



# ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

52 Oriel Rd Clayfield Q 4011

Phone: 3262 2859 After Hours Emergency: 0470 212 502

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

## *Second Sunday of Advent 4/5 December 2021*

Few days ago some of our children were asking me about our Christmas Crib. They looked at the crib and said to me that Jesus is missing in the crib. Then some body noticed that not only Jesus but the angel, the shepherd and the three kings are all missing, there are only some cows and sheep.



I explained this crib helps to remind us of the birth Jesus our saviour. It is the time of preparation for the birthday of Jesus. As preparation progresses we keep different figures of the nativity scene.

Saint Francis of Assisi is credited with creating the first nativity scene in 1223 at Greccio, central Italy, in an attempt to place the emphasis of Christmas upon the worship of Christ rather than upon secular materialism and gift giving.

In a cave near the village, St Francis of Assisi celebrated the birth of Christ, not with figures of the people and objects, or with actors, though St Francis did use live animals.

"It happened in the third year before his death that St. Francis decided, in order to arouse devotion, to celebrate at Greccio with the greatest possible solemnity the memory of the birth of the Child Jesus. So that this would not be considered a type of novelty, he petitioned for and obtained permission from the Supreme Pontiff.

He had a crib prepared, hay carried in and an ox and an ass led to the place. The friars are summoned, the people come, the forest resounds with their voices and that venerable night is rendered brilliant and solemn by a multitude of bright lights and by resonant and harmonious hymns of praise.

The man of God stands before the crib, filled with affection, bathed in tears and overflowing with joy. A solemn Mass is celebrated over the crib, with Francis as deacon chanting the holy Gospel. The hay from the crib was kept by the people and miraculously cured sick animals and drove away different kinds of pestilence. Thus God glorified his servant in every way and demonstrated the efficacy of his holy prayer by the evident signs of wonderful miracles". *(From the Life of St. Francis by St. Bonaventure)*

### **A time for spiritual renewal and Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Advent season is a call for repentance and forgiveness of sins and it is a time for renewal of heart and mind. It is a special time for the sacrament of reconciliation. Fr Biju is available for confession before and after the Holy Mass on week days and on Saturday at 4.15 pm to 4.45 and after Mass on Saturday, as well as before Mass on Sundays 4.45 pm to 5.15 and after Mass on Sundays. He is also available any time by appointment.

## *With much Gratitude and Love*

After 14 years of dedicated service to St Agatha's Parish and the community in her role as the Sacramental and Family Ministry Coordinator, Jane Cameron is moving on to bigger things having accepted an appointment as Parish Secretary at Jubilee Parish in Paddington. Jane's last day in the parish office will be 22nd December. We thank Jane for all her hard work and commitment to the Parish over the past 14 years and wish her all the very best in her new role.

### **Parish Office Christmas/New Year Closure**

The Parish Office will be closed from 12pm Wednesday 22 December and will re-open 8.30am Tuesday 4 January 2022.

### **Fr Anthony Mellor celebrating Holy Mass with the religious Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem**

At the 9.00am Mass next Sunday 12th December the Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem will be celebrating their Patronal Mass. We welcome Fr Anthony Mellor and the Knights of St Lazarus. All are welcome to attend.

### **Suppers recommencing**

Please join us for supper following the 5.30pm Mass this Sunday 5<sup>th</sup>. It has been such a long time since we have been able to come together to enjoy each other's company. Everyone welcome.

### **Vigil Mass 6pm 24 December**

It's that time of year again where we are seeking any interest from the parish children to play the role of Mary and Joseph at our Vigil Mass. If your child is aged 8-11 years old and would like to be in the running, please email us at [clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au) so that their name can be placed in the draw.

The names will be drawn out of a hat and

the lucky pair will be notified in the week before Christmas. We would also like to invite all children (no age restrictions) to come dressed as shepherds or angels to take part in the opening procession. Please notify us via return email.

**Simbang Gabi 2021**, a Filipino tradition of 9 day pre-Christmas celebration in joyful waiting and preparation for Jesus' birth in our hearts, will be on 15 to 23 December 2021 at Our Lady, Queen of Apostles church, 70 Appleby Rd. Stafford (6:45pm-Rosary; 7:00pm-Carols; 7:30pm-Holy Mass). We use the 'Check in Qld' app to attend. Further info: Jima 0432374239; Zara 0487435315

### **Choir Practice for Christmas**

Choir practice for our Christmas Masses has begun. New members are always welcome. If you would like to be a part of the choir, please contact Robyn Cuming on 0414 861 988.

### **Blessed**

Extra copies of the Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2021 are now available at \$5.00 each.

### **Columban Calendars**

Extra copies of the 2022 Columban Calendars have been ordered.



