



## Parish Priest and Deacon

Fr Jason Antony MCBS  
Dcn Des Neagle

## Office Staff

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

P O Box 281  
1227 Logan Road  
Mt Gravatt Qld 4122  
Telephone: 07 3349 2280  
E: [hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au)  
Pager: 07 3521 8025  
Website:  
[www.hollandparkmtgravattcatholicparish.com.au](http://www.hollandparkmtgravattcatholicparish.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)

## 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

February 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### *You are the light of the world*

Doctors and dietitians would have some difficulty with the first part of today's Gospel. Jesus does not seem to know that salt is bad for hypertension and cholesterol! Just as health professionals are encouraging us to be careful in using salt, Jesus is telling us to keep it up. Salt in Jesus' day, and for centuries before and after, was the primary preserving agent for food. That day-to-day usage gives us a clue as to the challenge being laid before us.

We are told that if salt has lost its taste it's good for nothing. So the challenge is to keep it fresh so it can keep doing its job. Jesus suggests that, in the same way, we have to be on guard to make sure that our faith remains fresh so it's able to do its job as well.

The fifth and sixth chapters of Matthew's Gospel are devoted to describing the elements of Christian faith. At the start of the fifth chapter we have the Beatitudes that tell us that the presence of God can be discovered in all of life's situations. It reminds us that as Christians we can find God wherever we want to. The rest of these two chapters go on to give us specific directions about the dangers and aides to faith.

Jesus tells us that a hollow attachment to the letter of the law, unbridled anger, an inability to forgive, being unfaithful in marriage, seeking revenge on our enemies, not being true to our word and being enslaved by money are all examples of bad faith. Think for a moment of people you know who are trapped by any of these vicious forces. It's sad to see the energy it takes them to remain angry, greedy, legalistic, fraudulent and unforgiving.

More positively Jesus tells us in these chapters that prayer, being generous to the poor, being discerning about whom we spend time with and what we see and hear, and going without things we often consider essential are helpful to living a faith-filled life. Think for a moment of people you know who live lives like this. Their detachment, sense of generosity and ease with others stands out in our stress-ridden world.

My professor of liturgy used to say 'Good liturgy enlivens faith and bad liturgy deadens it.' This is the same message Jesus gives us today about faith in general. It's crazy for us to keep spending time with people and doing things that deaden our faith. We know the impact of these people or activities by the bad taste they leave in our mouths. After an encounter with them or it we usually tell ourselves that we must not go back for more, but the bad spirit seduces us into repeating the entire episode with frightening frequency. St Ignatius Loyola tells us that in these situations we have to deal with the bad spirit quickly and consistently and learn a new pattern of behaviour that will lead us away from darkness into the light.

The job of faith is to enable us to live out and build Christ's reign of justice and love in this world as a foretaste of what awaits us in heaven. May this Eucharist enable us to seek out the people and places that will see the saltiness of our faith remain fresh and interesting so that we will have every chance of preserving our faith in the dryer times, and of our faith in Jesus preserving us in the face of the trials and tests that come our way.

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Readings: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sirach 15:15-20

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Matthew 5:17-37

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading**

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,  
and shelter the homeless poor,  
clothe the man you see to be naked  
and turn not from your own kin.  
Then will your light shine like the dawn  
and your wound be quickly healed over.  
Your integrity will go before you  
and the glory of the Lord behind you.  
Cry, and the Lord will answer;  
call, and he will say, 'I am here.'  
If you do away with the yoke,  
the clenched fist, the wicked word,  
if you give your bread to the hungry,  
and relief to the oppressed,  
your light will rise in the darkness,  
and your shadows become like noon.

Isaiah 58:7-10

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Response:** A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

He is a light in the darkness for the upright:  
he is generous, merciful and just.  
The good man takes pity and lends, he conducts his affairs with honour.  
The just man will never waver: he will be remembered for ever.  
He has no fear of evil news; with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord.  
With a steadfast heart he will not fear; open-handed, he gives to the poor;  
his justice stands firm for ever. His head will be raised in glory.

**Second Reading**

1 Corinthians 2:1-5

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great 'fear and trembling' and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
the man who follows me will have the light of life.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel**

Matthew 5:13-16

Jesus said to his disciples: 'You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.'

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.'

**Parish Diary****Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 8:00am  
St Joachim's

**Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 6:00pm  
St Agnes'

**Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes'

**Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9:00am  
St Joachim's

**Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**

Reconciliation 5:30pm  
St Joachim's

**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time****Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 6:00pm  
St Joachim's

**Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 7:30am  
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes

Mass 6:00pm  
St Agnes

**Be the change**

Gandhi, the great leader of the Indian independence movement, is credited with saying, "You must be the change you want to see in the world." He sought a life free from tyranny and violence and so led a movement of non-violent resistance. It's tempting to think that he may have been influenced by some of the teachings of Jesus because so much of his approach reflected Jesus' call for justice. The charge to be the light of the world that shines in the sight of all and sets an example for all is echoed succinctly in Gandhi's words.

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

### PARISH NEWS

#### WE REMEMBER

We remember Dorothy Bennett. May she rest in the peace of Christ.

#### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

CLOW is being held today during the 9:00am.

#### COUNTERS

Robyn's team

#### COFFEE AND CHAT

This Monday please come along and 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.

#### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

#### HOSPITALITY AT ST JOACHIM'S

There will be hospitality after the 6:00pm Saturday and 7:30am masses at St Joachim's next weekend.

