



# Holland Park Mt Gravatt Parish News



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Churches  
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st joachim's & st agnes' parish

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

St Vincent de Paul Welfare  
1800 846 643  
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(Safeguarding purposes only)

**Pentecost Sunday**

**Year A**

**May 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Have you noticed how, these days when we meet someone and ask how they are, they reply, 'busy' or 'frantic' or 'as busy as ever'. I wonder what would happen if we replied, 'Relaxed and laid back' or 'taking time to smell the roses'. I don't think we would be believed, or we might get a lecture from our friends on how lucky we are not to be busy!

As Christians we have to be careful about this busy-ness competition. Being active in our lives and engaged with the world around us is a gift, but if we are honest about our busyness, some of it is not virtuous. It's about denial, avoidance or trying to stay up with our peer group.

In John's account of the first Pentecost the primary gift Jesus' Spirit bestows on the disciples is peace. It's curious, isn't it, that just as we all compete with each other to be the busiest person we know, we also complain that what we really want is 'some peace and quiet'. We can't have it both ways. Compulsive frantic activity is the enemy of peace.

Sometimes we can think that peace and quiet is sitting in the lotus position in a darkened room. Christ's gift of peace is more robust than that. Peace is like all the best things in life: an attitude of mind and a habit born of consistently making good choices. Some people can do a large amount of work and be quite serene about it. Peace, for them, is an affair of the mind and a way of life.

Seneca, a 2nd century philosopher, noticed, even in his day, how most of his friends and acquaintances were lacking peace. He wrote a famous book on anger and how to deal with it. He especially noticed that his richest friends were the angriest of all. Seneca came to believe that the reason so many people were agitated was that they had an unreasonable expectation about how smoothly their day would go. Those who were rich thought their money would buy them an easier life in every way and so when it did not, they got the angriest of all.

If Seneca is right and we want more peace and quiet, we have to have realistic expectations of each day and factor in the things that might go wrong.

Seneca's secular wisdom holds that the more aware we are of the frailties in us, others and life, the fewer fights we would have. In turn, this would lead to fewer occasions when we would need to ask or give forgiveness. In today's Pentecost Gospel, forgiveness is the second gift Jesus bequeaths the disciples.

If we really want to cultivate peace and quiet in our lives we have to confront the things we are trying to avoid or deny. Often these things hinge on painful memories or events where we were destructive toward others or they were toward us. Unless we forgive ourselves or forgive them, our busyness will ensure that we have enough clamour and activity to stay away from ugly memories. Unfortunately, it usually follows that when we are so busy not dealing with the sins of our past, peace and quiet stay well away from us as well.

Let us pray in this Eucharist that while the Spirit might allow us to retain any sins, we choose Jesus' first option this Pentecost and forgive as generously as we can those who have tried to crucify us. We might have to forgive ourselves as well. And then, like Jesus, with old wounds exposed, we can rejoice that the Spirit has breathed into us the greatest gift of all: the peace and quiet we most crave and need.

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**Readings: The Most Holy Trinity**

**Exodus 34:4-6, 8-9**

**2 Corinthians 13:11-13**

**John 3:16-18**

## READINGS FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY

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

Acts 2:1-11

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

### Responsorial Psalm

**Response:** Lord, send out your Spirit  
and renew the face of the earth..

Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are,  
How many are your works, O Lord! The earth is full of your riches.

You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came.  
You send forth your spirit, they are created;  
and you renew the face of the earth.

May the glory of the Lord last for ever! May the Lord rejoice in his works!  
May my thoughts be pleasing to him. I find my joy in the Lord.

### Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful  
and kindle in them the fire of your love  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

John 20:19-23

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.'

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive,  
they are forgiven:  
for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

## Parish Diary

Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Reconciliation 5:30pm  
St Joachim's

### The Most Holy Trinity

Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Mass 6:00pm  
St Joachim's

Sunday, June 4<sup>th</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 Lai  
7:30am Fr John Lai  
9:00am Fr Frank O'Dea  
6:00pm Sun Fr Rony Chacko

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

Lamps Ablaze: Apostolic Priorities  
for the Archdiocese of Brisbane

#### Priority Seven: Embedding Synodal Governance

We have begun the long and complex process of moving towards a synodal mode of governance in the Church, but the process is far from complete; and there is much to be done to embed synodal governance more securely at every level in the Archdiocese...

Synodality implies inclusion, and therefore we will have to keep asking how we might at every level include women in the decision-making processes of the Archdiocese. So too synodality requires transparency and accountability, and we will have to keep asking what we need to do make the Archdiocese more transparent and accountable.



## PARISH NEWS

### WE REMEMBER

We remember Bryan Fitzpatrick, Madeline Beaton and Shirley Gooley. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

### SUNDAY HOSPITALITY

There will be hospitality after the 9:00am mass TODAY.

### COUNTERS

Alison's team.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

All primary school children are invited to attend CLOW at St Agnes' Church - Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at the 9:00am Mass.

### HOSPITALITY AFTER 9:00AM MASS

Hospitality will be offered after the regular 9:00am mass next Sunday.

### COFFEE AND CHAT

On Monday, June 5th 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.

### THANK YOU - ANNUAL HOLY THURSDAY JOCKS AND SOCKS COLLECTION

The office has just received the following message that we would like to pass on to parishioners.

"On behalf of the team at St Vincent de Paul the Park, we would like to express our gratitude for the generous donation. We are currently working to support 80 vulnerable adults so this donation will be gratefully received. Thank you for your ongoing support."

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation will begin in July this year. This program is open to all baptised children in year three (3) and above. If you would like to receive a copy of the invitation and details of how to enrol, please email Rachel at [sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au)

Last weekend a number of parishioners attended the Archdiocese's Summit 2023. Over the coming week's they will be sharing with the parish their experience.



At The Summit there was a lot of emphasis on prayer. The traditional prayers that Catholics know were endorsed and beyond that, we were encouraged to let our prayer life become a conversation with God. In addition, to be creative and imaginative in exploring our relationship with the reality of heaven and our place in doing something real in the world, here and now.

There were many speakers on a full range of relevant issues and it would be interesting for people to follow this up and find out how the church around the world is responding to current problems.

It was encouraging to hear difficult questions of the moment being openly discussed. The context, at the moment, is more acceptance that views are going to differ but that we are moving into a time when everyone's voice is going to be heard and taken in to account in ongoing discussions.

It was evident that Archbishop Mark Coleridge is actively addressing the future of the church, supported by teams of lay people and clergy working on specific areas of development.

The idea that we are all called to follow in the footsteps of the apostles was made very prominent.

Roen Robinson

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### GROWING THRIVING FAMILIES

Parents and educators are inviting to an engaging workshop on supporting children with Managing Big Emotions, Anxiety and Anger. Judy Butler, an experienced educator and counsellor will present the workshop on Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> in the Chapel at St Mark's Lutheran Church, 71 Newnham Road, Mt Gravatt East commencing 7:00pm. Cost: \$10 Please register at [onlyimagineone@gmail.com](mailto:onlyimagineone@gmail.com) or by phoning 0412 799 489.

### CORPUS CHRISTI 2023

Are you proud of your Catholic faith? Are you looking for an opportunity to bear witness and Help "make disciples of all nations" (Matt 28:19)? On the Feast of Corpus Christi, June 11, join with over 4000 other Catholics making a public testimony of faith by walking in a Eucharistic procession through the streets of Brisbane city. It will be a colourful display as groups gather from all across the Archdiocese of Brisbane to represent their parish or cultural community.

Commencing at 2:00pm the Corpus Christi Procession will start and end at the Cathedral of St Stephen and feature prayers, rosary, hymns and Benediction with proceedings led by Archbishop Mark Coleridge.

The weekend (10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> June) will also feature a Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition in the Cathedral precinct's Francis Rush Centre and a vigil night of adoration 7p:00pm Saturday to 8:00am Sunday in the Mary MacKillop Chapel.

Find out more at [www.corpuschristibrisbane.com](http://www.corpuschristibrisbane.com)

### CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

**Teaching Meditation and Prayer** - Online unit presented over 4 Saturdays 17, 24 June; 7, 14 October. Lecturer: Dr Christopher Morris. To enrol or for further information: Dr Christopher Knauf, Registrar: [registrar@ctc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@ctc.edu.au)

### 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)

### A QUIET WEEKEND RETREAT FOR WOMEN

Friday, 30th June at 6:00pm – Sunday 2nd July at 3:00pm at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston

Experiencing God's Love and Light through the Spirituality of St Clare of Assisi. Hosted and Facilitated by: Grace Harwood of Dragonfly Ministries. Cost: \$380 (\$350 for concessions) includes all accommodation, meals (an additional fee for special diets), resources, spiritual direction and facilitation. To register or to enquire: 0409 524 283; [grace@dragonflyministries.net.au](mailto:grace@dragonflyministries.net.au)



### Catholic Theological College

Online unit presented over 4 Saturdays 17, 24 June; 7, 14 October

### Teaching Meditation and Prayer

Lecturer: Dr Christopher Morris

To enrol or for further information: Dr Christopher Knauf, Registrar: [registrar@ctc.edu.au](mailto:registrar@ctc.edu.au)



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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.