her life, and enter a chaste marriage with the carpenter Joseph. (CNA)



We honour Mary's parents, Joachim and Anne, as saints. We celebrate their joint feast day on July 26. Their love for one another and for Mary is an example to us of how God calls us to live. They also remind us to honour our own grandparents and to thank them for the blessings they have passed down to us in love.

Baptismal Joy!!

This weekend we welcome with great joy three new members of Christ's faithful people: Elsie Hutton, daughter of Chris and Rebecca Hutton; Hayden DaCosta, son of Mickael and Alicia Da Costa and Zoe Patmore, daughter James and Rebecca Patmore. May they always know God's love and the support of this Christian Community.

Grandparents Day, Liturgy of the Word at school, No Holy Mass on Thursday 29 July.

On Thursday July 29, there will be no 9am Holy Mass, but there will be a Liturgy of the Word at the school as we celebrate grandparents day.

St Agatha's School News

The new 'Fort' playground has been finished at St Agatha's Primary School. Our students have enjoyed playing in the newly refurbished space. The playground includes a slide, water pump and river bed, climbing frames, monkey bars and plenty of space to run.



St Agatha's Primary School are excited to announce an additional Prep class for 2021. In addition to the additional Prep class, there are limited vacancies in some year levels for the 2022 school year. If you are interested in enrolling your child at our wonderful school, please visit the school website and fill in an application form. www.stagathasclayfield.qld.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx

Cupboard at the parish office

The office room is filled with boxes and files, so we are looking for a handyman who can help to build a cupboard in the office. If you can help, please see Fr Biju or contact the Parish Office.

Covid update:

1. Masks will be mandatory when outside of your place of residence. You must carry a face mask with you at all times whenever you leave your home, unless you have a lawful reason not to.
2. Clergy and readers who are socially distanced from others may remove their masks while speaking and then put it back on.
3. Parishioners may remove their masks momentarily while receiving communion.
4. Choirs will be required to keep their masks on at all times during the liturgy except under the following conditions:

The choir should keep their masks on while singing. A single cantor, who is significantly socially distanced from the congregation, may remove his or her mask while singing and then put it back on.

We no longer use paper check-in. Church iPad is setup to check in those without phones. Please adhere to social distancing.

Annual Peter's Pence Collection

The Annual Peter's Pence collection will be taken up as a **retiring collection**, at all the Masses this weekend 24th and 25th July.

The Peter's Pence Collection gives Catholics in Australia an opportunity to join in communion with the Catholic faithful throughout the world in support of the charitable works of the Holy See. Some talking points on this collection include:

The Peter's Pence Collection is an annual collection of the Catholic Church around the world. The collection allows the Holy Father to respond to the most needy throughout the world, to offer timely, effective emergency assistance to our suffering brothers and sisters.

RCIA

The acronym RCIA stands for the **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults**. It is a journey for anyone interested in discovering more about what we believe as Catholics. At the end of the journey a person can make a free choice on where God is leading them. For others who are already members of the Church it is a great opportunity to become involved and help others along the journey of faith.

Here in our Parish we are in the process of beginning a new RCIA journey – are you interested in becoming involved? Would you like more information? Are you willing to be a support person or a sponsor?

RCIA Coordinator: Katrina Murphy

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Parish Office 3262 2859.

Baptisms:

We hold a preparation session for baptisms on the first Saturday of the month. 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.

A centenarian birthday celebration

The parish celebrated the 100th birthday of Helen Orosz. She is blessed to come and praise the good Lord on her 100th birthday...



More about Eternal Guardian of your faith...

Give today to the Clayfield Parish Endowment Fund. Join us to secure the future of Clayfield Parish for generations to come!

A gift today will build our parish Endowment Fund and help our community flourish. Your gift supports our faith, our families and our parish life in perpetuity. For more information contact 3324 3632.

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

Catholic ministries are being encouraged to find creative ways to celebrate the inaugural World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which will be commemorated on July 25. Pope Francis announced earlier this year that the day will be marked each year around the feast of Sts Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus.

In his message for the World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly, with the theme “I am with you always”, Pope Francis said older people, even if “energy is running out”, have a “renewed vocation”.

