



Holland Park Mt Gravatt Parish News



Parish Priest and Deacon

Fr Joson Antony MCBS

Dcn Des Neagle

Office Staff

Adrian Prendergast

Dot Lomax

Pastoral Coordinators

Rachel Marchesini

Nick Kelly

Yolanda Apelt

Churches

St Joachim's Church

41 Yuletide Street

Holland Park

St Agnes' Church

1227 Logan Road

Mt Gravatt

Parish Office Hours

Monday – Friday

8:30am – 4:00pm

Parish Details

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Mt Gravatt Qld 4122

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www.hollandparkmtgravatt

catholicparish.com.au

Facebook:

st joachim's & st agnes' parish

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 0474 297 201

(Safeguarding purposes only)

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

October 2nd/3rd, 2021

During World War II, like hundreds of Australian women who fell in love with an American soldier Mary married her Episcopalian Army Major at the side altar in a Catholic Church in 1945. Arriving at her new home Mary found that her brave soldier was not as fearless as she thought. He was completely dominated by his aristocratic, wealthy mother who made it clear from the beginning that she opposed the marriage. Mary's life in the family home was a nightmare. The tensions boiled over when Brendan was born. Regardless of the promises his father had made in Australia to have their children baptised Catholics, the soldier waged no war against his mother who declared that if any grandchild of hers was baptised a 'papist' she would disinherit the three of them. The Major buckled under the maternal pressure and demanded that Brendan be baptised an Episcopalian. Mary was devastated. She gathered her few possessions together, had her son baptised a Catholic and fled home.

In 1950, by now a divorcee, she met Maurice, a wonderful man who wanted to marry her and be a father to Brendan. When they went to see the local parish priest, he told them they could not be married in the Church and if they contracted a civil marriage they ran the risk of going to hell for eternity. They were tough days. Catholicism was one of the reasons Mary left the USA. In turn, the very Church she defended shut her out.

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks directly about marriage and divorce. In Jesus' day only a few women had rights before the law. These were wealthy women from the priestly families. They could divorce their husbands. The vast majority of women, however, were seen as possessions of their father, husband or son. A husband could draw up a divorce writ for any reason he wished and so force his wife out of their home into destitution or humiliate her by sending her back to her own family. No wonder Jesus lays down the law so strongly about fidelity and commitment. His new interpretation of the Law of Moses defended women's rights to dignity and security.

Every Catholic parish today has parishioners who are divorced and remarried; no doubt some are here at this Mass. In the face of the negative messages you hear, I want you to know how much we admire your often heroic faith, how much God loves you and how grateful we are that you hang in here with us. The problem for the Church is that, on the one hand, we want to keep affirming the permanence of married love, and yet, on the other hand, we have an increasing number of Catholics who are divorcing. We are caught between the fine ideal Jesus teaches and the frail human condition we all carry in different ways. We have not got the balance right yet.

The Church's remedy to marriage breakdown is an annulment. An annulment is not a Catholic divorce. A civil divorce says the parties that were married are not now. An annulment says that there were factors, often unknown to the couple on the day, which meant that there was never a full and true Christian marriage in the first place. The sacrament is therefore null and void.

Some Catholics, and certainly people who are not Catholic, cannot face up to the long, complex and legal process involved in an annulment. It can be a traumatic experience. Others argue that the Church might step away from the more recent legal approach to dealing with marriage and, like the Orthodox Churches, use the Sacrament of Penance to nullify the Sacrament of Marriage. Whatever of the process, Christian teaching on this issue must always be metered with compassion.

From 1951 until 1993 Mary and her second husband did not receive the Sacraments. At my encouragement, she instigated annulment proceedings in 1990. In 1993 they received communion for the first time in 42 years. God had never moved away from them, embracing them in his arms, laying his hands on them every day and blessing them.

At that Nuptial Mass in 1994, Maurice's best man was Brendan, born in Philadelphia in 1946. Maurice had legally adopted Brendan the day after he married Mary. And as we all received communion, with tears streaming down our faces, we understood that it is to human, frail and open hearts that the Kingdom of God belongs.

