



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

Priest: Urgent After Hours Telephone: 0403 743 874

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 28 January 2024 (YEAR B)

For some time now the church has been engaged in an ongoing conversation about the idea of celibacy, particularly as it relates to the priesthood. I don't wish to address that conversation directly; it will inevitably continue. What I do want to reflect upon however, is something that seems to get missed in this conversation, namely that celibacy, if it is lived authentically, is not something imposed but rather a gift which is discerned.



St Paul, in this weekend's second reading, speaks about celibacy. It is not priestly celibacy that he is speaking about - but celibacy in general. He recommends it to all the church but does not impose it on anyone. St Paul is not against marriage, but he sees in celibacy a higher gift. He invites all those who discern the gift, to follow the Lord with singleness of heart and so dedicate themselves to love of God and his Church, free from the necessary worries and distractions that come with family life.

A core part of my own journey towards the priesthood was the discernment of a call to celibacy. I found within me a powerful desire to dedicate myself to the work of the Gospel and to follow Christ in a life that closely imitated his own. I have lived that call imperfectly- yet it has defined my life and continues to bring me joy and consolation. Only having first discerned the gift of celibacy did I step forward to accept the priesthood. If the Church were to change its teaching on the topic of priestly celibacy, I still would not regret my commitment to it. Celibacy has been a gift in my life, one that has allowed me to live my own life more fully as a gift to others. Please pray for me as I continue to live a celibate life. Like all vocations, it has both joys and struggles.

Blessings

Fr. Michael.



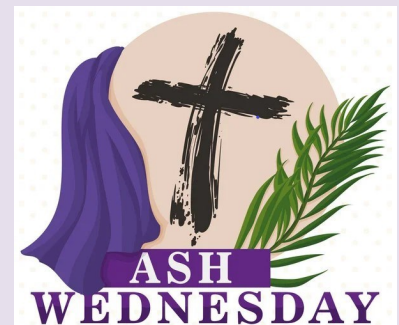
Ash Wednesday Masses - 14th February 2024

6.30am: St John's, Northgate

5.00pm: Our Lady Help of Christians, Hendra
(Fr Richard Leonard SJ - Mass and talk)

Please see page four of the newsletter for more details.

6.00pm: St Agatha's Church, Clayfield



Children's Liturgy for Prep to Year 4

this Sunday 28 January at the 8am Mass.

We invite children to come along to learn more about Jesus and the gospel through child-friendly, engaging activities.



What's happening at St Agatha's.

Sunday 8am Mass
28th January Morning Tea after Mass

Sunday **A Double Celebration**

4th February **St Agatha's Feast Day & Welcome Father Michael**
8am Mass



Pink Themed Morning Tea – please bring a plate

5.30pm Mass

Please stay and mingle – cupcakes and grazing / cheese platters.

Sunday 8am Family Mass

11th February Morning Tea after Mass
CMC Hosting



Australia Day Message

Click on the link below to read Archbishop Mark's Australia Day Message



<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/articles/australia-day-message/>

Piety Stall

Various items for sale:

Rosary beads, St Christopher medals and keyrings
Biography cards of various saints

Cash or card accepted.

If there is something that you would like but is not in stock, please let Liz know and we will endeavour to get it in for you. If you would like to assist Liz in any way, please contact Rosemary at the Parish Office.

Columban Calendars still for sale at \$10.00 each

A VOCATION VIEW: Jesus speaks as one having authority. As we follow God's call, we remember the same authority passed down to the Church that she might guide us closer to Christ and help us discern our vocation.

Items for inclusion in this newsletter, please email to: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au or call 3262 2859. Cut off deadline – 5.00pm Tuesday.

Reflection by Nick Brodie

According to Pope Francis, 'Jesus did not mince words'. Any way you look at it, Christ's proclamation was a turning point in history with phenomenal ramifications. The moment has arrived! The Kingdom of God is close! There is Good News to be heard!

This was Jesus' message about himself. 'He was the salvation,' the Pope notes, who entered human history in a powerfully new way.

When we look at this Gospel, Jesus also had another component of his message: the way of discipleship. Its elements are straightforward: repent, believe, follow.

As the Pope elaborates, Jesus 'invites us to recognise ourselves as in need of God and his grace; to have a balanced attitude with regard to earthly goods; to be welcoming and humble toward everyone; to know and fulfil ourselves in the encounter with and service of others.' This is how we can change our lives to follow more closely the one in whom we believe.

