



# Holland Park Mt Gravatt Parish News



**Parish Priest**  
**Fr Joson Antony MCBS**

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Adrian Prendergast  
Dot Lomax

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**Churches**  
St Joachim's Church  
41 Yuletide Street  
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Mt Gravatt

**Parish Office Hours**  
Monday – Friday  
8:30am – 4:00pm

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**Parish Schools and College**  
St Agnes' School  
07 3349 5130  
St Joachim's School  
07 3397 9087  
Seton College  
07 3291-5333

**St Vincent de Paul Welfare**  
1800 846 643

**Safeguarding Officer**  
Dot Lomax 0428 172 224  
(Safeguarding purposes only)

**2nd Sunday of Lent**

**Year A**

**7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> March, 2020**

## When life changes.....

Dear friends

It is good to be here. "I've often felt like that! Sometimes, when I've been comfortably tucked up in bed and am reluctant to get up –especially early on a cold dark morning. Or, when I've been enjoying a good holiday with my family or close friends. We wish the good times could continue forever. We say to ourselves, 'It's good to be here. Let's stay.' But duty calls. We have to face the, sometimes, tedious demands of work, the harsh realities of life. I expect you've all felt the same way.

So did the inner circle of the apostles on the Mount of the Transfiguration. There they saw Jesus in a new light. He gave them a glimpse of His divine majesty and glory. Not only that. Jesus showed them, and us, a glimpse of the glory we would share in the resurrection –if we followed Him.

Elijah and Moses appeared with Jesus on the mountain. Their presence with Jesus assured His closest followers that He was, indeed, fulfilling God's promises for His people. More than that, the Father endorsed Jesus' mission, with the words, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him!" No wonder Peter exclaimed, 'Lord, it is good to be here!'

But Jesus had other plans. He knew He must descend the mountain to face the horror of the cross. He couldn't avoid the whole purpose of His mission –to save the world from the power of evil and grant us eternal life and happiness. That, Jesus knew, could only be achieved through His crucifixion and resurrection.

And the disciples, what was their reaction to that change in Jesus? Hopefully, memory of seeing Jesus' glorious transfiguration would sustain their faith in Him when He seemed to be a defeated, broken failure. But no. No longer did they say, 'Lord, it is good to be here.' Instead, Peter disowned Jesus. And the rest of His hand-picked followers –His closest friends -deserted Him. That was when He most needed their support. For them it was bad, not good, to be there, with Jesus. And so they left Him.

And what about us? Hopefully, there will be times when God seems very close. Praying is easy and delightful. We find following Jesus fulfilling and reassuring. The Good News really does give us hope, with a sense of direction in our lives. These are very precious moments, when we feel the warmth of God's gift of love. They give us a glimpse of the happiness of heaven. We want them to last forever. And they will.

But not yet. These blessed moments of peace and tranquillity with God are like an oasis in the desert, or a holiday with friends. They are meant to refresh us so that we can have the strength to move into the rigours of what may seem like a harsh desert.

Like Peter, James and John we must take up our crosses and follow the crucified Christ. That is a real test of our loyalty and commitment to Him. Are we fair-weather friends who give up when the going gets tough? Certainly, we will be tempted to do that. We may seek to escape into what is easy and comfortable, rather than do what is right and demanding. But the way of the cross is the only path to glory –for Jesus and for us.

The transfiguration gives us a glimpse of where Christ is leading us -the happiness and glory of heaven. We must keep our sights set on that.

And we are not alone. Our crucified and risen Lord accompanies us on our journey through life. He says, "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light," [Mat 11:28-30]—light and easy because the crucified Christ helps us carry it.

Even when life is difficult, and the cross we have to carry is heavy, we should still try to say, 'Lord it is good to be here.' Not that we want the pain, but because we believe that with Christ's support it can help us to reach the eternal life, happiness and glory of the resurrection. Then we will be able to rest in the Lord, and with Peter exclaim, "Lord, it is good to be here!" (Reflection taken from Fr. Isidore Clarke O.P)

**Readings: 3rd Sunday of Lent**

Exodus 17:3-7

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

John 4:5-16, 19-26, 39-42

## **HYMNS – ST JOACHIM’S**

Gathering:	GA 304	Return to God
Responsorial Psalm:		Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.
Communion:	GA 204	I Am the Bread of Life
Recessional:	GA 404	Tree of Life (Vs 1, 2 and Lent Wk 2)

## **WE REMEMBER**

We remember Leo Arthur and Gloria Lawrence. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

## **PARISH HAPPENINGS**

### **CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD**

TODAY at St Agnes’ Church at 9:00am

### **COUNTERS**

Alison’s team.

### **2020 LENTEN PROGRAM - BE OPENED**

Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Centre

Morning Session: 11:00am Evening Session: 7:00pm

### **ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm in the Parish Centre.

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the Parish Centre

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS – LENTEN SEASON**

Commencing 8:40am on Friday there will be Stations of the Cross at St Joachim’s before the regular 9:00am mass.

### **ALPHA YOUTH**

Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup> commencing 5:30pm in the Parish Centre. If you would like to join the program please speak to Fr Joson or Dcn Des.

### **SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM – SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Children in Year 5 and above who have received their First Communion are invited to enrol in the Sacrament of Penance program. There are two sessions: Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm – 7:00pm and Friday, March 2<sup>th</sup>, 5:00pm – 7:00pm. Attendance at both sessions is required. RSVP before March 9<sup>th</sup> to secure your place via [sacpr@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sacpr@bne.catholic.net.au) or on 3349 2280.

### **ARIA ANGELS**

Aria Angels aims to celebrate the small pleasures, nurture holistic development, imagine the possibilities and create meaningful relationships. Parents and caregivers join children up to 5 yrs as they learn their faith as they learn to walk, talk, create and explore. Aria’s Angels is held Our Lady of Lourdes, Sunnybank from 9:00 11am Wed, March 11<sup>th</sup>. Cost: \$7. Contact: 3345 5766; 0419 642 490.

## **Now, the Acceptable Time**

Now, the acceptable time!  
Return to the Lord with all your heart.  
Now, the day of salvation!

This, my beloved Son, this my beloved Son,  
on whom my favour rests, listen, listen to him.

Now, the acceptable time!  
Return to the Lord with all your heart.  
Now, the day of salvation!

This, my beloved Son, this my beloved Son,  
on whom my favour rests, listen, listen to him.

Now, the acceptable time!  
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Now, the day of salvation!

Words and Music by David Haas

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# **Parish Diary**

## **Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 8:00am

St Joachim’s

Funeral – Gloria Lawrence  
St Agnes’ Church 11:30am

## **Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**

Benediction 5:30pm

Mass 6:00pm

St Agnes’

## **Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9:00am

St Agnes’

## **Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**

Stations of the Cross 8:40am

Mass 9:00am

St Joachim’s

## **Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**

Reconciliation 5:30pm

St Joachim’s

## **3RD SUNDAY OF LENT**

## **Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 6:00pm

St Joachim’s

## **Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 7:30am

St Joachim’s

Mass 9:00am

St Agnes

Baptisms 10:30am

St Joachim’s

Mass 6:00pm

St Agnes

## **Welcome Nick**

Nick is our new Youth Coordinator and has been working in Youth Ministry since 2011 when he started a Youth Group in Nambour. Since then, he has served for 2 years with NET Ministries Australia, worked as a Campus Minister in Caboolture and North Lakes and works with Ignite Youth to run events. He’s very excited to come on board as Youth coordinator for our parish.

## Rite of Christian initiation of Adults

As we enter Lent, the most intense period of preparation begins for those seeking Baptism at Easter. It is called the Period of Purification and Enlightenment.

Last Sunday all those adults in the Archdiocese hoping to be baptised at Easter gathered in the Cathedral of St Stephen to celebrate the Rite of Election or Enrolment. Bishop Ken Howell welcomed the catechumens, congratulated them on following the promptings of the Spirit and encouraged them to enter fully into the process of this time. Each of the catechumens then signed their name in the Book of the Elect. Tayla-Jay Flynn with her godparent, Karen Chandler took part in this ritual.

