



# Holland Park Mt Gravatt Parish News



Parish Administrator  
Fr Pat Moloney

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Churches  
St Joachim's Church  
41 Yuletide Street  
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St Agnes' Church  
1227 Logan Road  
Mt Gravatt

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

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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)

6th Sunday of Easter

Year A

May 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## THE LORD'S DAY

When the COVID pandemic struck, I joined other bishops in this country and beyond in deciding for a dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Now that the pandemic seems to be receding, it is good for us to reflect not only upon the Sunday obligation but upon the meaning of Sunday itself.

The Lord's Day was not only the weekly Easter but also the weekly Pentecost, because the Lord not only rose from the dead on the first day of the week but he also sent the Holy Spirit on the first day. The link was made between the light of the Risen Christ and the fire of the Holy Spirit; and that link is never stronger than on the Lord's Day. Sunday is the day of encounter with the Risen Lord who breathes the Holy Spirit into the Church as he did into the disciples after his Resurrection (John 20:22), so that they could then go out on mission.

In the early centuries, Christians everywhere kept Sunday holy on a regular basis. A text of the third century says, "Leave everything on the Lord's Day and run diligently to your assembly, because it is your praise of God" (*Didascalia*). This continued even through times of persecution when Christians paid with their life for attending the Sunday assembly. As one martyr declared before the judges, "Without the Lord's Day we could not survive".

What began in those early times as a spontaneous practice later became an obligation in Church law. But that took time. Spontaneous practice became exhortation and then eventually canonical precept. In the 1917 Code of Canon Law the Sunday obligation became universal law, except in unusual circumstances like the pandemic.

Yet law can never obscure what lies deeper still. Before his passion and death, the Lord said to his disciples, "I have longed to eat this Passover with you before I suffer" (Luke 22:15). None of those invited had earned a place at the Last Supper. "All had been drawn there by the burning desire that Jesus had to eat the Passover with them" (Pope Francis, *Desiderio Desideravi*). Before ever we respond to the Lord's invitation there is his desire for us. It is this which gives his invitation the urgency of a call; and it is that urgency which the Sunday obligation recognises.

Without us even realising it, the deepest reason we go to Mass on Sunday is not because we have decided or because the Church's requires it but because "we are drawn there by his desire for us" (*ibid*). In coming to Mass, we surrender to the Lord's love and let ourselves be drawn by him who wants to speak to our heart and share his feast with us.

The Sunday obligation may not have the power it once had, and changes in the culture have made it more difficult for many to observe. Yet people have returned to Mass now that the pandemic is receding, not so much because they feel obliged but because they feel the need and are drawn by the urgency of the Lord's call. Therefore, in the Archdiocese of Brisbane from Pentecost Sunday of this year (28 May) the pandemic dispensation will be withdrawn and the Sunday obligation will be restored.

The obligation does not apply to those for whom it is impossible to attend Mass, those who are sick or frail or those who are caring for the sick, especially sick children. Those unable to attend Mass can honour the Lord's Day in other ways, so that all of us, responding to the Risen Lord's call, may say with one heart and voice, "This is the day which the Lord has made: let us rejoice and be glad" (Psalm 118:24).

Mark Coleridge, Archbishop of Brisbane

(Extract of letter to Parishioners of the Archdiocese of Brisbane)

Readings: The Ascension of the Lord

Acts 1:1-11

Ephesians 1:17-23

Matthew 28:16-20

#### READINGS FOR THE 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

#### Responsorial Psalm

**Response:** Let all the earth cry out to God with joy.

Cry out with joy to God all the earth, O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise. Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!'

'Before you all the earth shall bow; shall sing to you, sing to your name!'  
Come and see the works of God, tremendous his deeds among men.

He turned the sea into dry land, they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him; he rules for ever by his might.

Come and hear, all who fear God. I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer nor withhold his love from me.

#### Second Reading

1 Peter 3:15-18

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

#### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord said: I will not leave you orphans.

I will come back to you, and your hearts will rejoice..

Alleluia!

#### Gospel

John 14:15-21

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.  
I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate  
to be with you for ever,  
that Spirit of truth whom the world can never receive  
since it neither sees nor knows him;  
but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you.  
I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you.  
In a short time the world will no longer see me;  
but you will see me, because I live and you will live.  
On that day you will understand that I am in my Father  
and you in me and I in you.  
Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them  
will be one who loves me;  
and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father,  
and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

## Parish Diary

**Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

Reconciliation 5:30pm  
St Joachim's

#### The Ascension of the Lord

**Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 6:00pm  
St Joachim's

**Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>**

Mass 7:30am  
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes

Mass 6:00pm  
St Agnes

#### *This week we welcome*

6:00pm Sat Fr John Gillen  
7:30am Fr Paul Murphy  
9:00am Fr Paul Murphy  
6:00pm Sun Fr Regi Gervasis

#### Archbishop Mark's Apostolic Priorities for the Archdiocese

Lamps Ablaze: Apostolic Priorities  
for the Archdiocese of Brisbane

#### Priority Five: Engaging Anew with First Nations Peoples

The injustice done to First Nations peoples in this country is a running sore at the heart of the nation. It is contemporary Australia's original sin... We need a genuinely new engagement of the Church with the First Nations peoples, especially in an Archdiocese like this where the Indigenous presence is strong. A new engagement will mean, first of all, listening to Indigenous voices, and believing that we can learn if we really listen. In the past, non-Indigenous Australia has struggled to believe that we could learn anything from First Nations peoples. They could learn from us, but not we from them. That has to change, both in the Church and in Australia more generally. Then the listening and learning need to lead to action.