“It makes no difference how old you are, whether you still work or not, whether you are alone or have a family, whether you became a grandmother or grandfather at a young age or later, whether you are still independent or need assistance,” he wrote.

“Because there is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel and handing down traditions to your grandchildren. You just need to set out and undertake something new.”

Archbishop Comensoli said there is much that can be learned through such encounters. “At a time of great challenges through this pandemic, we might look to our elders, neighbours and friends for their encouragement and wisdom in finding pathways through difficult times,” he said. “In honouring them, we honour their lives and journeys, and open up a richness of experience to draw from.

“The World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly gives the Church a chance to more deeply celebrate the role older people have played in forming us as people and as believers.”

Resources to help mark the day can be found at www.catholic.org.au/grandparents

Prayer: I thank You, Lord, for the comfort of Your presence: even in times of loneliness, You are my hope and my confidence, You have been my rock and my fortress since my youth!

I thank You for having given me a family and for having blessed me with a long life. I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty, for the dreams that have already come true in my life and for those that are still ahead of me.

I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness to which You call me. Increase, O Lord, my faith, make me a channel of your peace, teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me, to never stop dreaming and to tell of your wonders to new generations. Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church, that the light of the Gospel might reach the ends of the earth. Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world, that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed, the poor consoled and wars ended. Sustain me in weakness and help me to live life to the full in each moment that You give me, in the certainty that you are with me every day, even until the end of the age. Amen.

Roster for July/August

Date	5pm	7am	9am	5.30pm
24/25 July	Julie-Anne Gibson	Sr Cecily Foster	Carmen Gendle	Amelia Cebulski-Marino
	Graham Gibson	Chris Maher	Phill Ryan	Joel Perkins
31 July/1 Aug	Ann Goves	Dianne Eden		Max Van Balen
	Nik Kure	Nick Eden	Joseph O'Brien	Giselle Hossinger

In our prayers we remember

Those who have died recently:

Tadeusz Lewandowski, Derek Jones

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Tony Dyson, Claire Collins, John Collins, Gloria Statham, Mick Statham, Jean York, Frank York, Mary Stanley, Herbert Stanley, Christine Harrison

July 25, 2021

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?” JOHN 6:9

The miracle of the Loaves and Fishes carries two important messages. First, no matter how little we have, we always have enough to share. Second, Christ can take our humble gifts and do great things with them if we are just willing to let Him. Nothing is impossible with God. All of our gifts, big or small, were given to us for a reason. No gift is too small or insignificant!

Children's Liturgy this Sunday 25 July, 9am

Catechists are Jane Cameron and Michelle Scalia

Preparing for the next Sunday's Readings

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time: 1 August 2021

Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15; Ephesians 4:17, 20-24;

John 6:24-35

FAN THE FLAME PLENARY COUNCIL REFLECTION July 24/25

Fan the Flame

Towards Plenary Assembly One October 2021

‘Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready’

John 6:1-15

Grace moves God's people to ask questions grounded in the call we received at Baptism: how do we better nourish, accompany, give witness, support, invite, welcome, engage and be present to others, such that we all grow in holiness?

(Prayerful and Eucharistic – Discernment Paper p. 6)
www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheblade/

Plenary Council Prayer Campaign: People across the country are invited to participate in the “Fan the Flame” prayer campaign leading up to the first assembly of the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia. The assembly starts on October 3. Campaign materials include resources for personal and communal prayer, reflections, musical suggestions and multimedia content. Find the resources at: www.plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/fantheblade/

Hour of Prayer:

Every Friday at St Agatha's Church immediately after the Holy Mass at 9am. Exposition of Holy Eucharist, Rosary, Silent Adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.00pm

Sunday 7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday : 9.00am

Wednesday: 9.00am

Thursday: No Mass
Grandparents day,
Liturgy of the Word at the school

Friday: 9.00am

Adoration: 9.30am

Support St. Agatha's Parish

Your financial support of St Agatha's Church is always appreciated.

Ways to financially support your parish:

Direct debit, Place your offerings in the collection plates during the Mass or Planned Giving Envelopes

The Parish Giving App.

Hover the camera on your smart phone over the QR code and tap on the link to the Parish Giving facility.

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



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 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