Richard Leonard SJ

Readings: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Times

Wisdom 7:7-11

Hebrews 4:12-13

Mark 10:17-30

First Reading

Genesis 2:18-24

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them, each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord God built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones, and flesh from my flesh!

This is to be called woman, for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper. (R.)

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. (R.)

Indeed, thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the days of your life!
May you see your children's children. On Israel, peace! (R.)

Second Reading

Hebrew 2:9-11

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

If we love one another, God will live in us in perfect love.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

Parish Diary

Saturday, October 9th

Reconciliation 5:30pm

St Joachim's

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, October 9th

Mass 6:00pm

St Joachim's

Sunday, October 10th

Mass 7:30am

St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am

St Agnes'

Mass 6:00pm

St Agnes'

PRAYER FOR THE PLENARY COUNCIL

OCTOBER 3RD – 10TH

*Please pray for the success of the Plenary Council
and for its delegates*

Come, Holy Spirit of Pentecost.

Come, Holy Spirit of the great South Land.

O God, bless and unite all your people in
Australia and guide us on the pilgrim way of the
Plenary Council.

Give us the grace to see your face in one another
and to recognise Jesus, our companion on the road.

Give us the courage to tell our stories
and to speak boldly of your truth.

Give us ears to listen humbly to each other
and a discerning heart to hear what you are saying.

Lead your Church into a hope-filled future,
that we may live the joy of the Gospel

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
bread for the journey from age to age.

Amen

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us.

St Mary MacKillop, pray for us.

Prayer to St Joseph

You were chosen by God to be the foster
father of Jesus, the most pure spouse of
Mary, and the head of the Holy Family.
We ask your intercession...

Protect our Pope and all who labour for
souls amid the trials and tribulations of
this life, and grant that all peoples of the
world may follow Christ.

Protect us from every disease present in
our world.

Remove all fear from our hearts. Fill us
with confidence.

Dear St. Joseph, accept the offering I
make to you. Be my father, protector
and guide in the way of salvation.

Amen



This weekend we welcome:

St Joachim's	6:00pm	Bishop Brian Finnigan
St Joachim's	7:30am	Fr Tom Elich
St Agnes'	9:00am	Fr Tom Elich
St Agnes'	6:00pm	Fr Stephen Kumyangi

PARISH NEWS

WE REMEMBER

We remember Mui Nguyen. May she rest in the peace of Christ.

WEEKDAY MASSES

There will be **NO** weekday masses this week.

COUNTERS

Vince's team.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Tuesday, October 5th at 4:00pm in the Parish Centre

COFFEE AND CHAT

On Monday, October 11th please join other parishioners for morning tea and fellowship at BrizStar Café, Mt Gravatt Plaza (Coles end of plaza) commencing 10:00am. If you would like to attend or need more information please contact Barbara, 3349 6334 or just turn up. Everyone is welcome.

60TH ANNIVERSARY WINE GLASSES

There are still a few available for sale at \$10 each.

Urgent Help Required

I am in need of 2 people to offer their assistance to wash the liturgical linen at St Agnes'. This is done on a monthly basis. I require someone for October and another for July. If you can help, please contact me at the office. Dot

DATE CLAIMER

On the weekend of October 23rd/24th Bishop Ken Howell will be making a Parish Visit. He will be meeting with the Parish, Finance and Liturgy committees and making pastoral visits on the Saturday. He will then celebrate the mass on Saturday evening and the two Sunday morning masses. Hospitality will follow the Saturday mass and the 9:00am Sunday mass.

I invite all parishioners to mark their calendars with these dates and join with me in welcoming Bishop Ken to our Parish.