WITH  
LAMPS  
ABLAZE

## PARISH NEWS

### WE REMEMBER

We remember Bryan Fitzpatrick. May he rest in the peace of Christ.

### SUNDAY HOSPITALITY

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

### COUNTERS

Cheryl's team.

### MEALS ON WHEELS

St Joachim's team - Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

### NEW GUIDELINES - COMMUNION FROM THE CUP

The Archdiocese of Brisbane announced on 28 March that it is reintroducing communion from the cup from Holy Thursday in 2023 and has asked, the practice of receiving communion in both kinds be re-established in parishes.



In line with this request, I am preparing to reintroduce the cup in the near future and over the coming weeks will be addressing the shortage of Extraordinary Ministers of Communion.

Any parishioner who stepped away from their ministry during the pandemic and would now be prepared go back on roster or any parishioner who would like to take up the ministry could you please contact the Parish Office via email [hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au) or by phone 3349 2280.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO ATTEND THE SUMMIT - 1 SPARE TICKET

The Summit is intended to empower, inspire and equip delegates to engage in the mission of the Church. It runs from 4:00pm on the Thursday, March 18 to 4:00pm on the Saturday, March 20. Details at [Archdiocesan Summit - Evangelisation Brisbane](https://archdiocesan-summit-evangelisationbrisbane.com).

### Would you like to attend all or part there of?

The Parish has 1 spare ticket if there is anyone interested in attending. Please advise the Parish Office if you would like to join the team going from our parish. There is no personal cost to you.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY

An Australian Pilgrimage led by a Sister of St Joseph and the Director of the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre commencing in Melbourne on October 17. Travel by coach to Hamilton, Portland, Port McDonnell, Penola and Robe before heading north to Adelaide and then flying to Sydney for 3 nights at the Mary MacKillop Centre, finishing on October 28<sup>th</sup>. For further information go to [www.marymackillopplace.org.au](http://www.marymackillopplace.org.au) or to make an application, please contact the Australian Co-Ordinator on 02 8912 4818 or by emailing [national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au](mailto:national.pilgrimage@mmp.org.au)

### AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

The Catholic Charity Aid to the Church in Need has launched their "Nigeria: Young. Faithful. Crucified" global campaign. Did you know that in 2022 a total of 5,014 Christians were killed for their faith in Nigeria? These were not Nigerians who happened to be Christian, but rather, their allegiance to the Lord saw them face a brutal death. This is a Church being crucified with Christ. To watch testimonies and to make an offering visit [www.aidtochurch.org/nigeriaglobal](http://www.aidtochurch.org/nigeriaglobal)



St Agnes Primary School  
**COMMUNITY FETE**

SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2023 10am - 3pm  
29 Tudor St Mount Gravatt

**DEVONSHIRE TEA**  
**FREE PETTING ZOO & REPTILE SHOW**  
**PLANT STALL**   **MARKET STALLS**   **GREAT RAFFLE PRIZES**

**ENTERTAINMENT STAGE**

**CAKES & SWEETS**   **PONY RIDES**   **HONEY PUFFS**

**AWESOME RIDES**

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## Week of Prayer For Christian Unity

*"Do Good;  
Seek justice"  
(cf Isaiah 1:17)*



Image: Invasion by John "Munnan" Hammond A'hang

### PRAYER SERVICE

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May 4pm  
St Andrew's Uniting Church  
299 Ann Street

**ALL WELCOME**



*Are you seeking some spiritual direction  
or spiritual accompaniment?*

There is a list of directors on offer in the Archdiocese and these can be accessed easily via the following link:  
<https://bit.ly/3QwpIdpspiritualdirection>



*For however you choose to say goodbye...*

**Burial, Cremation, Church or Chapel  
Pre-arrangements & Funeral Bonds**



*An Outreach of the Catholic Church*

**Phone: 07 3293 0555**

[www.holycrossfunerals.com](http://www.holycrossfunerals.com)

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**Binh Nguyen**  
**Mob: 0452 162 656**  
QBCC:15 113 118  
ABN: 82 674 256 581

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Kieran Harvey, Principal

- ❖ Property
- ❖ Wills & Estates
- ❖ Commercial

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

Shop 4, 11 Kuring Gai Avenue, Tarragindi



**Samuel Denny**

Electrical - Communications - Maintenance

sam@dennyelectrical.com.au | 0434128959  
www.dennyelectrical.com.au | Licence #: 82533



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.*



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

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.