



ST. AGATHA'S PARISH

52 Oriel Rd Clayfield Q 4011

Phone: 3262 2859

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 in Ordinary Time (Year A) 15 January 2023

Hi all,



I forgot to mention some of the traditions of the **Feast of the Epiphany**. The chalking of the door is typically done on or around January 6th



Check out the link to how you can do a chalk blessing of your house - <https://www.thetableindy.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/chalking-the-door-2023.pdf>

Remember if you want your house, car or anything else blessed ring either Parish Office to arrange a time with Fr Nev.

Let's keep **Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI** in your prayers. Here's a link to his funeral mass - (5) [LIVE | Funeral Mass of Benedict XVI from the Vatican | January 5, 2023 | EWTN - YouTube](#)

Let's also pray for the soul of **Cardinal George Pell** and for the local Australian Church. We pray for his lifetime of service, ministry and his martyrdom as a Christian leader. We pray for those who have been unjustly treated particularly those who have suffered all kinds of abuse from clergy and the Church.

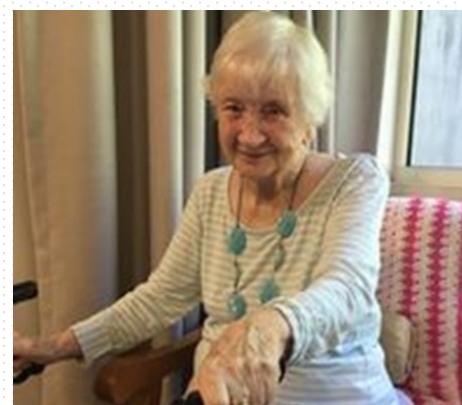
Here are some of the older ladies from our faith communities:



*Helen Orosz
(St Agatha's - 101)*



*Mary Vigor
(St John's - just celebrated 100
last weekend)*



*May Donaldson
(St Cecilia's - 94)*

Remember **Australia Day** is being celebrated on **26th Jan, Thurs Morning Mass at 9am @ St Agatha's**.

Blessings Fr Nev



Many thanks to everyone who helped in any way with the preparations with the Christmas Masses. Special thanks to Fr James O'Donoghue who celebrated the Midnight Mass.

Children's Liturgy (Prep to Year 4) will resume Sunday 29th January 2023 at the 8am Mass.

Masks are no longer required but still recommended whenever you cannot socially distance.



The St Agatha's SVDP Conference would like to sincerely thank, the parishioners for their generous support to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal.

The donations of money, food, including food and gift vouchers and children's toys were greatly appreciated by the families and persons, assisted at Christmas time.

Special thanks to the St Agatha's School for the beautiful and large hampers, donated to needy families. "

Confession

Fr Nev is available for confession half an hour before the 5.30pm Mass on Sunday at St Agatha's. Fr Nev is also happy to meet by appointment at other times during the week as might be more suitable. Please call the Parish Office if you would like to make a time for Confession/Reconciliation.

Australia Day Mass Thursday 26th

Mass will be celebrated at 9.00am.

Please join us for morning tea after Mass. All welcome!!



Mass Times

St Agatha's, Clayfield

Sunday 8.00am

5.30pm

Our Lady Help of Christians, Hendra

Saturday 5.00pm

Sunday 9.30am

Reconciliation/Confession: by appointment

No change to the weekday Mass at St Agatha's
Thursday 9am

No change to the weekday Mass at
St John's, Northgate
Friday 9am

St Cecilia's, Hamilton: Saturday 4.30pm

St John's, Northgate: Sunday 7.30am

Please note - Changes to weekday 9am Masses

Fr Nev advises that morning Masses will recommence on Thursday 19 January 2023 at St Agatha's and Friday 20 January 2023 at St John's.

catholic encounter
KIDS

HOLIDAY PROGRAM

January 19th 8.30am - 5pm

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish
Centre, Hendra

Open to all primary school students

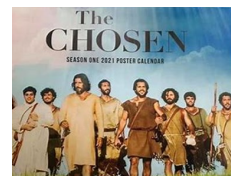
www.encountercatholickids.com.au/holiday-program



