



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

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time 4/5 September 2021

Prayers and blessings to our Children...

Our prayers and best wishes accompany the candidates for Confirmation and their families. This, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at St Agatha's, 74 children will be confirmed. We hope that this will be a memorable time for them and that they and the parish will be renewed in the life and love of the Holy Spirit poured upon the Church at Pentecost and given now to these children in the Sacrament of Confirmation.

I gratefully acknowledge the efforts taken by Jane Cameron and team in preparing the children for this great day. I congratulate and thank parents for preparing the children for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.



"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the broken-hearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;

Fathers Day...

"Blessed Joseph, to us, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen". Pope Francis

We pay tribute to our Fathers today and we thank God for the gift of them, living or deceased.

Fathers, when your children, young or old, experience strength, love and compassion in you, they are taught a lesson about God that no teacher or textbook could give.

You are a revelation of God our Father to them, by your imitation of His love and compassion, and gracious and merciful forgiveness.

By being a strong and loving father, you have helped your children grow from fear to faith, from doubt to trust, and from despair to hope.

You have a wonderful privilege to demonstrate to your children, that love is not a sign of weakness, but a sign of strength; that resolving family conflicts with a deep care and sensitivity for each member of the family, is a model for all their relationships; that exercising restraint when we are emotionally distressed or upset, is a sign of maturity, courage and personal strength; that saying "I'm sorry. I was wrong" is testimony to a great character.

Your witness to all of this is the most powerful lesson they will ever receive.

When your children honour you and when our parish honours you, it is with a profound gratitude in our hearts, for the remarkable gift you have been to us, for the seeds of God's Kingdom you have planted in your children.

We know that you are not omnipotent and you may not be perfect. But you are an unspeakable blessing to us, and for that we celebrate you.

Happy Father's Day!

"Dad, wherever you are, you are gone but you will never be forgotten".



Covid 19 updates

1. **Masses and Gatherings:** 1 person per 2 square metres in the church
2. **Weddings and Funerals**, when held indoors, will return to one person per 2 square metres or 200 people, whichever number is lower.
3. **Food Service:** There are no restrictions on self-service food; eating and drinking while standing is allowed.
4. **Mask wearing requirements will continue to apply until 4pm Friday the 10th September 2021.** You must carry a face mask with you at all times when you leave home, unless you have a lawful reason not to.
5. **Indoors:** You must wear a mask in indoor spaces (including places of worship and workplaces) unless it is unsafe or you can stay 1.5m apart from other people.
6. Clergy and readers who are socially distanced from others may remove their masks while speaking, and only when 1.5 metres from others.
7. **Parishioners may remove their masks if they are 1.5 metres apart from one another. (People living in the same household are not required to socially distance from each other.)**
8. Singing is a high risk activity due to the transmission of droplets therefore:
9. Choirs will be required to keep their masks on at all times during the liturgy.
10. A single cantor, who is significantly socially distanced at 7 metres or more from the congregation, may remove his or her mask while singing and then put it back on.
11. **Outdoors:** you must wear a mask when unable to stay 1.5m apart from people who are not part of your household.

Important Parish matters...

It is a special joy for all our parishioners to come together: praying and loving, the continued attendance, as we approach the attendance levels of pre-covid.

I would also like to take this opportunity to ask that if you have friends or relatives who have not attended since covid, can you please remind them that it is no longer necessary to book online, and to attend church is even easier now that we have the options of scanning the QR code at the back of the church.

We also request your help with volunteering. We need all types of volunteers for the proper functioning of the church activities, like: the hospitality group, extra ordinary ministers for holy communion, ministers of the word, collectors, power point clickers, welcomers and members for the liturgy group.

We are blessed to have ten Parish Council members, and 5 Finance council members. I appreciate and thank all of them for their selfless service for the parish. At the same we require one more parish council member and also there is a vacancy for the role of Finance secretary and for a finance council member. Please suggest names for these roles.

On Retreat...

Fr Biju will be on retreat from Monday 20th - Friday 24th of September.

Date Claimer - Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass

The Annual Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will be celebrated with Archbishop Mark Coleridge on Saturday 25th September commencing at 11.30am. The invitation is extended to family and friends. Unfortunately, due to the COVID restrictions, refreshments following the Mass will not be offered. Bookings will be available from Monday 13 September and can be made via the following link:

<https://goldenweddinganniversarymass.eventbrite.com.au> or telephone the Cathedral office on 3324 3030.

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.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. All those who minister within the Archdiocese must adhere to the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards which serves to protect all children and vulnerable adults. For comprehensive information: <http://www.brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding/>

Faith based on Hope

The world today is such a different world from what it was just eighteen months ago. In this span of eighteen months, we have learned so many new things, things that are uncomfortable and embarrassing, things that are strangely reversed.

Also people are beginning to be difficult to recognize because almost every person is wearing a face mask. And we have learned new terms like social distancing which actually means physical distancing, and which is also now known as safe distancing. We have also come to know of other terms like stay at home, working from home, quarantine, etc.

We may feel that as our movements are becoming restricted, things are also rather distant from us.

But not everything is so distant

Sunrise is not distant

Love is not distant

Family time is not distant

Kindness is not distant

Creativity is not distant

Learning is not distant

Conversation is not distant

Imagining is not distant

Reading is not distant

Relationship is not distant

Praying is not distant

Meditation is not distant

Resting is not distant

Work from home is not distant

Hope is not distant

Cherish what we have.

We will win over the covid 19 and we look forward and pray that it will be a kinder world, a more thankful world and a world closer to God. We pray for the best and God will do the rest

St. Agatha's Parish— A Blessed Parish

Often we see with great amazement that so many children are baptised in our church every month, so many celebrations. This year 75 children received the sacrament of first Holy Communion and 74 children are preparing for Confirmation, therefore, we can believe we are a blessed and grace filled parish.

Let us remember that if people are coming to the church regularly during weekends and also by helping financially, the church can be sustainable.

Only if there is sufficient attendance of the community for the church activities, we can have the regular celebrations of holy mass, sacraments and a residing priest here. With joined hands and trust in Jesus let us keep up the spirit of St Agatha's Parish.

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC DURING THE TIME OF PANDAMIC

Most Merciful and Triune God,
we come to You in our weakness.
We come to You in our fear.
We come to You with trust.
For You alone are our hope.
We place before You the disease present in our world.
We turn to You in our time of need.
Bring wisdom to doctors.
Give understanding to scientists.
Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity.
Bring healing to those who are ill. Protect those who are most at risk.
Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.
Welcome those who have died into Your Eternal Home. Stabilize our communities.
Unite us in our compassion.
Remove all fear from our hearts. Fill us with confidence in Your care.
We make this prayer through our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen

Voluntary Assisted Dying

Please go to the following link to view messages from medical professionals coming together under the heading of the Queensland Care Alliance:

<https://bit.ly/2WpmcuI>



We need you to help us ensure the euthanasia Bill is defeated. We need your action - **NOW**.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Pray all Queenslanders might respect Church teaching that life is sacred from conception until natural death and that our MPs support a fully funded palliative care system, negating the need for assisted suicide.

2. Arrange a meeting with YOUR local Member of Parliament

To find who they are

CLICK HERE

OR TYPE IN

<https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/members/current/list>

3. Please also email your views to YOUR local Member of Parliament

CLICK HERE

OR TYPE IN

https://www.no euthanasia.org.au/petition_2105_ ocp_ qld

Please stand with the Queensland Bishops and medical experts in opposing this legislation.

Dying with dignity already exists - it lies in being able to access high quality palliative care statewide.

Roster for September

Date	5pm	7am	9am	5.30pm
4/5 September	Jack Williamson	Sr Cecily Foster	Amanda Bell	Giselle Hossinger
	Ann Goves	Kirsty Stevens	Anais Johnson	Jo Hayes
11/12 September	Edward Foley	Karen Birtles	Hannah Dalisay	Alison Hall
	Tomos Walters	Jeanine Bygott	Carmen Gendle	Max Van Balen

In our prayers we remember

Those who have died recently:

Anna Candosin, Kevin Flanagan, Sr Marie Rosenberg

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Margaret Grosset, Jim Duncan, Robert Maguire, Rosa Zavaglia, William Bell, George Leutenegger, Mona Leutenegger, William Mahon, Pat Killoran

St Agatha's School News

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

Children's Liturgy is cancelled until next term

Preparing for the next Sunday's Readings

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

12 September 2021

Isaiah 50:5-9;

James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

September 8 : Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

"In dangers, in doubts, in difficulties, think of Mary, call upon Mary. Let not her name depart from your lips..."

So long as she is in your mind, you are safe from deception; while she holds your hand, you cannot fall; under her protection you have nothing to fear; if she walks before you, you shall not grow weary; if she shows you favour, you shall reach the goal." Saint Bernard of Clairvaux.

Prayer for Confirmation Candidates

Loving God, You are the giver of all we possess, the source of all of our blessings.

We thank and praise you.

Thank you for the gift of our children.

Help us to teach them, and encourage them to explore.

Give us the strength and courage to treat each day as a fresh start.

May our children come to know you, the one true God,

and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

May your Holy Spirit help them to grow in faith, hope, and love,

so they may know peace, truth, and goodness.

May their ears hear your voice.

May their eyes see your presence in all things.

May their lips proclaim your word.

May their hearts be your dwelling place.

May their hands do works of charity.

May their feet walk in the way of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. Amen.

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:

Catriona McPherson (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