



Parish Priest and Deacon

Fr Jason Antony MCBS

Dcn Des Neagle

Office Staff

Adrian Prendergast

Dot Lomax

Pastoral Coordinators

Rachel Marchesini

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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Pager: 07 3834 8507

Website:

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)

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Yr C

February 19th/20th, 2022

Let God do the repaying

Is it possible to live the teachings of Jesus that we read and hear in today's Gospel? Jesus really went for it with his Sermon on the Plain - love the people who are hardest to love, pray for people you don't like, give things away, don't ask for them back, let people take things, don't ask for them back, let people strike you, don't strike back, don't judge, don't condemn, be kind, forgive and . . . do it all without expecting anything in return.

Is this possible? Or is it idealistic, unattainable, and unliveable? The cynical side of me asks these questions every time I come across this remarkable piece of preaching.

But then I reflect back on my life, and I see things differently. People do live these radical teachings. I know because I've been on the receiving end of them.

There's a flip side to today's message from Jesus. For every disciple who hears and acts on Jesus' words, for every person who pours themselves out, for every believer who refuses to judge, hate, condemn, or "get even," there is someone who is on the receiving end of that action, that outpouring, that self-control, that self-gift. The message of receiving is as radical as the message of giving.

Jesus is described in the Gospels as understanding human nature and knowing what was in the hearts of those around him (Mark 2:6-8; John 2:25). Jesus understood that the human heart can seem complex, but it really isn't. Deep down it wants to give - to give to the point that it lets go, trusts, surrenders, depends on something greater than itself. Jesus does not ask us to do difficult things because he wants us to hurt or feel empty. It's because he wants more for us. The human heart was made to give.

And the flip side - the human heart was made to receive. This reality may sometimes wound us even more than the giving. But it is a biblical reality. It is a sacred reality. But there is so much resistance - within ourselves and within our communities - we feel that we should be independent, we shouldn't "be a bother," we shouldn't be burned out or broke or sinners. We try to keep track of the good that has been given to us; we want to repay the giver, even when what they give us is immaterial - like acceptance, forgiveness, encouragement, compassion, love, or time. But the preaching heart of Jesus tells us that we need not strive to even the playing field, to set the score back to zero-zero. In fact, he says we shouldn't.

Let God do the repaying, Jesus urges us. It's really better for the human heart that way. It isn't easy, but we know it is right. It is the way of love. It is possible.

AMY EKEH

Readings: 8th Sunday Ordinary Time

Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Luke 6:39-45

READINGS 7TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**First Reading**

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt?' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

Responsorial Psalm**Response:** The Lord is kind and merciful.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.

As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

As a father has compassion on his sons, the Lord has pity on those who fear him.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment; love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.'

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

Parish Diary**Monday, February 21st**

Mass 8:00am
St Joachim's

Wednesday, February 23rd

Funeral Mass – Phyllis Russell
12noon St Agnes'
Mass 6:00pm
St Agnes'

Thursday, February 24th

Mass 9:00am
St Agnes'

Friday, February 25th

Mass 9:00am
St Joachim's

Saturday, February 26th

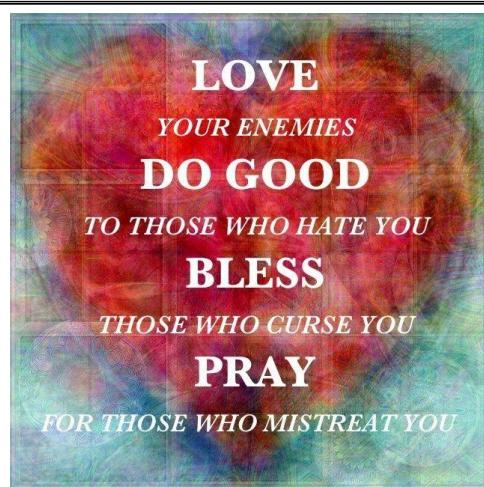
Reconciliation 5:30pm
St Joachim's

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time**Saturday, February 26th**

Mass 6:00pm
St Joachim's

Sunday, February 27th

Mass 7:30am
St Joachim's
Mass 9:00am
St Agnes'
Mass 6:00pm
St Agnes'



Continuing on our faith journey during changed times; when our faith will sustain us through our challenges.

PARISH NEWS

WE REMEMBER

We remember Phyllis Russell. May she rest in the peace of Christ.

COUNTERS

Cheryl's team.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Tuesday, February 22nd at 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

LATEST COVID REQUIREMENTS

You are no longer required to use the Qld Check-in App when arriving for mass. However, masks must still be worn.

