



# Newsletter

## CATHOLIC PARISHES

Clayfield • Hendra • Hamilton • Northgate



**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A)**

**18 JANUARY 2026**

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

**PARISH PRIEST:** Rev. Michael Grace  
**Email:** [gracem@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:gracem@bne.catholic.net.au)

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION:**  
**Postal Address:** 9 Bowman Street, Hendra Q 4011  
**St Agatha's Clayfield Parish**  
**Clayfield Parish Deacon:** Rev. Dr Peter Pellicaan  
**Email:** [pellicaanp@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:pellicaanp@bne.catholic.net.au)  
**Rosemary Greer (Parish Secretary)**  
**Email:** [clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Mother of Mercy Parish**  
9 Bowman Street, Hendra Q 4011  
**Rosemary Greer (Parish Secretary)**  
**Email:** [hendra@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hendra@bne.catholic.net.au)  
**Helen Price (Finance Secretary)**  
**Email:** [finance.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:finance.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au)

**CHILDREN & FAMILIES PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:**  
**Sandra Cantarutti**  
**Email:** [cantarutti@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cantarutti@bne.catholic.net.au)  
**Alexandria Atkins (Sacramental Admin)**  
**Email:** [sacramental.clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sacramental.clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au)

**PARISH COORDINATOR:** Brendan Gaffney

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS:**  
**St Agatha's, Clayfield**  
Catriona McPherson (0456 441 717)  
**Email:** [lsr.clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:lsr.clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au)

**Mother of Mercy Parish**  
Incident reports: Vicki Ward (0407 550 571)  
**Email:** [safeguard.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:safeguard.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au)

**PARISH SCHOOLS:**  
**St Agatha's Catholic Primary School**  
6 Hunter Lane Clayfield **Phone:** 3326 9222  
**Acting School Principal:** Ms Kristen Garrett  
**APRE:** Mr Jon Tracey  
**Email:** [pclayfield@bne.catholic.edu.au](mailto:pclayfield@bne.catholic.edu.au)

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



**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

I count, as the greatest blessing of my life, the fact that I was born into the Catholic Church, baptised, and then raised as a practising Catholic. Why? Because I have consistently received the message of eternal life, and have come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.



Fr Michael Grace

I say none of this to boast — indeed, this is blessing and grace, not merited by myself but given to me as a gift. In that sense, I resonate deeply with the message of St Paul in today's second reading.

Paul writes not to an ideal community, but to the Church of God that is in Corinth — fragile, divided, and yet addressed as those who are "called to be saints". I recognise myself in that calling. I, too, was one "called" by the grace of God to take my place in the Church of Christ — and, by that same grace, to belong to, and even help to lead, the Church in this place: the gathering of the "saints".

When Paul speaks of "saints", he is not referring to moral perfection or to those who are better than others. Rather, he is naming a gift of identity bestowed by God: those called into the fellowship of his Son and destined for eternal life. Paul understands that this calling comes before achievement and apart from merit. Our gathering with the Church, and our perseverance in doing so, does not create the gift — it manifests it. Yes, we can renounce the gift and fall away, but the gift itself is never our doing; it is always grace.

Thus, as I consider the gift that I have been given, I feel love and gratitude, not self-satisfaction. And my hope and prayer is that, just as I was introduced to this gift, I might serve to help others find the gift of belonging to God's Church, and so take up their call to belong, to gather, and to be counted among the saints.

Blessings,  
Fr Michael



## What's on at St Agatha's

### Sunday 18 January

8.00am Mass Morning tea hosted by:  
Gloria Lee, Mel Lillicrap, Anna Chetcuti  
5.30pm Mass Pizza evenings will resume Sunday 15 March.



### St Agatha's Parish Messages....

- ♦ Children's Liturgy will resume in February.

### THANKS FROM ST AGATHA'S SVDP CONFERENCE



The St Agatha's SVDP Conference would like to sincerely thank all parishioners who contributed to the Christmas hamper appeal. We were able to deliver great hampers to 21 grateful recipients.

Thanks are also due for the generous response to our Christmas appeal for funds. This will allow us to continue our work in 2026.

St Agatha's School also provided 14 wonderful hampers for families with children. It was our privilege and joy to deliver these splendid gifts on behalf of the School. Thank you to all the staff, parents and children who contributed to the provision of these hampers.

### In our prayers we remember....



### Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Anne Ambrose, Margaret Murphy, Tony Walsh, Jeannine Treston, John Bertelsen

### Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Craig Andrews, Tom McCormack, Helena Lewandowska

## What's happening in MOM Parish this week

### Sunday 18 January

9.30am Morning tea after 9.30am Mass (Parish Centre)



### Volunteer(s) at Parish Morning Tea (10.30am Sundays)

18 January: Kate McLean

25 January: Kerrie Fernicola

### MOM Parish Messages....

- ♦ PLAYGROUP at the OLHC Primary School OSCHC will be in recess until further notice.
- ♦ LECTIO DIVINA commences THIS Sunday 18 January 11.00 - 11.45am (Parish Centre). All welcome.

### JANUARY PARISH BIRTHDAYS:

We will be celebrating the January Parish birthdays

NEXT Sunday 25 January after 9:30am OLHC Mass.



Please come along and join us!

- ♦ Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Friday 6 February after the 9:00am Mass at St John's, Northgate. Morning tea after Mass.
- ♦ Anointing and Healing Mass: Friday 13 February at the 9:00am Mass at St John's, Northgate. Morning tea after Mass. All welcome.

### We Pray for ....



Recently Deceased: Father Ivan Herton

Anniversaries: Beryl Moore, Eileen Hayes, Arthur Watt, Leo McCourt, Narelle Smith, Archbishop Robert Dunne, Monsignor Cornelius Roberts, Father John Gowan

Sick: Wayne O'Toole, Brad Ryan, Betty Mahoney, Rosaria Fazio, Michael Hardy, Maria Ward

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



Hi I'm Brendan Gaffney,

I have just been appointed Parish Co-ordinator for MOM Hendra & St Agatha's Clayfield Parishes to assist Father Michael.

Many at St Agatha's will know me well as the son of Eamon and Eileen Gaffney with our family having been in the parish since 1981 after moving from Cairns.

Many would also know myself and my wife Katie and daughter Hannah from 8am Mass each week with Katie and Hannah helping out Sandy in Children's liturgy. Hannah is commencing year 7 at Mary McKillop College this year.

I also have 3 adult children and an 11 month old grandson, all of which live in Sydney where I lived from 1991 until Jan 2022.

I am an active member of the St Leonards Chapter of St Vincent DePaul which is purely formed for the assistance of ex prisoners that have little or no family, no job and often no home. We took over the production and delivery of the "Blue Bags" from the Josephites and we help people right across the state with support including regular "companionship visits" to ensure they have some support and someone to talk to.

For those at MOM Hendra I now live in Lilley St Hendra and frequent Wednesday morning Mass at OLHC and Friday Mornings at St John's as well as St Agatha's on Thursdays and I will also commence attendance to the after mass "cuppa" each Sunday at OLHC so that we can all become more familiar.

I thank Father Michael and Max Walters for their offer and support of me to add value to the combined parishes in assisting in the many tasks that are required to ensure a well run ship.

My family and I look forward to being further involved in both parishes and to meeting as many parishioners as possible.

**Baptismal Joy!!** This Sunday at St Agatha's we welcome with great joy three new members of Christ's faithful people:

Thomas Gradden, son of Jordan and Bronte  
Celeste Hutchinson, daughter of Patrick and Jessica  
Theodore Russell, son of Timothy and Elizabeth  
May they always know God's love and the support of this Christian Community.



### PRAYER SUPPORT

will resume Sunday 1 February  
after the 9.30am Mass at OLHC Church, Hendra  
Prayer Support will be offered once a month only.  
A team of volunteers will be available to pray for the individual needs of parishioners.  
Everything shared with the prayer team will remain confidential.

### MOTHER OF MERCY PARISH PRAYER ENGINE

will resume Tuesday 3 February.  
The Prayer Engine meet at OLHC Church from 1.00-2.15pm. All are welcome.