#### YOUTH AND FAMILY MASS

A Youth and Family Mass is being held next Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at the 6pm mass at St Agnes Church, this will be followed by hospitality.

#### SACRAMENT PROGRAM – 1<sup>ST</sup> EUCHARIST

Preparation for the sacrament of First Communion begins in February. The program is open to all children in Year Four (4) and above who have received the sacrament of Confirmation.

To secure your place or for more information contact Rachel at [sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au) registrations close 13 February 2023.

#### RCIA - APOLOGY

Our catechumen who was named Judy Milverton in the Newsletter last week has kept her family name, Judy Chu. Apologies for this oversight. Sr. Mel



#### RECRUITMENT OF MINISTERS

This weekend we are asking parishioners to seriously consider volunteering as a liturgical minister. Training and support will be offered prior to you prior to commencing.

We require Mass Coordinators, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Communion and Data Projectionists.

There are forms on the seats this weekend which you are asked to complete with your details, the mass you attend and the ministry/ministries that you would like to volunteer for.

We need you to give serious consideration as to what you can do to assist with our weekend masses.

Don't be afraid to offer your support, everyone had to start somewhere and more volunteers we have the less onerous is the task for a few.



#### FAREWELL FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

Parishioners are invited to attend a farewell for Sr Kari on Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at the Cathedral of St Stephen. It will commence with Evening Prayer at 6:00pm which will be followed by refreshments in the Hanly Room.

If you would like to attend please rsvp by Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> to [rsvpcathedral@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:rsvpcathedral@bne.catholic.net.au) or telephone 3324 3030.

Cathedral car park will be available.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### TRAVEL WITH ST PETER'S (ROCHEDALE) PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LANDS

We will be travelling with *Harvest Pilgrimages* from the 4<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023. If you'd like to receive an itinerary with indicative prices please contact Stephanie Lenihan on 0413268860 or email [salenihan@hotmail.com](mailto:salenihan@hotmail.com). As we need to provide registration forms and deposits to Harvest asap, please contact Stephanie asap.

#### 4-DAY LENTEN MISSION WITH BRUCE DOWNES, THE CATHOLIC GUY

St John Vianney Parish, Manly is pleased to present the all new W 4-day Lenten Mission with Bruce Downes, The Catholic Guy on February 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup>. Sessions will be held at 9.30am and repeated at 6.30pm; you choose which time best suits you on the day. Each session stands alone. You do not need to attend all four days. Be inspired! Be refreshed! Be renewed!

It is amazing what God can do when you pause and listen to Him! Inspirational, Prayerful and will help you in your spiritual walk this Lent. This Faith Enrichment opportunity is FREE (Donations gratefully accepted). Tea/Coffee and Biscuits provided

For more information, please email: [sjvsacramental@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sjvsacramental@bne.catholic.net.au)

#### PODCAST SERIES-GREAT CHARACTERS OF THE BIBLE

This podcast series, hosted by Archbishop Mark Coleridge, will Focus on the Bible as a story filled with fascinating human characters from the old and new testament. We are going to meet some of these characters, as they tell us a lot about our humanity, and they are coming to meet us, as they do in the stories of scripture. Subscribe to our podcast on Apple Podcasts or Spotify streaming platforms to receive each episode directly to your device.

#### ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES OVERSEAS AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Do you require professional renewal, or are you seeking a retirement challenge? Communities abroad are asking for qualified and experienced Australians able to mentor their people in education, health, administration, trades, agriculture and more. Imagine yourself re-engaging in Africa, Asia or the Pacific. Since 1961 Palms Australia has been recruiting Australians able to offer mentoring that will allow overseas counterparts opportunities otherwise unattainable. Sharing your skills will strengthen the capacity of workers overseas to serve their communities for generations to come, long after you return home. Enquire about those roles via [www.palms.org.au](http://www.palms.org.au) or by calling 029560533 or 0422472567

## THE CATHOLIC LEADER COST \$4

- Memorial feature remembering Pope Benedict XVI
- Cardinal George Pell remembered
- Super siblings eager to explore as thousands of students return to school across the archdiocese
- Our Lady's College students take to learning Auslan
- Archbishop Mark Coleridge reflects after the death of Pope Benedict XVI
- Evangelisation is the 'oxygen' of Christian life, Pope Francis says
- Brisbane seminarians meet Pope Francis at the Vatican
- The hidden faces of DV in Queensland homes
- The Bible is 'key to evangelisation' and soul of theology
- Brisbane mum joins Gospel mission evangelising on the streets of Adelaide
- Columnist Pat Keady speaks on Christian hope in climate of discouragement
- Paul Desuara's search for meaning led to him saying, 'Jesus, I want you'



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**Binh Nguyen**  
**Mob: 0452 162 656**  
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**St Joachim's Outside School Hours Care**  
41 Yuletide Street Holland Park 4121  
07 3847 9820  
0418 355 431

**Harvey & Co**  
**Lawyers**

Kieran Harvey, Principal

- ❖ Property
- ❖ Wills & Estates
- ❖ Commercial

07 5554 6994  
0408 640 008  
[enquiries@harveylawyers.com.au](mailto:enquiries@harveylawyers.com.au)

Shop 4, 11 Kuring Gai Avenue, Tarragindi

**INDIAN**  
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ASPLEY - ANNERLEY - BROWNS PLAINS  
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.



We are committed to the  
**NATIONAL CATHOLIC  
SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS**