



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

Feast of St Mary of the Cross, 8 August 2021

Gospel Reflection from Greg Sunter

A “one hit wonder” from 1989 was the song by Bobby McFerrin, *Don't Worry, Be Happy*. It was a laid-back, a cappella song that still frequently appears in film and television soundtracks. In some ways, the song became the catchcry of a generation who were overwhelmed by the pace of change that was occurring in society, technology and the world in general. A glance at today's gospel may leave the reader thinking that Jesus, too, is basically saying to us, don't worry, be happy. But the message of Jesus is not as simplistic as that. Instead, he says to us, set your hearts on God's kingdom first and on following God's will for justice in the world and, then, don't worry, be happy. It is not the same throwing of one's hands into the air as the 1980's song. It is not an abandonment of responsibility. Jesus says to us, trust in God, work to bring about the kingdom in our lives and in our world and only then leave the rest to God.

This gospel passage was aptly chosen by the Church to mark the feast of St Mary of the Cross – Mary MacKillop. The teaching of Jesus, conveyed through the gospel passage, characterised much of the life and work of Mary MacKillop. Mary was a prolific writer, sending messages to her sisters in the schools and communities across Australia. We are fortunate that many of these letters have been preserved and provide an incredible insight into the attitude of Mary MacKillop. One of the quotes attributed to Mary MacKillop that captures the essence of today's gospel is, “Do all you can with the means at your disposal and calmly leave the rest to God.” (1891) Surely this is a more energising and empowering motto for life than don't worry, be happy?

Historical Context – Mary MacKillop

Mary MacKillop is not only the first Australian to be recognised by the Church as a Saint, she is truly a very Australian saint. She characterises the spirit of the Australian mythology. She was a prodigious hard worker who put the needs of others before herself. She exhibited something of the larrikin spirit: constantly in dispute with authority but pressing on, regardless. She used the strengths of others but also didn't tolerate those who were not genuine. Her commitment to the schooling of children from poor and rural communities established a model of Catholic education that continues to today. A Saint for and of Australia!

*Saint Mary
of the
Cross MacKillop*

Do not be afraid.
Love one another,
bear with one another,
and let charity guide
you in all your life.

Mary MacKillop
12.1.1909



In our prayers we remember

Those who have died recently:

Rina Rada, Tadeusz Lewandowski, Derek Jones

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Edward Kendrick, Greg Conlon, Pam McBride, Bill Wallin, Hugh McBride, Lew Brumpton, Fr Gregory Jordan, Tony Dyson

Sunday, 8 August

Saint Mary of the cross (Mary Mackillop)

First Reading

[1 Kgs 17:7-16](#)

Elijah asks the widow for food.

Responsorial Psalm

[Ps 623:1-8](#)

(R.) My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast.

Second Reading

[Col 3:12-17](#)

God loves you and asks you to love others.

Gospel Acclamation

[Mt 27:55](#)

Alleluia, alleluia!

Many women were there by the cross, watching from a distance, the same women who had followed Jesus and looked after him.

Alleluia!

Gospel

[Mt 6:25-34](#)

Jesus tells us not to worry.

A Prayer for Our Uncertain Times

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health and making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love. And during this time when we may not be able to physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbours. Amen.

-Written by Rev. Dr. William J Barber II

Preparing for the next Sunday's Readings 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time: August 2021

Apoc 11: 19, 12: 1-6,10; 1 Cor 15;20-26;
Lk 1:39- 59

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 5.00pm

Sunday 7.00am

9.00am

5.30pm

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday: 9.00am

Wednesday: 9.00am

Thursday: 9.00am

Friday: 9.00am

Adoration: 9.30am

"I like the silence of a church, before the service begins better than any preaching".

-Ralph Waldo Emerson

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