During the Sundays of Lent Tayla will be dismissed after the Intercessions to contemplate further the Word we have all just heard. On some Sundays Tayla, prayed over by the celebrant, will celebrate the Scrutinies (prayers to uncover all that is weak in Tayla and strengthen all that is upright, good and strong.) Also, prayers for strengthening Tayla against the enticement to evil and support for her as a child of the Light.

Let us all be renewed by these prayers as we journey with Tayla to Easter.

## Project Compassion

Go further together

Second Sunday of Lent

8th March 2019

Caritas  
Australia



**Twenty-seven-year-old Phany was a struggling farmer and was forced to leave her daughter to take up construction work in the city. Her life has been transformed since joining a Caritas supported program, learning crop growing skills and better water management, to combat drought.** Please donate to Project Compassion 2020 and help mothers like Phany continue to uplift their communities, and provide food for their families. Let's Go Further, Together. You can donate through Parish boxes and envelopes, by visiting [www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion](http://www.caritas.org.au/projectcompassion) or phoning 1800 024 413.

## COMMUNITY

### Message from the Archbishop and ACBC

I have decided on the following protocols which seem proportionate to the current understanding of the coronavirus and the risks outlined by health authorities in this State:

- Parishes should refrain from distributing Holy Communion from the chalice until further notice, with a reminder to the faithful that Christ is fully present under either species.
- All ministers of Holy Communion should wash their hands before and after distributing, and provision should be made for this.
- When exchanging the Sign of Peace, people should avoid shaking hands but say "Peace be with you" with some eye contact and perhaps an appropriate gesture.
- Holy water should be temporarily removed from fonts at the doors of churches, though still be available for people to take home.
- Parishes and other settings where liturgies are celebrated should make alcohol-based gels or rubs (or like products) available near the entrances.

It would be preferable and perhaps prudent for people to receive Holy Communion in the hand rather than on the tongue, but the decision on this is left with the communicant at this stage.

The Archdiocese will continue to monitor the situation closely and provide further advice as required.

In the meantime we pray fervently that the threat of COVID-19 will ease, that those suffering from the virus will be cured and that those working for its relief will be strengthened.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge

### CATHOLIC PSYCHIATRIC PASTORAL CARE – PASTORAL CARERS

Now in its 34<sup>th</sup> year CPPC trains pastoral carers to support people with mental illness, through their spiritual and therapeutic ministry in hospitals, our day centre and supported accommodation. CPPC is seeking Catholics with the ability to relate personally and spiritually to those suffering from mental illness.

The volunteer training course (provided cost free) runs each Wednesday 9:00am – 3.30pm, from 6 May to 27 November 2020. Upon graduating the carers give a voluntary commitment of 8 hours pw in one of the above ministries.

Written Applications close Friday 17 April 2020. They should be sent to: Fr Jim Smith, 58 Morgan Street, Fortitude Valley  
Telephone: 3252 5461 Email: [cppc@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:cppc@bne.catholic.net.au)  
Website: [www.cppc.net.au](http://www.cppc.net.au)

### THE CATHOLIC LEADER

**COST: \$2**

- Coronavirus had transmitted from human-to-human contact Australia, marking the next stage of the outbreak
- Archbishop Coleridge said he felt fine as he returned from high-level talks in Rome
- Active Refugee and Migrant Integration in Australia, an initiative of Protas Muhirwa celebrates 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- Sister Moya Campbell is packing her bags after nearly six years as Brisbane archdiocese's Vicar for Religious.
- Queensland police, politicians and community leaders are searching for solutions to the fatal scourge of domestic violence as "coercive control" highlighted as key indicator.
- In Part 2, The Catholic Leader looks at practical strategies for reducing carbon emissions and caring for creation.
- Town of St George in western Queensland welcomes the rain and floodwaters, but more was needed
- Inspired by memories Beverley Cains has written a play of her own about Our Lady of Fatima.

Available in the churches this weekend.



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Shine**



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