COMMUNITY NEWS

MISSION OPPORTUNITIES OVERSEAS – PALMS AUSTRALIA

Getting involved in people centred Human Development as an invited guest means humbly putting your person and your skills at the disposal of your trusted hosts. You will be a stranger and for six months a Pilgrim learning the wisdom of local ways. Palms Australia has 60 years of experience preparing and assisting Australians to pass on their skills in another culture. Is one of our assignments your opportunity to Reach Beyond?

Find Out More: [Enquire Here](#) or phone 0422 742 567. Join our online forum at 5.30pm AEDT on Thursday, March 1.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED AUSTRALIA

In many places throughout the world where there is a shortage of priests, religious sisters are the custodians of the faith. They, however often struggle to live and support the faithful; over a year ACN supports more than 18,000 religious sisters in Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America. Could you help support a religious sister? Visit www.aidtochurch.org/sisters

LOURDES HILL COLLEGE

Enrolments for Year 7 2026 (current Year 3) are now open. Go to lhc.qld.edu.au/enrolments

ST JAMES' COLLEGE SPRING HILL ENROLMENT INFORMATION EVENING

St James', a progressive multicultural Catholic Coeducational College in the tradition of Edmund Rice, expanded campus in 2022 which means additional enrolments are open in all year levels for 2022. Students from all backgrounds and abilities are welcome. Attend the enrolment information evening on 7 March at 6pm online or face to face. Enquiries to Maria Young, Enrolments Officer, MYoung@st_jamescollege.qld.edu.au, 3230 8600.

EVANGELISATION BRISBANE – CHILDREN AND FAMILIES RESOURCES

Ash Wednesday is coming up very soon, marking the beginning of Lent when Catholics prepare for Easter. Lent is a time that even our youngest disciples can embrace (though 40 days can feel like a long time to a kid!). That's why we've created a couple of resources to help your children enter into the season of Lent. These include a Family Lenten Calendar filled with lots of ways they can pray, fast and give alms in ways that are suited to kids. The second is an activity that invites them to Grow a Seed for Lent and tend it throughout the season as a daily reminder that God is helping them to grow also. The Family Lenten Calendar and the Grow a Seed for Lent activity are both available for free download via the online shop at evangelisationbrisbane.org.au.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION – GOING DEEPER

Are you looking for an adult faith formation opportunity? A journey you can go on to grow in faith? Going Deeper is a ten-session online series of pre-recorded discussions about the heart of the Catholic faith. It explores different aspects of what it means to live a Catholic life. Together we will dive beneath the teachings and practices and instead ponder, 'what is this all for?' Here we enter into the wonder and mystery of God's relationship with each of us individually and collectively. Going Deeper includes:

- Interview-style core content delivered by Associate Director Adult Formation, Shane Dwyer and Evangelisation Brisbane Executive Director, Deacon Peter Pellicaan

- Personal faith stories from Catholics across the Archdiocese of Brisbane
- Access to instructors from the Evangelisation Brisbane Adult Formation Team Forums for discussion.

To register for Going Deeper, visit www.goingdeeper.org.au. Cost is \$75. Going Deeper is an initiative of Evangelisation Brisbane.

The Holland Park Mt Gravatt Parish is looking for new members for both the Parish Pastoral Council and Parish Finance Committee. The Parish has a number of new activities and projects planned for 2022 and additional professional support is needed.

We welcome people with all types of experience however skills in youth work, finance, construction or marketing would be ideal.

If you are interested in joining or for more information please contact Parish Coordinator Adrian offco.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au, or 33492280.



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022

ENGLAND, WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND

This year's World Day of Prayer service is being hosted in our local area at St Bernard's Church, Upper Mt Gravatt on Friday, March 4th commencing 10:30am.

This annual ecumenical service has been prepared by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

You are warmly invited and encouraged to attend, joining with members of the Christian denominations in our Mt Gravatt Holland Park area.

Any enquiries please contact Trish O'Brien 3343 4582 or 0434 533 157.

POPE FRANCIS WANTS TO HEAR FROM US!



Until 27 February 2022, all Catholics are invited to have their say about their experiences of 'synodality' – of walking together as a Church.

All submissions received nationally will help the Australian Bishops develop a report to support the global process leading to an international gathering in 2023. This is not to be confused with the Australian Plenary Council which is running concurrently with the Synod. The Plenary Council focus is on the Church in Australia. The Synod is focussed on the Church *globally*.

Your voice matters, and it could be as simple as getting together with family, friends or fellow parishioners and having a "Coffee Conversation". This short video offers encouragement on how easy it can be to have your say: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YrgZ-N79Kf0>

You can make your submission here:

<https://www.catholic.org.au/synodalchurch>



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CHERMSIDE - SPRINGFIELD



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.