



Newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISHES

Clayfield ● Hendra ● Hamilton ● Northgate



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A)

22 FEBRUARY 2026

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:

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

Rosemary Greer (Parish Secretary)

Email: 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

Helen Price (Finance Secretary)

Email: finance.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

CHILDREN & FAMILIES PASTORAL ASSOCIATE:

Sandra Cantarutti

Email: cantaruttis@bne.catholic.net.au

Alexandria Atkins (Sacramental Admin)

Email: sacramental.clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS:

St Agatha's, Clayfield

Catriona McPherson (0456 441 717)

Email: lsr.clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

Mother of Mercy Parish

Incident reports: Vicki Ward (0407 550 571)

Email: 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

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

We enter into the season of Lent once again. Perhaps we do so with a sense of resignation, or even apathy. Or perhaps the Spirit is stirring within us, awakening a sense of anticipation and quiet joy at the thought of the spiritual journey ahead. However you find yourself this Lent, one thing is certain: God desires to speak to your heart and to draw you into a deeper, more life-giving relationship with himself.



Fr Michael Grace

St Paul's Letter to the Romans, proclaimed in this week's second reading, helps us to understand the deeper purpose of Lent. Paul reminds us, with great honesty, that all have fallen short of the glory of God. We entered the world, through no fault of our own, bearing the wounds of a fallen human nature. And yet we also know - if we are truthful with ourselves - that we are not blameless. There are sins we might have avoided, choices we freely made that led us away from love, truth, and freedom.

But this, Paul insists, is not the heart of the message. Nor is it the principal reason for Lent. Lent is not primarily about dwelling on guilt or rehearsing our failures. Rather, it is about hope. It is about the astonishing claim that we have a Saviour.

Paul proclaims that Christ has entered into the depths of human brokenness and done battle on our behalf. He has confronted sin and death, not with force or domination, but with obedient love poured out on the Cross. In him, death does not have the final word. Grace does. Life does.

The disciplines of Lent - prayer, fasting, and almsgiving - are not burdens imposed upon us, but pathways back to freedom. They create space in our lives for grace to work anew, so that we might live no longer as slaves to sin, but as sons and daughters restored, renewed, and alive in Christ.

Blessings,
Fr Michael

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

OLHC Church

Every Tuesday, 1.00pm during Lent.



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 22 February

8.00am Mass Morning tea hosted by:
Linett, Grevin, Biju, Dani

5.30pm Mass Pizza evenings will resume Sunday 15 March.



St Agatha's Parish Messages....

- ◆ **Children's Liturgy THIS SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY**, 8am

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

Tilly Tierney, daughter of Ty and Andrea

Finnigan Rennie, son of Ashleene

Addison Coulson, daughter of Zack and Eliza

May they always know God's love and the support of this Christian Community.

- ◆ Tickets will be on sale this Sunday 22nd for our **EASTER RAFFLE**. Tickets are \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00.



- ◆ **THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY 9AM MASS**
St Agatha's School Year 5/6 students will be attending the 9am Mass next Thursday 26 February. All welcome

Family Mass SUNDAY 8 MARCH, 8AM
and morning tea

In our prayers we remember. . . .

Those who have died recently:

Maureen Munt, John Mulholland

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Patrick and Veronica Gallagher, Renee Ramaekers, Sarina Caruso

Those who are sick: Peter Johnson Snr



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

Following is the link to Archbishop Shane's Lent Pastoral Letter. Some copies are also available at the entrance of the Church.

<https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/wp-content/uploads/Lent-Pastoral-Letter-2026.pdf>

**The Parish Office will be closed:
Monday 23 February and Tuesday 24 February**

DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR LENT 2026

"The Journey Home" for Lent 2026 are available. The booklets are available at the entrance of the church. A \$5.00 donation would be welcomed by cash (donation boxes are placed nearby), EFTPOS or Tap and Go also accepted.



PRAYER SUPPORT First Sunday of every month after the 9.30am Mass at OLHC Church, Hendra.



Parishes Women's Dinner

Saturday 14 March, 5.45pm

at Hu Tong Li Restaurant,
near Woolies on Nudgee Rd, Ascot.

Questions or RSVPs to Mary G, Louise, Kathleen or Lynn

What's happening in MOM Parish this week

Sunday 22 February

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



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

22 February: Rosemary Woods **1 March:** Lorelei Gozzard

MOM Parish Messages....

- ◆ **PLAYGROUP** at the OLHC Primary School OSHC will be in recess until further notice.
- ◆ **LECTIO DIVINA** Sundays 11.00 - 11.45am (Parish Centre). Using the *Journeying Home* 2026 Lenten reflection books. All welcome.
- ◆ **MOTHER OF MERCY PARISH PRAYER ENGINE**
Every Tuesday, OLHC Church from 1.00 - 2.15pm.
- ◆ **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Friday 6 March after the 9:00am Mass at St John's, Northgate. Morning tea after Mass.

FEBRUARY PARISH BIRTHDAYS:

We will be celebrating the February Parish birthdays **THIS** Sunday 22 February after 9:30am OLHC Mass. Please come along and join us!



We Pray for

Recently deceased: Beryl Breene, Elizabeth Martin

Anniversaries: Francis Heeney, John Arba, Minnie Pinkey, Very Rev Fr Vincent Rowan, Fr John Kolinko, Kirstein Boldeman, Neville and Rhonda Martin

Sick: Brad Ryan, Betty Mahoney, Rosaria Fazio, Michael Hardy, Maria Ward

Commemorative Mass – St John's Northgate Friday 27 February, 9am

On Friday 27 February at the 9am Mass, we will be commemorating the 468 Royal Australian Navy personal who lost their lives in the Sunda Strait during World War II.
All welcome.



The Sacraments of

EUCCHARIST & PENANCE



Open to all children Year 4 and above who have completed Baptism and Confirmation.

Enrolments close March 1st.

For preparation schedule and enrolment form please visit the following website:

**Mother of Mercy & St Agatha's
Parishes**
Hendra, Northgate, Hamilton, Clayfield

<https://motherofmercy-stagathas.org.au/eucharist/>





WORLD DAY OF
PRAYER
SERVICE 2026

Nigeria

'I will give you rest:
Come'

Friday 6th of March

10 am - 11 am,

Followed by morning tea

Our Lady Help of Christians Church
9 Bowman Street Hendra

contact Mary Nicholls 0408080723
or your WDoP representative
to find out more, offer to assist

Guest Speaker - Helen Fernandes
Leprosy Mission International
Guest Organist - Chris Larter

www.worlddayofprayeraustralia.org



God's lighter side... A man suffered a serious heart attack and had an open-heart bypass surgery. He awakened from the surgery to find himself in the care of nuns at a Catholic Hospital. As he was recovering, a nun asked him questions regarding how he was going to pay for his treatment. She asked if he had health insurance. He replied, in a raspy voice, "No health insurance." The nun asked if he had money in the bank. He replied, "No money in the bank." The nun asked, "Do you have a relative who could help you?" He said, "I only have a spinster sister, who is a nun." The nun became agitated and announced loudly, "Nuns are not spinsters! Nuns are married to God." The patient replied, "Send the bill to my Brother-in-law."

WHAT IS PRAYER?

https://youtu.be/m2_1Zru3OPc



NEWS FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary School

Another GEM of a week at OLHC which we are so grateful for. The week began with our Year 6 Leaders attending the launch of Project Compassion with other Catholic schools from across Brisbane. The day was a wonderful opportunity for our students to deepen their understanding of compassion in action and the importance of standing in solidarity with those most in need.

The day was made even more special with a sneak preview of the glass bridge at St Stephen's Cathedral, and the Chapel, what a memorable experience for our leaders.

It was an inspiring day as we begin to prepare our hearts and minds for the upcoming Easter season and reflect on how we can make a difference this Lent.

On Wednesday morning we gathered as a school and parish community for Ash Wednesday Mass.

Ash Wednesday is a very significant day in the Church's calendar, marking the beginning of Lent, a sacred season of reflection, prayer and preparation for Easter. It was lovely to come together as a faith community, taking time to pause and prepare our hearts for the Easter season.

It was wonderful to see so many parents and parishioners join us in prayer. Thank you to Middle Years Faith for helping us lead the mass and to Fr Michael and Fr John for celebrating the Mass with us.

Marie-Louise Stolberg Assistant to the Principal in Religious Education

St Agatha's Catholic Primary School

Our school community has begun Lent in a spirit of faith and service. Four of our Year 5 students had the honour of representing our school at the Project Compassion launch at St Stephen's Cathedral, where they were wonderful ambassadors for our community. Shrove Tuesday was a joyful celebration, made possible by our generous parent volunteers. On Ash Wednesday, we gathered with Fr Michael, alongside parents and grandparents, to begin this sacred season. Through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, our students are learning to deepen their relationship with God and prepare their hearts for Easter.

Throughout Lent, we are supporting Project Compassion, the annual Lenten appeal of Caritas Australia, assisting communities in need both in Australia and around the world. Funds raised through our Shrove Tuesday event and Lenten initiatives will contribute to this important mission. We thank our parish community for its continued support and partnership as we nurture our students in faith, compassion and service.

Jon Tracey Assistant Principal Religious Education

GROWTH · FRIENDSHIP · FAITH

St Agatha's Catholic Primary School



FRIDAY 6 MARCH 2025
8.45AM - 10 AM



Caritas
AUSTRALIA

PROJECT
COMPASSION

Project Compassion Sunday 21-22 February 2026

Project Compassion 2026 shares four stories from around the world. We'll meet Sisilia from Tanzania, Monoranjon from Bangladesh, Manaini from Fiji and Ahmad from Gaza. Each of this year's stories highlights unique challenges, yet they are united by the determination to rise above adversity and to build brighter, more hopeful futures for themselves, their families and their communities.

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2026 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code.

Or online at: www.projectcompassion.org.au/donate

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

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

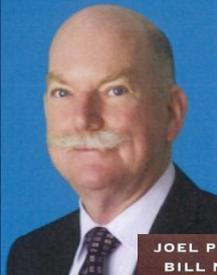
MENS DINNER

WHEN: SATURDAY 14TH
MARCH 2026
DINNER FROM 6PM
CHRIS FROM 7PM

COST: \$20 TO COVER
CHICKEN & SALAD
(BYO - LIMITED ALCOHOL
PROVIDED)

WHERE: OLHC PARISH
CENTRE
(9 BOWMAN ST, HENDRA)

CHRIS KENNEDY:
A JOURNEY FROM
PROPERTY GURU TO
PRISON CHAPLAIN



Bring your
mates and
sons!

RSVP:
Friday 13 March

JOEL PERKINS: 0438 241 524
BILL NOTT ON 0418 183 400

Chris Kennedy spent most of his professional life working as a property valuer specialising in the valuation of commercial and resort properties throughout Australia until retirement in 2016.

In 2005 he undertook the life changing journey of completing the "Full Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius". This a life changing retreat undertaken in daily life which fuelled his passion for guiding others to come to a deeper relationship with God.

Acting on his passion from 2013 to 2017 Chris studied and graduated from the University of Divinity, Melbourne with a 'Master of Arts - Spiritual Direction'. Since graduation Chris has worked as a Spiritual Director with Jesuit Ignatian Spirituality Australia offering his skills in spiritual direction/companionship. Thus, offering individual and small group spiritual direction, the giving of the full spiritual exercises and the first spiritual and God field hospital exercises.

He also volunteers as the Catholic Prison Chaplain at the Palen Creek Correctional Centre via Beaudesert; is an active member of the Burleigh Heads Catholic Parish, Gold Coast; and is a serving team member with menALIVE Presentation Ministry.

Sunday Mass Rosters

Date	Reader Clayfield 8am Mass	Reader Clayfield 5:30pm Mass	Reader OLHC 9:30am Mass	Eucharistic Minister OLHC 9:30am Mass
22 February	Beth Casey Paul Bartels	Andre Marino Amelia Marino-Cebulski	George, Clara and Sylvie Shillington	Louise Nott Barbara Nelson
1 March	Terry Manso Annette Riba	Matteo Tickner Louis Currie	Neville Canham Robyn Jeynes	Lorelei Gozzard Kate McLean

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.

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

1 MARCH

Second Sunday of Lent

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-4

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:8-10

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9



Commemoration of Saints

March 2026

Tues 17 St Patrick, *bishop*

Thurs 19 St Joseph, *spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

April 2026

Tues 28 St Peter Chanel, *priest, martyr*

Wed 29 St Catherine of Siena, *virgin, doctor*

May 2026

Sat 2 St Athanasius, *bishop, doctor*

Thurs 14 St Matthias, *apostle*

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.

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.

A vocation view: Lent is a season of renewal, of spiritual growth. These forty penitential days invite us to strive for our true calling.



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