



Newsletter

CATHOLIC PARISHES

Clayfield ● Hendra ● Hamilton ● Northgate



THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (YEAR A)

17 MAY 2026

Parish Office Telephone: 07 3268 3040

Urgent after hours — 0403 743 874

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PARISH MANAGER: Celine Funke

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

PARISH ADMINISTRATION:

Postal Address: 9 Bowman Street, Hendra Q 4011

Website: motherofmercy-stagathas.org.au

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

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Rosemary Greer (Parish Secretary)

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SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS:

St Agatha's, Clayfield

Catriona McPherson (0456 441 717)

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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

This weekend's feast of the Ascension draws us to contemplate not only the identity of Christ, but also our own identity, mission, and destiny. We often fail to appreciate how blessed we are to be called to belong to the Church of Christ. Indeed, it is only too easy to view our faith through the lens of duties and obligations, rather than to be cognisant of the grace and favour we are privileged to receive. For we too share in the mission and identity of Christ, and where he has gone before us, we who believe are called to follow. It is this sharing in the identity of Christ, and even in his glory, which is the impulse behind the wonderful hymn that St Paul relates in his letter to the Ephesians, this weekend's second reading.



Fr Michael Grace

Perhaps it is hard to hold onto a sense of sharing in Christ's glory here on earth. We are too often beset, if not by trouble and brokenness, then at least by the mundane. Yet, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we can perceive and know that we are sons and daughters of God and coheirs with Christ.

As we contemplate this truth, we should not be moved to pride (as though we were the source of this glory), but rather to gratitude, love and humility. If God has so loved and favoured me, then surely I am moved to love my brothers and sisters. If God has given me such a rich share in his riches, then do I not have riches to share? Mission, then, at its best, arises not from obligation, but rather from delight.

Have a blessed feast day!

Blessings
Fr Michael

Next weekend 23/24 May we warmly welcome

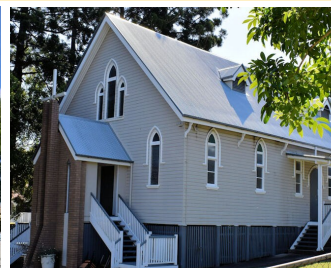
Father Sholto Douglas at all our Masses.



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 17 May

8.00am Mass Morning tea hosted by:
Gloria Lee, Mel Lillicrap, Anna Chetcuti



5.30pm Mass Pizza evening **THIS Sunday 17 May**

St Agatha's Parish Messages....

- ◆ **Children's Liturgy** this Sunday 17 May.

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

Gabriela Myers, daughter of Jordan and Alejandra
Frederick Gubb, son of Curtis and Emma

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



SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST

Please note, the front section of OLHC and St Agatha's Churches will be reserved for the children and their families on the following dates:

Sunday 31 May 9.30am OLHC

Sunday 31 May 5.30pm St Agatha's

Sunday 7 June 8.00am AND 5.30pm St Agatha's



What's happening in MOM Parish this week

Sunday 17 May

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



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

17 May: Lynn Rogers

24 May: Rosemary Woods

MOM Parish Messages....



ANNUAL RACING MASS

Sunday 7 June, 9.30am OLHC

All Welcome

Refreshments following the Mass

- ◆ **LECTIO DIVINA** Sundays 11.00 - 11.45am (Parish Centre). All welcome.
- ◆ **MOTHER OF MERCY PARISH PRAYER ENGINE** Every Tuesday, OLHC Church from 1.00 - 2.15pm.
- ◆ **Children's Liturgy of the Word (OLHC):** this Sunday 17 May.
- ◆ **Gospel Reflection Group:** will be held on **Tuesday 2 June**, 9.30am in the Parish Centre Hendra. All welcome.
- ◆ **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** **Friday 5 June** after the 9:00am Mass at St John's, Northgate. Morning tea after Mass.
- ◆ **PRAYER SUPPORT:** **Sunday 7 June** after the 9.30am Mass at OLHC Church, Hendra.