And, as the Pope further suggests, each phase of our life 'has its own value, and can be a privileged moment of encounter with the Lord.' Therefore, we should be open to welcoming Jesus again and again in new places and situations. Whether in our parishes, homes or workplaces, our lives are full of encounters that can change us and those we meet. This is the way.

2024
FAITH AND FATHERHOOD
2ND & 4TH TUESDAY NIGHTS - 5:30 - 6:30
STARTING TUESDAY 30 JAN 2024
CONTACT ANDY 0435 426 388 OR JUSTIN 0416 007 289

In 2024 married men in their 30s and 40s are invited to gather at the Chermside Tavern every second Tuesday night at 5.30-6.30pm to enjoy a beverage and read a gospel passage with the purpose of discussing and applying spiritual truths to their everyday lives.

Look forward to seeing you there.
(We ask you to respect the demographic).
Chermside Tavern - Northern end of

WESTFIELD CHERMSIDE SHOPPING CENTRE

395 Hamilton Road, Chermside



PLEASE NOTE - SCAM ALERT

Scams via email are prolific at present and we would caution all parishioners to not respond to any email from anyone claiming to be a representative of our parish asking for money, gift cards or verification of financial details. Our Clergy would never seek to contact you in this way or require that you provide them with cash or store cards to get them out of a bind.

Healing of the Family Mass

Where: St John's Church,
688 Nudgee Rd, Northgate

When: 11am on Saturday
3 Feb 2024

Mass celebrant: Fr Ihemelandu Uzuegbu

Enquiries: Rose or Audrey
(0435 558 390 or secretary@ccrbrisbane.org.au)
Prayer Support Teams available after Mass.
Followed by BYO Lunch.



PARISH GIVING APP – QR CODE (Collection Plate):

The Parish Giving App is part of the Archdiocese of Brisbane and has been set up specifically for parishioners to electronically connect via their mobile phone to donate to their own parish. Please scan the QR code attached to the church collection baskets to your mobile telephone and follow the prompts to complete your giving donation. You can also access the Parish Giving App by scanning the QR code above. Your generous financial support of the parish is greatly appreciated.



POSITIONS VACANT IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

Sacramental Program Co-ordinator St Therese & St Anthony Parish, Kedron

The Sacramental Program Coordinator assists the parish priest in the organisation and delivery of the parish sacramental program and other liturgical ministries. The Coordinator will prepare and deliver information sessions, learning resources and liturgy materials for the sacraments of Confirmation, First Communion and Reconciliation. This is a casual position (approximately 10 hours a week) with flexible hours. For information and to apply for the position, please follow the link below:

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/careers/?ja-job=828745>
For more information about the position or a copy of the position description please email Mrs Sandra Di Francesco (Parish Manager) at kedron@bne.catholic.net.au

Administrator - Holy Spirit Seminary

The role of the Administrator is to provide effective and efficient administrative and secretarial support primarily to the Rector and subsequently all others working at the Seminary. This is a full-time role working 38 hours per week, Monday to Friday. The position will be remunerated under the Clerks – Private Sector Award 2020.

For information and to apply for the position, please follow the link below:

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/careers/?ja-job=832702>

Special Lenten Women's Retreat

With Lisa McKerr from Evangelisation Brisbane

Tuesday 6th Feb from 9.00–11.30am

Parish Centre Meeting Room, Hendra



The session will have a Lenten Preparation theme. Lisa's sessions are prayerful, reflective and a great start for our Lenten Season.

RSVP Kate McLean 0422 575 546 or please contact the Parish Office on 3268 3040.

Catholic Leader

As of this month, the newspaper will no longer be available for sale in Churches and Mass Centres, but you can easily subscribe to have the paper delivered to your door each month:

<https://catholicleader.com.au/subscribe/>

Parents/Guardians please note:

For safety reasons, children **are not permitted** up in the Choir Loft unless accompanied by an adult.



Xavier School of Mission

One word, emerging voices: Is mission the key to a synodal Church?

Sunday 9 – Friday 14 June 2024

<https://seminary.catholic.net.au/>

***“Go and make disciples of all nations”
Matthew 28:19***

The Xavier School of Mission will ask:

How do we listen to all the voices in the body of Christ? How do we have respectful conversations with people with diverse opinions? How do we understand our own ‘call to mission’ and that of other people and groups? How can looking outward help us to face the challenges we face within our groups and communities?

