



Newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISHES

Clayfield ● Hendra ● Hamilton ● Northgate



EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) 2 MARCH 2025

Parish Office Telephone:
07 3268 3040
Urgent after hours — 0403 743 874

PARISH PRIEST : Rev. Michael Grace
Email: gracem@bne.catholic.net.au

PARISH ADMINISTRATION:
Mail: PO Box 3109, Hendra Q 4011
St Agatha's Clayfield Parish
Clayfield Parish Deacon: Rev. Dr Peter Pellicaan
Email: pellicaanp@bne.catholic.net.au
Rosemary Greer (Parish Secretary — Clayfield Parish)
Email: clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

Mother of Mercy Parish
9 Bowman Street, Hendra Q 4011
Monica Johnson (Parish Secretary — MOM Parish)
Email: hendra@bne.catholic.net.au
Helen Price (Finance Secretary)
Email: finance.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

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Alexandria Atkins (Sacramental Admin)
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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS:
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Email: lsr.clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

Mother of Mercy Parish
Compliance Officer: Monica Johnson
Email: safeguard.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au
Incident reports: Vicki Ward (0407 550 571)

PARISH SCHOOLS:
St Agatha's Catholic Primary School
6 Hunter Lane Clayfield **Phone:** 3326 9222
School Principal: Ms Anne-Marie Maw
APRE: Mr Jake Knowles

Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School
23 Bowman St, Hendra **Phone:** 3268 3070
School Principal: Mr Adam Bennie
Acting APRE: Mrs Marie-Louise Stolberg (2025)
Email: phendra@bne.catholic.edu.au

We are about to enter the solemn season of Lent. This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, and my invitation to each of you is: make the most of this moment of grace!

What is Lent all about? What is its objective? In the end, the objective of Lent is the same as the ultimate goal of the Christian life—union with God. Similarly, the disciplines of Lent can and should be lived at other times of the year as well. Lent, therefore, is a more intentional and more intense living out of the Christian life.

St Paul's letter to the church in Corinth points us in the right direction. We are to put to death that which belongs to the 'perishable' body and so put on the 'imperishable' body. We unite ourselves, through prayer and fasting, with the crucified Christ—so as to share in His Resurrection. Thus, the final outcome of our Lenten journey is to sing with St Paul his triumphant hymn: "Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting?"

A great way to start the Lenten pilgrimage is by participating in the Ash Wednesday Mass. Here, the faithful are signed with ashes, and as they are signed, they are also exhorted to follow Christ more closely: "Repent and be faithful to the Gospel."

Another great way to enter into Lent is to make use of the Lenten reflection books, which can be purchased for \$5. As it turns out, I am the author of this year's reflections, so I hope you enjoy them and find them useful.

As we begin this holy season, then, let us trust in the comforting words of St Paul: "Keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain."

Blessings,
Fr Michael



Fr Michael Grace






ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday Masses—5 March:

8.45am Our Lady Help of Christians, Hendra

6.00pm St Agatha's, Clayfield

Stations of the Cross
St Agatha's Church
Every Thursday 8.30am, during Lent.





St Agatha's Church
52 Oriel Road, Clayfield



Our Lady Help of Christians Church
9 Bowman Street, Hendra



St Cecilia's Church
30 College Street, Hamilton



St John's Church
688 Nudgee Road, Northgate

What's on at St Agatha's

Sunday 2 March

8.00am Mass Morning tea following Mass
Hosted by Marie Deuble, Judy and Paul Bartels

5.30pm Mass

St Agatha's Parish Messages....

- ♦ **Children's Liturgy for Prep to Year 4 this Sunday 2 March** at the 8am Mass. We invite children to come along to learn more about Jesus and the gospel through child-friendly, engaging activities.



The first Family Mass of the year and Morning Tea!

Sunday March 9th, 8:00am

Bring a packet of biscuits/ plate to share for after!

All children wave ribbons during the closing hymn.

Would your child like to have a role/reading? Roles are open to all children!

Please email Sandy cantaruttis@bne.catholic.net.au

In our prayers we remember. . . .

Those who have died recently:

Joan McKean, Dorothy McSweeney, Wally Olszewski, Pauline Chandler

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Betty McKenzie

Those who are ill: Abby Hernandez, His Holiness Pope Francis



What's happening in MOM Parish this week

Sunday 2 March

9.30am Morning tea after 9.30am Mass (Parish Centre)
11.00-11.45am Lectio Divina (Parish Centre) All very welcome.
Volunteer at Hendra Parish Morning Tea
2 March: Kathryn Bourke 9 March: Lorelei Gozzard

MOM Parish Messages....