Alpha is for those who are ready to ask questions and explore life, faith and meaning. It is a short, free interactive course which is usually run via 11 weekly 2hr sessions and one retreat day/weekend after the 6th/7th session. Helpers complete training beforehand (mid-January) and may be 'behind the scenes' or join the hospitality, connection, content and conversations along with our guest participants. If interested, please register your availability preferences via this survey link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TQGK283>, or hard copy (available at church doors) or email parish office by 15/1/23. The first 2 hour session will occur between 3rd -12th Feb.



The Chosen is a faith-enriching crowd-funded series which portrays, mostly authentically, many New Testament stories, from the perspectives of the main characters. "No matter where you are at in your journey with Jesus Christ, this TV series is for you! Imagine you could see the life of Jesus through the eyes of the people that walked on Earth with Him." <https://catholic-link.org/the-chosen-catholic-study-guide/>.



Please register your interest via The Chosen availability survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CYFDTCP> or hard copy (available at church doors), or email parish office by 29/1/23. The first 45 minute session will occur between 3rd -12th Feb.

Reflection by *Richard Leonard*

Some of us remember the provocative and frightening 1991 film *Silence of the Lambs*.

The image in the title refers to a childhood memory of CIA agent, Clarice Starling. In her interviews with the psychopath Dr Lecter, he gets her to talk about how she still wakes at night hearing the cry of the lambs as they were led to slaughter on her uncle's farm. This is a pivotal moment in Thomas Harris' book and the film. It is the leverage Dr Lecter needs to unsettle and unravel Clarice's well-formed defences. Clarice is revealed as vulnerable, because of the grief she carries from the violent deaths she has seen.

I remember empathising with Clarice's memory of the lambs. When I was a child I saw many sheep slaughtered on my family's properties. I can still see my uncle selecting one of them, holding it in the pen before its execution and then watching him do the deed. The scene should have been enough to turn me into a vegetarian! Alas, I got over my pity for the animal and enjoyed roast lamb a few nights later.

John's use of the metaphor of the sacrificial lamb in reference to Jesus in today's Gospel is meant to engender a similar empathy to that of the childhood memories of Clarice Starling. While there are many jokes about the stupidity of sheep, lambs still claim a spot in the hardest heart. They are pure, white, fluffy and defenceless. They demand nurture. And like their parents they don't seem able to smell danger very easily. They follow where they're led, even to execution.

For the agrarian Jews of Jesus' time the sacrifice of a lamb demonstrated how serious they were about atoning for their sins. Jewish law dictated that a lamb had to be killed at least once a year, at Passover. Such a sacrifice cost the shepherd big time. Lambs were currency. This was tithing writ large.

Saying Jesus is the Lamb of God is a shorthand way of telling us two things. The first is that Jesus is God's most precious gift; God's own self, given to the world that we might know how serious God is about us. God can give us nothing more than Jesus. As a result of Jesus' innocent suffering and death there is no need for any lambs to be religiously slaughtered ever again. We need to keep hearing this message because some Christians get caught into glorifying Jesus' suffering so much they get trapped in their own world of pain and go looking for more. Jesus never sought out suffering. He bore what came his way. And the same must be true for us. Christians are not meant to be smiling masochists. Most of us don't need to look for more suffering in our lives because we share in the Lamb of God's sacrifice in the ordinary downs of our lives.

Secondly, John would have known that 'talya', the Aramaic word for sheep, is the same word used for servant. The first hearers of this Gospel would have known it too. Jesus, then, is the servant who brings us the truth we need for life, who answers our deepest desires to know that our existence has meaning and purpose and he opens up for us the life beyond this one, where there will be no more weeping or sadness.