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

Together we pray for

Recently deceased: Fr John Pickering OFM, Michael Watson, Rosario Russo

Anniversaries: Gloria and Ross McKenzie, William Kirby, Maureen O'Mahoney, Bereneice Tayler, Ivy Kelly, Garry Waugh, Gary O'Rourke, Frank Murphy, Daryl Sopp, Fay Parnememann, Edith Archer, Maureen Mason, Patricia Melit, Harold Eickenloff, Keith Locke, Michael Spelman, Neville and Rhonda Martin

Sick: James Mort, John D, Peter Francis Johnson, Margaret Donelan, Greg Donelan, Brad Ryan, Betty Mahoney, Rosaria Fazio, Michael Hardy, Maria Ward



Calling all Year
3 Parents!

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR

Pentecost Party

24TH MAY, 2026

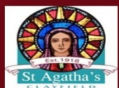
JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL MORNING TEA AFTER THE
PENTECOST MASS.

A SPECIAL INVITATION EXTENDED TO THOSE
PLANNING TO COMPLETE THE SACRAMENT OF
CONFIRMATION THIS YEAR.

CAKE AND PARTY HATS PROVIDED!



OLHC
9:30AM MASS



ST AGATHA'S
8:00AM MASS



The Hendra Parish is seeking **two Playgroup Facilitators** (volunteer roles) to facilitate playgroup (babies to Prep). Playgroup is held every Friday 9.00am-11.30am (school term only) in the OLHC Primary School OSHC, 23 Bowman Street Hendra. If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office - 3268 3040.



**Celebrate
the birthday
of the
church!**

PENTECOST POTLUCK PARTY

You're invited to join a Potluck Lunch at the MoM Parish Centre on Sunday 24 May. Arrive at 12.30pm and please bring some food to share with others (it can be a cold platter or a hot dish).

No need to RSVP but please bring along a plate to share. If you have any questions please ask Joe, Ash, Kathleen, Mary G, Dave, Lynn, Bill, Louise or contact the Parish Office 3268 3040.

ARCHDIOCESE OF BRISBANE MASS COUNT 2026

Parishioners are advised that for a four week period for the month of May, the Archdiocese of Brisbane has requested a Count of Mass Attendance.

Attendance is to be recorded at Mass for each church on the weekends of 3 May, 10 May, 17 May and 24 May.

A head count will be taken of all attending each respective Mass. This information will then be forwarded to the Archdiocese of Brisbane.

The annual Mass Count provides valuable insight into trends of attendance at both a local level and an Archdiocesan level.



The Sacrament of CONFIRMATION

Open to all children Year 3 and above who have completed Baptism.

Program runs August-November 2026

ENROLMENTS OPEN LATE MAY 2026

For for information on the Sacrament of Confirmation and Program dates please visit our Parish Website:

Mother of Mercy and St Agatha's Parishes

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



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 17 - 24 May

We are invited to pray especially during these eight (8) days for the Unity and Peace of Christ's holy Church; especially for Christian traditions such as the Anglican communion, the holy Orthodox Churches and others; that Jesus' prayer for full unity will occur through the Holy Spirit (cf. John 17:20-24). A prayer service will be held at St Stephen's Cathedral on Tuesday 19th May at 11am. All are welcome.

A Prayer to end Domestic and Family Violence

Loving and Just God,

As we cry out for an end to the suffering of the innocent, **You cry with us.**

As we cry out in righteous anger against violence of all kinds,

You cry with us.

As we cry out in frustration that cultural change is happening far too slowly,

You cry with us.

While it may feel like it at times, we are not crying out alone, we are not crying out in vain... **Our cries are Your cries too.**

As You blend Your voice with ours, lend us Your strength too, so that we may continue to do what it takes to put an end to domestic and family violence.

Lend us Your strength, so we can continue to challenge harmful behaviours, misuses of power and authority, misconceptions and misinformation.

Lend us Your courage, so we can continue to bring to light the reality of who is impacted, and how widespread domestic and family violence is.