- ♦ **PRAYER SUPPORT—First and Third Sundays of the month**
A team of volunteers will be available to pray for the individual needs of parishioners following the 9.30am Mass at Hendra. Everything shared with the prayer team will remain confidential.



February Parish Birthdays Morning Tea After Mass: This Sunday, 2 March we will celebrate the February birthdays of our Parish family members with a birthday cake after the 9.30am Mass at Hendra. Come along and join us!

Lenten Discussion Sessions

All are warmly invited to join our Lenten Discussion Sessions in the Parish. Sessions will be held:

- * **Sundays** during Lent from 11-11.45am from **9 March** in the Parish Centre at Hendra.
- * **Thursdays** during Lent from 4.00-5.30pm at AVEO Clayfield, 469 Sandgate Rd, Albion. Sessions commence **Thursday 5 March**. Visitor parking is available underneath the first building on the right once driving through the main entrance.

WE PRAY FOR....

Recently deceased: Sr Elaine rsj, Betty Parkinson-Beirne, Gerard Hanigan

Anniversaries: Paul Taylor, Zdenek Stodulka, Pamela Ann Gerrand, Brian Boyle, Enid May Magnani, Giovanni Caniglia, Daniel David Conanan, Olive "Joy" Long, Fr Vincent Rowan, Angela Sturgess

Sick: His Holiness Pope Francis, Angela Krista, Rosaria Fazio, Michael Hardy, Maria Ward



ST AGATHA'S PARISH AND MOTHER OF MERCY PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

World Day of Prayer Service 2025

10.00am Friday 7 March 2025
Our Lady Help of Christians Church
Hendra

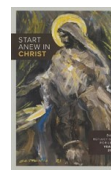


Kia Orana Parishioners of St Agatha's, Clayfield and Mother of Mercy Parish (Hendra, Hamilton and Northgate). This year World Day of Prayer celebrates and prays for the Cook Islands, neighbors to Australia in the Pacific Ocean with the theme "**I made you wonderful**" – Psalm 139:14. Please join the World Day of Prayer group of Clayfield/Hamilton/Hendra/Northgate at our Service at **Our Lady Help of Christians at 10 am on Friday 7th of March 2025**. Morning tea held afterwards at Parish Hall. For inquiries, contact Mary Nicholls on 0408080723 or via email marynix56@icloud.com.

DAILY REFLECTION BOOKS FOR LENT 2025 "Start Anew in Christ".

These Lenten reflection booklets are produced by Archdiocesan Ministries and are available at the back of the Church. Please take a copy home today. A \$5.00 donation would be welcomed and a donation box is provided nearby.

The author of this year's reflections is Fr Michael Grace.



Parish Community Jumble Sale

This Saturday 1st March
8am till 12 noon

St John's Church Hall, 688 Nudgee Road, Northgate

Huge selection of quality clothing, brickabrack, books, toys, plants etc. Many treasures!

CASH ONLY



Next event: **Saturday 5 April—First Saturday of the every month**



PROJECT COMPASSION

Project Compassion Sunday 1st and 2nd of March 2025

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.



UNITE AGAINST POVERTY
this Lent

St Agatha's Church – The Last 100 Years 1925 – 2025

St Agatha's 3rd Parish Priest 1968-1989

Rev Father Vincent Rowan

21 Again

Father Rowan had been the Parish Priest of St John's Northgate for 21 years before taking over the reins of St Agatha's. 21 must have been his number! He guided St Agatha's Parish for the same length of time... 21 years. As he was a talented opera singer, he taught Liturgical Music to seminarians of Banyo, again for 21 years!

Father Rowan considered himself a 'builder,' as opposed to an academic.

Traditionally, the first job of a new Parish Priest was raising money for the headstone of the previous priest. He began the process but was told that Monsignor English's tombstone had been taken care of in a will. Tick! Unfortunately, for Father his future tasks were far more challenging.

It was a testing time as he had to implement the massive changes of the Second Vatican Council. Some of controversial directives; the laity was to be more involved in the Mass; readings were to be in English; and hymns were introduced. Poor Father was seen as by many as a "perpetrator of change." He was even told by a parishioner, 'We don't do these things at Clayfield!'

The old timber structure, that was St Agatha's school, also needed replacing. A new school was built in 1973. Father Rowan was much loved by the St Agatha's children, as he regularly visited classrooms and playgrounds.

He had many parishioners and staff as close friends. His loyalty to his parish, and prayer and concern for the sick, was evident in his fortnightly visits to parishioner, Margaret Harrington, at Holy Spirit Hospital. She was immobile and could only move her eyes. He prayed beside her for himself as a priest and for the welfare of his parishioners.

Father also began, with a group of dedicated Parishioners, what is now known as a Parish Council. This successful group was, 'Clayfield Care.'

Property Foresight

In 1969, he purchased the house next to the presbytery to ensure the site was not demolished and turned into six pack units, which was happening all over Clayfield. He quickly off loaded the property to a parishioner who promised to make it a family home. For years, these neighbours looked after each other.



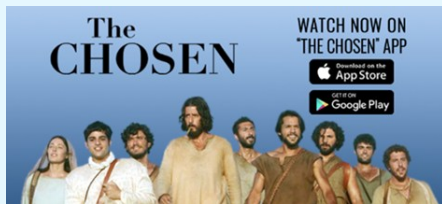
Quick Facts

- 1974 – 1989 Father Rowan served as Vicar General of the Archdiocese.
- 1985 He instigated a Diamond Jubilee Celebration for the School and Parish – a luncheon with speeches, and St Agatha's students recited poems and sang.
- 1986 The parishes of St Agatha and St Cecilia's were combined.
- 1987 The first Parish Newsletter was published by the newly appointed Pastoral Associate, Sr Carmelita. She was described as, 'The Sister of Perpetual Motion,' teaching religion at State Schools, creating beautiful banners for the altar, was a sacristan, member of St Vincent de Paul, prepared children for their Sacraments, visited the sick, studied theology ...
- 1989 Father Rowan had a stroke and could no longer fulfil the duties as Parish Priest.
- 2004 Father Rowan died on 20th February.

Compiled by Anne-Marie Quinn

THE CHOSEN (weekly Lenten Discussion Sessions)

The Chosen is the first-ever multi-season TV show about the life of Jesus. *The Chosen* allows us to see Him through the eyes of those who knew Him and of the people who interacted with him.



Please indicate your availability to attend the WEEKLY 90 minute viewing and comparative discussion sessions during Lent 2025. The choices are Monday or Wednesday evenings or Sunday early afternoons. Please open the following link to the voting page: <https://doodle.com/group-poll/participate/b6G5Bm9d>

Voting re session timing closes midnight on Sunday 2/3.

All are warmly invited.....Lynn, Selwyn, Ash, S & K

NEWS FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary School

Our 2025 School Goals focus on:

- Improving achievement and engagement in writing.
- Providing professional learning for staff on leading liturgy and planning Religious Education units of work.
- Creating a peer observation and feedback model for staff to learn each other's expertise.
- Develop deeper relationships with pre-school and secondary school providers to further establish OLHC's role in the education pathway for families in the area.

We look forward to sharing our growth and achievements throughout the year.

If you have a Kindy aged child in 2025, born between 1st July 2020 to 30th June 2021, please go to our Online Enrolment Form and complete an enrolment ASAP. Enrolments are open until the end of Term 1 and Prep interviews will be conducted during March. Please call the office to book into a school tour.

Adam Bennie (Principal)

We must teach more by example than by word. St Mary MacKillop

St Agatha's Catholic Primary School

On Friday St Agatha's held its first Open Day for 2025. Open Day is an opportunity for prospective families to visit the school, have a school tour and learn about our community from students, staff and families. Our Senior A students take special pride in leading school tours and sharing with families all they know about our school. If you missed your chance to visit St Agatha's for Open Day please know St Agatha's will be part of BCE's Open Week in Term 2 where we will open our doors to the community again.

I look forward to seeing you all at family Mass next week and am happy to provide a guided tour of our school after Mass if any prospective families would like to visit our school.

Anne-Marie Maw (Principal)

Growth, Friendship, Faith.