Raffaele sings at St Agatha's Christmas Vigil and Easter Vigil Masses.  
He is available for weddings, funerals and other events.



RAFFAELE PIERNO    
ITALIAN / NEAPOLITAN TENOR  
INTERNATIONAL OPERA SINGER

📞 (+61) 0420-479-196

✉️ r.pierno@yahoo.com.au

visit [raffaelepierno.com](http://raffaelepierno.com) for bookings



Search "Raffaele Pierno" to watch

### **POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JANUARY**

#### *For prayer with the Word of God*

Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

### GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUP

will resume Tuesday 3 February.

The group meet at 9.30am in the Parish Centre, Hendra to discuss the gospel reading for the next Sunday.

Morning tea follows the session.

All are most welcome!!!!

### **REGIONAL TRIBUNAL FOR QUEENSLAND**

#### New contact details:

Physical Address: 23 Lovedale Street Wilson  
Postal Address: PO Box 348, Wilston Qld 4051  
Phone Number: 3324 3033  
Email Address: [tribbris@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:tribbris@bne.catholic.net.au)  
Website:  
<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/gods-word/annulments/>



### **NEWS FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOLS**

#### ***Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary School***

Thank you to all who supported our school in 2025. Keep safe, we look forward to seeing those returning in 2026.

**Marie-Louise Stolberg**

(Assistant to the Principal in Religious Education)



**FAITH · COURAGE · ACTION**

#### ***St Agatha's Catholic Primary School***



**Limited vacancies in 2026 Prep – Year 6**

For details visit

[www.stagathasclayfield.qld.edu.au/enrolments](http://www.stagathasclayfield.qld.edu.au/enrolments)

**GROWTH · FRIENDSHIP · FAITH**

# Sunday Mass Rosters

Date	Reader Clayfield 8am Mass	Reader Clayfield 5:30pm Mass	Reader OLHC 9:30am Mass	Eucharistic Minister OLHC 9:30am Mass
18 January	Beth Casey Matthew Crossley	Matteo Tickner Joel Perkins	Trish Dunn Rosemary Woods	Dona Rotolone Kate McLean
25 January	Phill Ryan Andrew Pippia	Leanne McDowall Amelia Marino-Cebulski	Serena Varendorff Bill Nott	Robyn Jeynes Louise Nott

## 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:** The parish donation terminal is located at the front door of the church. Please follow the prompts to make your donation via tapping your card or mobile.
- Place your offerings in the collection plate at Mass.
- Direct Debit (please contact Parish Office 3268 3040).
- Planned Giving Envelopes (please contact Parish Office 3268 3040).
- Tax deductible donation to St Agatha's National Trust.
- St Agatha's Parish Endowment Fund.
- **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**

Reference: PGDonation + your surname.

- Trusts can make tax-effective distributions to the Parish. Please consult your accountant or financial advisor for further details.

## 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

## 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.

For information:

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/safeguarding/>



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.

## 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](mailto: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.

## NEXT SUNDAYS' READINGS

**25 JANUARY 2026**

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**First Reading:** Isaiah 8:23-9:3

**Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

**Gospel:** Matthew 4:12-23

### Commemoration of Saints

**January 2026**

**Wed 21** St Agnes, *virgin, martyr*

**Sat 24** St Francis de Sales, *bishop, doctor*

**Wed 28** St Thomas Aquinas, *priest, doctor*

**Sat 31** St John Bosco, *priest*



**February 2026**

**Mon 2** The Presentation of the Lord

**Thurs 5** St Agatha, *virgin, martyr*

**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!!!



**Contact Vocation Brisbane.** P: (07) 3336 9392

E: [vocation@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:vocation@bne.catholic.net.au)

W: [catholicpriesthood.com](http://catholicpriesthood.com)



**Items for inclusion in this Newsletter - Cut off 1:00pm Tuesday.**

Please email: [hendra@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hendra@bne.catholic.net.au)

OR [clayfld@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:clayfld@bne.catholic.net.au)