## **Advent Adventures**



We will be running Advent Adventures for the children during the 9am Masses up to and including Sunday 19th December. This is an interactive, activity based program with the aim of bringing meaning to the spirit of Christmas. Parents are most welcome to attend.





## Second Sunday of Advent - Prayer



Christ, the light of all who love you,  
help us to make ready for your birthday by preparing room for you in our hearts.

Let no selfishness of ours darken our homes.

Let no ill feelings spoil our fun.  
Draw us closer together by showing us the way to love you and others. Amen.



Last weekend at the Vigil Mass, the first candle was lit by Angelina together with her mother Angela. Chris Maher together with his children lit the candle at the 7 am Mass; Mary Caroline joined Sebastian and Blaise to light the candle at 9 am and at 5.30 pm the candle was lit by Alexa, John and their children.

Bookings for the Christmas Masses are now open and will close Wednesday 22 December.

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

### 2022 Parish Calendar

Copies of the 2022 Parish Calendar are now available. If you have not yet received a copy through the school, please take one today.

### Advertising in Parish Newsletter

Any parishioners who would like to advertise in our newsletter, please contact the Parish Office. This will help meet the printing cost.

### St Agatha's SVDP Christmas Appeal

The SVDP Christmas Appeal will commence this weekend 27/28 November up to and including 18/19 December. The Conference visits people in a large area from Pinkenba to Bowen Hills. Assistance is provided for families and single people seeking food, clothing, furniture, and financial help. All donations will be gratefully appreciated. Appeal envelopes are attached to this week's newsletter. The Conference has the facility to accept electronic deposits, into its bank account.

Account name:

St Agatha's Clayfield SVDP Conference

BSB: 064-786

Account: 100026667.

Use Surname as reference. If receipt required

please email Conference:

[sa4011@svdpqld.org.au](mailto:sa4011@svdpqld.org.au)

### St Agatha's Vincent De Paul Giving Tree - 2021

At Christmas time we may be overindulged with food and presents whilst many go without basic necessities. The Giving Tree is loaded with gift ideas which will help bring a smile to others on Christmas Day. You are encouraged to take a tag and return the gift and leave it at the base of the tree. Gifts to be in by **Sunday 19 December**, as members of St Vincent de Paul will be collecting the gifts and distributing them for Christmas. You may also leave the gift at the Parish Office.

## Roster for October

Date	5pm	7am	9am	5.30pm
4/5 December	Edward Foley	Sr Cecily Foster	Phill Ryan	Giselle Hossinger
	Graham Gibson	Nick Eden	Joseph Tan	Max Van Balen
11/12 December			Amanda Bell	Amelia Cebulski-Marino
	Tomos Walter	Jeanine Bygott	Erin Bledsoe	Matthew Crossley
Communion Minister 4/5 December	Marilyn Rea	Manus Maher		
PowerPoint Clicker 4/5 December	John Rea	Paul Marshall	Bell Family	Tom and Jess Luxford
Collectors/Marshall		Kevin Court	MacGinley Family	

### In our prayers we remember

#### Those who have died recently:

Julie Taylor, Joan Kunkel, Mary Chan Lou Fong Gor, Gabriel Fearon

#### Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Douglas Munt, Alice Shun Wah, Anna, Peter, Cammie Ashton, Nick Simonetta

#### Those who are unwell:

Harry Arkinstall, Pauline Cass, Gavin Taylor, Peter Smethurst

#### Advent Adventures Sunday 5 December, 9am

Catechists: Jane Cameron and Renee Maunder

#### Preparing for next Sunday's readings

#### Third Sunday of Advent : 12 December 2021

Zephaniah 3:14-18; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

### Christmas Raffle

Raffle tickets are available at the entrance of the church. It is a means of fundraising for the Parish. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. Raffle will be drawn Sunday 19 December.

### Holy Masses: Christmas



Friday 24 Dec. 5.30pm Carols  
6.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass  
11.30pm Carols, Midnight Mass

Saturday 25 December 7.00am & 9.00am

Bookings for the Christmas Masses are now open and will close Wednesday 22 December.

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

### CONGRATULATIONS TO

#### St Agatha's Calendar Competition Winners

January – Izzy Picking & Lily Potts

February – Allegra Pople

March – Keshi Butler

April – Lorelei Mann

May – Clare McLaughlin

June – Lucy Ryan

July – Rosie O'Rourke-Jackson

August – Massimo Di Venuto

September – Isabel McGovern

October – Ellie Griffin

November – Elina Fernandes

December – Emily Whittaker

#### 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

No Adoration

Reconciliation 9.30am

Reconciliation before Mass every weekday and Saturday before the 5pm Mass or any time by appointment.

#### 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](mailto:thomasb@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Parish Secretary:** Mrs Rosemary Greer

**E-mail:** [clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto: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:**  
(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