The Sacrament of **EUCCHARIST**

Open to all children Year 4 and above who have completed Baptism and Confirmation.
For preparation schedule and enrolment form please visit one of the following websites:

**St Agatha's
Clayfield**

<https://clayfieldparish.org.au/eucharist/>



**Mother of Mercy
Hendra, Northgate, Hamilton**

<https://www.motherofmercyparish.org.au/eucharist.html>



Sunday Mass Rosters

Date	Reader Clayfield 8am Mass	Reader Clayfield 5:30pm Mass	Reader OLHC 9:30am Mass	Eucharistic Minister OLHC 9:30am Mass
2 March	Nik Kure Scott Fitzpatrick	Karen Birtles Louis Currie	Robyn Jaynes <i>Volunteer</i>	Pat Shine Kate McLean
9 March	Family Mass	Giselle Hossinger Joel Perkins	Angela Devereux Cutella Dias	Robyn Jaynes Barbara Nelson

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN

We ask all parishioners to please make themselves familiar with the Emergency Evacuation Plans that are located at the Church doors. In the unlikely event of the need for an emergency evacuation of the Church, please immediately and calmly proceed to the nearest exit and gather at the meeting point as outlined in the plan.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL—ITEMS WANTED

SVDP Hendra Conference is in need of good working **mobile phones and laptops** for needy clients. Donations would be gratefully appreciated. Please contact Mike on 0419 027 430.



SUPPORT ST AGATHA'S PARISH

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

Ways to financially support your parish

- **TAP N GO—DONATION tap point:** Our parish has installed a new donation terminal, located at the door of the church. Please follow the prompts to activate the device then select your donation and tap your card or mobile.
- Place your offerings in the collection plate at Mass
- Direct Debit (please contact Parish Office)
- Planned Giving Envelopes
- **The Parish Giving App:** scan the QR code (*attached to the collection plate or shown here*) to your mobile telephone and follow the prompts to complete your giving donation.



You can also contribute via internet banking direct to the Parish:

Account name: Clayfield Parish

BSB number: 064 786

Account number: 100006157

SUPPORT MOTHER of MERCY PARISH

We very much appreciate your continued financial assistance and donations to the Parish are most warmly welcomed. This can be best achieved by direct debit to the following account:

Mother of Mercy Parish Account BSB 064 786 Acc—100007977

Please note "Donation" and your name as a reference. Please send your receipt to: finance.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au after your payment has been made.

TAP N GO—DONATION tap point: Our parish has installed new donation terminals, located at the door of the churches. Please follow the prompts to activate the device then select your donation and tap your card or mobile.

Another way to donate easily is via the **PARISH GIVING APP:** Scan the QR code (*shown here, or the code attached to the collection plates*) to your mobile telephone and follow the prompts to complete your giving donation.



Do you have a Family Trust? Did you know that making your weekly gift to the Parish through dividend income from your trust reduces your tax obligations? Additionally, these gifts are not counted against your family tax benefit payments. Contact your financial advisor for details on how you can save taxes and help build our Parish community at the same time.

MASSES IN THE PARISHES

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 4:30 pm - Vigil Mass, St Cecilia's, Hamilton

Sunday: 8:00 am - St Agatha's, Clayfield

9:30 am - OLHC, Hendra

5:30 pm - St Agatha's, Clayfield

WEEKDAY MASSES

8:45 am Wednesday - OLHC, Hendra

9:00 am Thursday - St Agatha's, Clayfield

9.00 am Friday - St John's, Northgate

NEXT SUNDAYS' READINGS

9 MARCH 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Deut 26:4-10

Second Reading: Rom 10:8-13

Gospel: Lk 4:1-13



Commemoration of Saints March 2025

Tues 4 St Casimir

Wed 5 **Ash Wednesday**

Fri 7 **Saints Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs MEMORIAL**

Autumn Ember Day: Special Day of Prayer and Penance

(Ember Days mark the beginning of each of the four seasons.

These are special days of prayer and penance, focussing on the environment, the seasons and God's providence.)

Sat 8 St John of God, religious

Pray for us....

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION POLICY

The Archdiocese of Brisbane holds that children, young people and vulnerable adults are a gift from God with an intrinsic right to dignity of life, respect and security from physical and emotional harm. They are to be treasured, nurtured and safeguarded.



We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationships of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.



To talk to someone about your vocation,
Contact Vocation Brisbane. P: (07) 3336 9392

E: vocation@bne.catholic.net.au

W: catholicpriesthood.com



Items for inclusion in this Newsletter—Cut Off 1:00pm Tuesday.

Please email: hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

OR clayfld@bne.catholic.net.au