Fr Joson

The Catholic Leader October Issue

\$4

- Qld legalises euthanasia in dire change for the state
- Brisbane Oratory celebrates its first priestly ordination
- Former QRU CEO says guardian angel led him to Braille House
- Granddaughter of war medic returns vestments to Church
- Holland Park remembers 60 years of St Joachim Church
- Christians open up on Jesus in new book by Greg Sheridan
- Helen and helpers lead little ones to God's way
- PLUS: Film Reviews, Book Reviews, Puzzles and Recipes

COMMUNITY NEWS

THE "SPIRIT OF HOPE" CITY MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

St Stephen's Chapel, on Wednesday 6th October (10.45 - 12.15pm) following the regular 10:00am Mass. We would love you to join us for Praise & Worship, Teaching & Personal Prayer Ministry. Our Guest speaker is Rose McAuliffe. For Enquiries please contact Maureen 0403002199 or Helena 0405321901

CLAIRVAUX MACKILLOP COLLEGE WINDOWS TOUR

Great Learning - Great teaching - Great People

Friday, October 8th from 9:00am - 10:30am. Please contact 3347 9275 for more information or email enrolments@cvxmck.edu.au

POSITION VACANT - CANNON HILL CATHOLIC PARISH

Applications are open for a position at the Cannon Hill Catholic Parish. A person with excellent administration and secretarial skills is required for a part time position of Administration Support Officer for 10 hours per week, Thursday & Friday. For additional information, please visit the Archdiocese of Brisbane website <https://brisbanecatholic.org.au/> and to careers. Applications close: 13th October 2021

ENGAGING WITH LAUDATO SI': CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME

A workshop for all Catholics to learn about the environmental challenges of our time and place, the biblical foundations of Laudato Si', the theology and spirituality of Laudato Si', and what the forthcoming Laudato Si' Action Platform will offer you. The workshop will be via Zoom on Saturday 16 October, 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM. Registration is essential. Full details are available on the noticeboards.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA

ACN supports the *Catholic Radio and Television Network* which provides programming to networks in developing countries which do not have the means to buy or produce Catholic content. Can you help ensure that the faith is available in every corner of the world? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/media

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA - THAT CATHOLIC SHOP

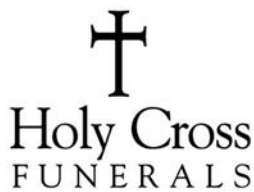
This is an exciting development of ACN Australia. It is a go-to shop for Catholic gifts and devotional items. From books, Sacramental gifts, statues, rosaries, Christmas items and more, there is something for everyone. The purchases you make at TCS go to support the work of *Aid to the Church in Need* to keep the faith alive in those places where it is most at risk. To browse our full range visit www.thatcatholicshop.com.

CENTACARE MENTAL HEALTH HUB

Seeking better mental wellbeing and would like a pleasant morning with a caring and supportive group in a faith setting. You are most welcome to join the folk at the Centacare Mental Health Hub, 58 Morgan Street, Fortitude Valley, any day Monday to Friday 9am - 12pm (Mass at 12 on Fridays with a pizza lunch afterwards). For more details, please call 3324 3193, or just come along and you will be most welcome.

PALMS AUSTRALIA

All professions and trades are called to assist this mission Since 1961 Palms has prepared and supported humble Catholics like you for mission. It's our response as church to calls to help bring opportunity to the poor. Sharing your skills with local co-workers helps them to develop their essential community organisations. Improving their self-reliance aids sustainable poverty reduction and removes dependence on foreign aid and influence. Your relationships within the local community will transform your heart and soul. To be prepared for a 2022 placement visit our website now. Visit palms.org.au or email palms@palms.org.au or call Christine on 02 9560 5333.



For however you choose to say goodbye...

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St Joachim's Outside School Hours Care

41 Yuletide Street Holland Park 4121

07 3847 9820

0418 355 431



The Holland Park Mt Gravatt Catholic Parish acknowledge the Jagera people, the Traditional Owners who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION POLICY

... for it is to such as thee that the kingdom of God belongs.

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 by all.

This means that everyone in the church must ensure that the fundamental rights of children, young people and vulnerable adults are respected. This will be achieved through the development of respectful relationships and a commitment to safety embracing appropriate boundaries, behaviours and practices, in accordance with the Archdiocesan Code of Ethical Behaviour and adherence to legislative imperatives of the State. This policy applies to Clergy, Religious, Staff, Parishioners, Volunteers, Students on placement and Visitors to our sites.