Reflection for Young People – by *Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart*

John the Baptist doesn't just sit on a rock when he receives the call from God. Paul doesn't just sit. Isaiah doesn't just sit around either. They are called to do God's work, and so they get up and start working. Isaiah proclaims truth and warnings; Paul travels, establishes churches, and writes letters; John baptises and preaches repentance.

How does a teenager do God's work?

Why aren't more teenagers (or adults) involved in God's work?

As followers of Jesus, we are called to be light to all nations. In Isaiah's time that had a specific and serious meaning. It meant that salvation would be brought to all peoples, not just to the Jews. This was a hard message for many Jews to accept. Jews believed that they were God's Chosen People and that they needed to avoid other, 'lesser' peoples in order to remain true to God's way.

Today many people act as if they believe they are God's new chosen people. It is difficult for them to accept foreign peoples and foreign ways. What evidence do you see of that in the news?

Do you have 'chosen people' in your school? Are some groups shunned as 'lesser'? If so, why? Where do those attitudes come from? How are you called to be a light to all peoples – even to students in your high school who are in shunned groups?

Roster for January 2023

	8am	5.30pm
15 January	Eileen Duncan	Amelia Marino-Cebulski
<i>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Tomos Walters	Max Van Balen
Eucharistic Minister 15 January	Phill Ryan	Karen Birtles
PowerPoint Clicker 15 January	Bell Family	Tom & Jess Luxford
22 January	Amanda Bell	Liz O'Connor
<i>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Tomos Walters	Catie Kelly

In our prayers we remember

Those who have died recently:

Cardinal George Pell, Diane Harvey, Lynette Barnett (nee Mulcahy), Xantipa & Fillipe Pereira Pimenta, Pope Emeritus Benedict, Mary Stuart, Norm Lonn

Those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Eric O'Hagan, Craig Andrews, Len Clark

Those who are unwell:

Merlene Lisha, Pam Hayes



We acknowledge the Turrbal and Jagera people, the traditional custodians of the Land on which St Agatha's is built. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

We invite you to share your thoughts on how you access Catholic content in our survey.



The Archdiocese would appreciate your feedback by completing this short survey about how you access Catholic content. Your answers to the survey will help the Archdiocese do a better job of connecting you with the content you would like to see more of.

<http://bit.ly/3VHEkcl>

Thank you for any support you can give which is greatly appreciated.

Mother of Mercy Parish Prayer Engine of the Parish

Mother of Mercy Parish Prayer Engine of the Parish.
This prayer group prays for the intentions of the parish and the personal intentions of parishioners.
Prayer intentions can be placed in the special baskets at each of the churches and Parish Office (Hendra).
The Prayer Engine will meet at OLHC Church, Hendra every Tuesday, from 1:00-2:30pm.
All are welcome to join in prayer!

The Prayer Engine will be on recess for the holidays till Tuesday 7 February 2023.

Saturday Adoration

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed every Saturday, including holiday times, from 6am-5pm at OLHC Hendra for personal prayer. Entry to the Church is via the Bowman St side door. Please sign in and out. For enquiries, please contact Julie Anne on 0418 193 235 or Pat on 0411 597 781.



A Vocation View:

Isaiah's vocation was to be a light to the nations. Nations and neighbourhoods need missionaries - lay, clergy and religious. Listen to the call!



Parish Administration

Parish Administrator: Fr. Neville Yun
Email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Deacon: Rev. Dr. Peter Pellican
Email: pellicanp@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Secretary: Mrs Rosemary Greer
Email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

Children and Families

Pastoral Associate: Sandra Cantarutti
Email: cantaruttis@bne.catholic.net.au

Phone: 3262 2859

Finance Council Chair: Jodi Sutton
Community and Mission Council Chair:

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

Next week's reading 22 January 2023

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Isaiah 8:23-9:3; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17; Matthew 4:12-23



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 or

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:

BANK DETAILS

Account name: Clayfield Parish

BSB number: 064 786

Account number: 100006157



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5.30pm

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Saturday 5.00pm
Sunday 9.30am

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