This formation experience will include prayer and reflection, lectures and small group experiences, daily Eucharist, and opportunities for one-to-one mentoring.

DATES Sunday 9 – Friday 14 June 2024

LOCATION Holy Spirit Seminary Queensland

KEY SPEAKERS

Bishop Shane Mackinlay

Dr Sandie Cornish

Ms Kelly Paget

Mr Huw Warmenhoven

Ms Justine Hughes

Associate Professor Maeve Louise Heaney VDMF

CONTACT E: xaviercentre@acu.edu.au

W: <https://seminary.catholic.net.au/>

Facebook: [@XavierSchoolOfMission](https://www.facebook.com/XavierSchoolOfMission)

Becoming a guide or a welcomer

An information day for anyone who would like to find out more about becoming a guide and/or a welcomer at The Cathedral of St. Stephen will be held on **Thursday 1st February from 9.30am until 1pm** in the Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre. Refreshments will be provided. We'd love to welcome you. Please register your interest with Carmel Devery at the Cathedral Office on 3324 3006 or by email cathedral@bne.catholic.net.au



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/>

Roster for January/February 2024

	8am	
28 January	Judy Bartels	Andre Marino
<i>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Amanda Bell	Amelia Marino-Cebulski
Eucharistic Minister 28 January		
PowerPoint Clicker 21 January	Bell Family	Tom and Jess Luxford
4 February	Terry Manso	Max Van Balen
<i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	Nik Kure	Joel Perkins

In our prayers we remember



Those who have died recently:

David Rosset, David Briffa, David Logan

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Tatiana Pais

Those who are unwell: Simon Grisales

ALPHA

The next Alpha is planned to begin in **May 2024**, probably on Sundays from 11am - 1pm. Please consider inviting yourself and/or someone else.

For more information, please go to: www.alpha.org.au/try
Contact: hendra@bne.catholic.net.au (or 3268 3040)



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.

Mother of Mercy Parish 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 Street side door. Please sign in and out. For enquiries, please contact Julie Anne on 0418 193 235 or Pat on 0411 597 781.

Mother of Mercy Parish Prayer Engine of the Parish The Prayer Engine will resume next Tuesday 30 January.

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 (St Agatha's and Hendra) 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!

FR RICHARD LEONARD SJ Guest Celebrant and Speaker at Mother of Mercy Parish

Time: Mass at 5.00pm then 6.00pm talk | (Topic: Why Bother Praying?)

Date: Ash Wednesday 14 Feb 2024 | **Place:** OLHC Church, Hendra

Fr Richard is a wonderful speaker, author and YouTuber and has written many books (eg Where the Hell is God?) that are relevant and engaging.

Transport can be provided for those requiring assistance to attend.

Gold Coin Donation.

Open to all, family and friends most welcome!



Parish Administration

Parish Administrator: Fr Michael Grace
Email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

Parish Deacon: Rev. Dr. Peter Pellicaan
Email: pellicaanp@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

Community and Mission Council

Chair: Matthew Crossley

Local Safeguarding Representative:
Catriona McPherson (0456 441 717)
lsr.clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

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



Readings for 4 February 2024

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (YEAR B)

Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39

Support St. Agatha's Parish

We very much appreciate your continued financial assistance and donations to the Parish are most warmly welcomed.

Ways to financially support your parish:

- * Direct debit (please contact Parish Office)
- * Place your offerings in the collection plates during the Mass
- * Planned Giving Envelopes or
- * The Parish Giving App: Scan the QR code (or the code attached to the church collection plates), to your mobile telephone and follow the prompts to complete your giving donation.
- * If you wish, you can also contribute via online internet banking, details are as follows:



BANK DETAILS

Account name: Clayfield Parish

BSB number: 064 786

Account number: 100006157

Reference: PGDonation and your surname

Mass Times

St Agatha's, Clayfield
Sunday 8.00am

5.30pm

Our Lady Help of Christians, Hendra

Saturday 5.00pm

Sunday 9.30am

St Cecilia's, Hamilton:

Saturday 4.30pm

St John's, Northgate:

Sunday 7.30am

**Reconciliation/
Confession:**
by appointment

Weekday Masses
St Agatha's, Clayfield

Thursday 9am

St John's, Northgate

Friday 9am