

**Parish Priest**

Fr Thomas Varkey

Deacon

Dcn Des Neagle

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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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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)

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time**Year A****October 1st/2nd, 2023****Which of the two did the father's will!**

Today's Gospel comes towards the end of Jesus' ministry. He has just entered Jerusalem and driven out the traders in the Temple. The chief priests and scribes challenge Jesus' authority to act in this way. Jesus turns their question back onto them when he asks them about John's baptism. What was John's authority? The chief priests avoid an answer by claiming ignorance and then Jesus tells them the parable we read today of the two sons.

Jesus' question to his opponents places the focus on how people act, on what they do and not on what they say. 'Which of the two did the father's will?' Being a true religious person is a matter of what we do, and not what we say. Jesus criticised the religious leaders of his time for their behaviour. They did not undergo the repentance John called for, while the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Jesus reverses the standard for being a truly religious person. It is not a matter of status or position but deed. As my former school motto states, 'Facta non verba – Deeds not words.'

According to Matthew's view, the final judgement will raise the following questions: Did you visit the sick? Did you clothe the naked? Did you feed the hungry? Did you welcome the stranger? Our Christianity is judged on these very practical acts of concern for others. If our faith does not lead us to action then we find ourselves in the position of the second son, who sounds good but whose words are hollow.

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Season of Creation

In today's parable where a son said yes but did nothing, Jesus offers a striking indictment of empty lip-service. In our age, one of the Church's most insistent calls has been for people to work for the protection of the vineyard of the earth. Speaking of climate change, deforestation and chemical pollution, Pope Saint John Paul II declared in 1990 'that the ecological crisis is a moral issue' and called on all people to 'recognise their obligation to contribute to the restoration of a healthy environment'. In 2009 Pope Benedict XVI insisted that 'technologically advanced societies can and must lower their domestic energy consumption'. In 2015 Pope Francis called on all of humanity 'to recognise the need for changes of lifestyle, production and consumption, in order to combat this warming' of the world's climate which we are currently facing.

Successive Popes have therefore called us all to work for the protection of our planet and its people. But it is up to every Christian to ensure that these words are not just empty rhetoric.

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READINGS FOR 26TH IN SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIMES

First Reading

Ezekiel 18:25-28

The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'You object, "What the Lord does is unjust." Listen, you House of Israel: is what I do unjust? Is it not what you do that is unjust? When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live. He has chosen to renounce all his previous sins; he shall certainly live; he shall not die.'

Responsorial Psalm

Response: Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me: for you are God my saviour.

Remember your mercy, Lord, and the love you have shown from of old.
Do not remember the sins of my youth.

In your love remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord.

The Lord is good and upright. He shows the path to those who stray,
he guides the humble in the right path; he teaches his way to the poor.

Second Reading

Philippians 2:1-11

If our life in Christ means anything to you, if love can persuade at all, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy, then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing which would make me completely happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead. In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus:

His state was divine,
yet he did not cling
to his equality with God
but emptied himself
to assume the condition of a slave,
and became as men are;
and being as all men are,
he was humbler yet,
even to accepting death,
death on a cross.
But God raised him high
and gave him the name
which is above all other names
so that all beings
in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,
should bend the knee at the name of Jesus
and that every tongue should acclaim
Jesus Christ as Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He went and said to the first, "My boy, you go and work in the vineyard today." He answered, "I will not go," but afterwards thought better of it and went. The man then went and said the same thing to the second who answered, "Certainly, sir," but did not go. Which of the two did the father's will?' 'The first' they said. Jesus said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you, a pattern of true righteousness, but you did not believe him, and yet the tax collectors and prostitutes did. Even after seeing that, you refused to think better of it and believe in him.'

Parish Diary

Saturday, October 7th

Reconciliation 5:30pm
St Joachim's

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, October 7th

Mass 6:00pm
St Joachim's

Sunday, October 8th

Mass 7:30am
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am
St Agnes'

Mass 6:00pm
St Agnes'

A Message from Pope Francis



A Mighty River
Amos 5: 24

So too, like a river basin with its many tiny and larger tributaries, the Church is a communion of countless local Churches, religious communities and associations that draw from the same shared waters. Each source adds its unique and irreplaceable contribution, until all flow together into the vast ocean of God's loving mercy. In the same way that a river is a source of life for its surroundings, our synodal Church must be a source of life for our common home and all its inhabitants. In the same way that a river gives life to all kinds of animal and plant life, a synodal Church must give life by sowing justice and peace in every place it reaches.

It's Not
What
You Say... It's
What
You Do

Readings – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:6-9

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-43

PARISH NEWS

COUNTERS

Robyn's team.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

There will be **NO CLOW** at St Agnes' today.

SUNDAY HOSPITALITY

There is hospitality after the 9:00am mass today.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MASS

Our next Youth and Family Mass will be held on Sunday October 8th at the 6pm mass at St Agnes Church, this will be followed by hospitality.

WEEKDAY MASSES

There will be **NO** weekday masses from Monday, October 2nd – Friday, October 5th.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SPIRIT OF HOPE CITY PRAYER MEETING

The Spirit of Hope City monthly prayer meeting will be held in St Stephen's Chapel on Wednesday 4th October 2023 (10.45 - 12.15pm) following the 10am Mass at the Cathedral. Our guests will be Audrey Chan Seow & Fr. Hilary Flynn. Please join us for Prayer, Praise and Worship. Enquiries can be made by calling Maureen 0403002199 or Helena 0405321901.

WOMEN OF THE WAY RETREAT

"Open the eyes of My Heart, Lord" Retreat 13 - 15th October Watson Park Convention Centre, Dakabin. Ladies would you like to take time out to Reflect and Recharge, treat yourself to some quality time with God. Book now for The Women of The Way Retreat. Retreat Facilitators: Sr Therese Mills, Leader of The Missionaries of God's Love Sisters and Sr Judy Bowe, are inspirational speakers, with a passion for sharing God's love. Weekend includes Mass, Adoration, Reconciliation, Praise and Worship, inspirational teachings, prayer ministry and time for fellowship. For brochure or info phone Rosa Montegrande - Mobile 0400755516 or email wowqld@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES WITH THE CAGLIERO PROJECT

English Teachers, Youth Workers & Youth Ministers

An initiative of the Australia-Pacific Province of the Salesians of Don Bosco, providing overseas volunteer experiences with young people in the Asia-Pacific region. We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers for January 2024 departure. Our placements run for 6-12 months and are centered around working with young people in educational settings. We are currently recruiting for volunteers for Cambodia, Samoa, Timor Leste, Australia and the Solomon Islands.

We aim to utilise your skills and talents to provide the best possible contribution to the host community. Our aim is not to 'help' but to walk in solidarity with young people and for all to have a mutual learning experience. We are also present in host communities to be role models that young people can aspire to. Cagliero volunteers commit themselves to working in the 'Salesian way'. This means that young people are the central focus in all work. The Salesian way also means approaching life in a joyful way with a loving heart. The experience as a Cagliero volunteer is not about the volunteer but is focused on the people we go to serve. However, serving as a Cagliero volunteer will probably be the most rewarding thing you ever do!

For more information, or to send us an enquiry, follow this link: <http://cagliero.org.au/>

Applications close October 31st, 2023. Contact: Lauren Hichaaba, Director of the Cagliero Project. Email: lhichaaba@salesians.org.au

THE CAGLIERO PROJECT, SALESIANS OF DON BOSCO

Long Term Volunteer Opportunities in the Australia-Pacific Region. We are seeking long term (6-12 month) volunteers for departure in January 2024 to work with young people in our Salesian communities in Samoa, Cambodia, Timor Leste, Solomon Islands and Australia. Applications close October 31st, 2023. Send us an enquiry - www.cagliero.org.au or lhichaaba@salesians.org.au

CALL TO GLOBAL MISSION WITH PALMS AUSTRALIA MISSION

Transform Lives- theirs...and yours.

Go to <https://palms.org.au/current-opportunities/> to find positions available or phone 02 9560 5999 or 0422 472 567.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED – THAT CATHOLIC SHOP

That Catholic Shop is the Australian on-line shop of Aid to the Church in Need. CAN is an international charity and is dedicated to the spiritual and pastoral support of suffering and persecuted Christians. Passionate about evangelising through beauty, curiosity and wonder they are wholehearted in their endeavour to find products, that are authentically Catholic. Visit their website www.thatcatholicshop.com to see their full range.

CLAIRVAUX/MACKILLOP 40TH YEAR REUNION

Students from Year 12 in 1983 or Year 10 in 1981 or past students with a close affiliation, a reunion will take place at The Lawn Bar, Kangaroo Point on Saturday 14 October at 5.00 pm. Tickets are \$30 each. Drinks can be purchased. Clairvaux-Mackillop Reunion or telephone Benitta 0412 855 045. Tickets available via <https://bit.ly/3WPccWs>

THE CATHOLIC LEADER COST \$4

Available in the churches this weekend.

- Archbishop Coleridge: "Awaiting God's grace and adventure"
- Missionaries of the Poor's East Timor project taking shape
- Pope Francis: Synod is 'truly important' for the Church
- Empathy and Action: Brisbane Diocese's Youth Engage in Socktober for Global Change
- Lessons from Saint Monica for those whose children and grandchildren have left the Church

ENROLLING NOW for YEAR 5 in 2024

INFORMATION SESSION

TUESDAY 10 OCTOBER 6.00PM

A primary school approach with high school opportunities.

More resources.
More support.
More options.

REGISTER at
JTA.link/SJCY5



St James
College

The Alpha Course

Alpha

Do you have questions about life, faith, meaning, or God? Would you like to explore what the Christian faith is all about in a relaxed and fun environment?

Then come along and try the ALPHA course!

When: Starting in the evening on Tuesday 10 October

Where: The Avocado Room at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, 121 Mains Rd, Sunnybank

To find out more or to register, please contact the Sunnybank parish office on 3345 3766 or sec.sunnybank@bne.catholic.net.au

Please note: Numbers are limited



For however you choose to say goodbye...

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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**