Our hands are Yours, so let us not shy away from reaching out to those in need of practical support.

Our feet are Yours, so let us not walk away from those in need of community and belonging as they bravely step out of violent relationships.

Our eyes are Yours, so let us not be blind to those that try to cover up the abuse out of fear or shame.

Our ears are Yours, so let us not be deaf to the roaring cry that enough is enough... it is time to end domestic and family violence once and for all.

We ask this in the name of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

URGENT APPEAL FOR MORE DEDICATED ADORERS

Eucharistic Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed

Sacrament is available to everyone from 9am to 5pm every Tuesday at Our Lady Help of Christians. Nocturnal adoration is available to registered adorers from 6am Tuesdays through to 8.30am Wednesdays. However, in order to continue this, **we require more dedicated adorers to commit to a weekly Holy Hour on the roster.**

◆ Hours that need two permanent adorers are:
Tuesdays 9am and 3pm

◆ Hours that need a second permanent adorer are:
Tuesdays 6am, 8am, 12pm, 4pm, 6pm

If these hours are not filled, then it will not be possible to continue to offer Exposition and Adoration to everyone during the day. Please contact Colina via email at northside.adoration.bn@gmail.com or contact the Parish Office for registration information.

domestic & family VIOLENCE May Prevention Month

NEWS FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Primary School

Each Tuesday morning, our school community gathers for assembly. This term, these assemblies have provided a special opportunity for students to share how they live out our 2026 school theme:

Courage to be You! Shine your GEM each day!

Our GEM represents **Gratitude, Empathy, and Mindfulness**. As a school, we strongly believe in nurturing these values - encouraging students to be grateful for what they have, to show empathy to everyone they encounter, and to be mindful in all they say and do.

The moments shared by our students during assembly invite us all to slow down, reflect, and show kindness. They encourage the development of grateful hearts and a deeper appreciation for the world around us.

A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful staff and students for creating such thoughtful and uplifting beginnings to our day, and for reminding us all to shine our GEM each day.

Marie-Louise Stolberg Assistant to the Principal in Religious Education

St Agatha's Catholic Primary School

Under 8s Day Celebration at St. Agatha's

On Wednesday 20 May, our Prep to Year 2 students will celebrate Under 8s Day, a special occasion that honours the wonder of childhood and the vital role families, educators and the wider community play in helping young children learn, grow and flourish.

This year marks 70 years of Under 8s Day, celebrating a long tradition of valuing play, learning, wellbeing and joyful discovery in the early years. Throughout the morning, students will take part in a range of engaging activities that foster creativity, curiosity, collaboration and delight, making the morning both meaningful and memorable for our youngest learners.

As part of these celebrations, we will gather as a school community for a special liturgy on Thursday 21 May, led by Fr Michael Grace. This will be a time to give thanks for the gift of childhood and to reflect on the joy, wonder and energy our youngest students bring to St Agatha's each day.

Many blessings,

Jon Tracey Assistant Principal Religious



Sunday Mass Rosters

Date	Reader Clayfield 8am Mass	Reader Clayfield 5:30pm Mass	Reader OLHC 9:30am Mass	Eucharistic Minister OLHC 9:30am Mass
17 May	Dianne Eden Joseph O'Brien	Matteo Tickner Joel Perkins	Trish Dunn Rosemary Woods	Dona Rotolone Robyn Jaynes
24 May	Phill Ryan Amanda Bell	Leanne McDowall Giselle Hossinger	Serena Varendorff Bill Nott	Kate McLean 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.

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

24 MAY 2026

Pentecost Sunday

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

Gospel: John 20:19-23



Commemoration of Saints

May 2026

Mon 25 Our Lady, Help of Christians

Tues 26 St Philip Neri, *priest*

June 2026

Mon 1 St Justin, *martyr*

Wed 3 Sts Charles Lwanga & *companions, martyrs*

Fri 5 St Boniface, *bishop, martyr*

Thurs 11 St Barnabas, *apostle*

Fri 12 The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus *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.



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 clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au