



Holland Park Mt Gravatt Parish News



Parish Priest

Fr Thomas Varkey

Deacon

Dcn Des Neagle

Office Staff

Dot Lomax

Kate Waymouth

Pastoral Coordinators

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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Mt Gravatt Qld 4122

Telephone: 07 3349 2280

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Pager: 07 3521 8025

Website:

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)

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

October 14th/15th, 2023

Whom you ate with in Jesus' time was very important – it reflected your own status. To share table with people who were regarded as 'lesser' by nature of their lifestyle or illness was seen to lessen the status of other participants. Sharing table was as much a political action as it was a social one. This week's gospel is an important one for understanding Jesus' message of an inclusive kingdom. The king invites all the 'right' people to attend his son's wedding banquet but they shame him by refusing his invitation and murdering his messengers. This would have been an extraordinary action in Jesus' time. An invitation to the table of your social superior would not be rejected lightly. To try to save face and regain some honour, the king sends his servants to bring in people off the street – the poorest and least socially acceptable people. The invitation to the people off the street, 'bad and good alike', is a reflection of Jesus' own attitude to sharing table. Jesus ate with those who were regarded as unworthy: tax collectors, prostitutes and sinners. It was one of the harshest criticisms of Jesus made by the Pharisees and Scribes: 'He eats with tax collectors and sinners!' One of Jesus' strongest messages was about the inclusive nature of the kingdom and he lived it day to day. His inclusive table fellowship was a powerful statement about the fact that the kingdom is an invitation to all – rich and poor alike, regardless of status in this world. This parable highlights the invitation to join in the kingdom of God that has been rejected by the Jewish leaders but taken up by the 'lesser' people of society. The wedding banquet is a metaphor for the kingdom of God.

This gospel parable is a reflection of the way in which the message of God has been extended to people through time. The first invitation was extended to the Israelites who initially accepted the message of God but in time lost the focus. Jesus further extended the invitation to the Gentiles, viewed by the Jews as unworthy of such a relationship with God. Finally, within the early Christian communities there were some who, despite belonging to the community, failed to live appropriately and demonstrate their acceptance of the message of God.

This gospel parable reflects the inclusive way in which Jesus lived his life. In many ways, Jesus was a scandal in his society because he didn't obey the social boundaries. He was very clear in being inclusive and attentive to those who were normally shunned. Today, those boundaries are just as clear and easily identified but the methods of excluding people have perhaps become a bit more subtle. Who are the 'shunned' and 'left out' in our society today? Where do the boundaries lie? Who would Jesus be reaching out to and seeking to include in today's society?

In light of the inclusive kingdom metaphor in this passage, the final portion of the gospel may be a bit troubling to readers. When a guest is not wearing a wedding garment he is cast out of the banquet. We might say that being invited at the last minute the guest was unable to find suitable clothing. It is a sign that although he has been an unlikely inclusion in the banquet, he has not made any effort to respond to the generosity of the king and take up one of the cloaks that would have been provided and thus give due honour to his host. This is symbolic of those who refuse to change their ways and do not live as followers of Jesus even when they have been included in the kingdom.

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READINGS FOR 28TH IN SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIMES**First Reading**

Isaiah 25:6-10

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 22:15-21

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

Parish Diary**Monday, October 16th**Mass 8:00am
St Joachim's**Wednesday, October 18th**
Feast of St LukeMass 6:00pm
St Agnes'**Thursday, October 19th**
Mass 9:00am
St Agnes'**Friday, October 20th**
Mass 9:00am
St Joachim's**Saturday, October 21st**
Reconciliation 5:30pm
St Joachim's**29th Sunday in Ordinary Time****Saturday, October 21st**
Mass 6:00pm
St Joachim's**Sunday, October 22nd**
Mass 7:30am
St Joachim's
Mass 9:00am
Fr Thomas' Installation
St Agnes'Mass 6:00pm
St Agnes'

Readings – 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4-6

2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

PARISH NEWS

WE REJOICE

With the Mitchell and the Shine and Harvey families as they celebrate the baptism of Ralph and Robert in the parish this weekend.

COUNTERS

Maureen's team.

MEALS ON WHEELS

St Joachim's team - Tuesday, October 17th.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Tuesday, October 17th at 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

The parish will hold its annual Mass of Remembrance on Saturday, November 4th commencing 10:00am at St Agnes' Church. Mass will be followed by morning tea. Everyone is welcome. If you have lost a loved one during the last 12 months and would like their name included please inform the parish office.

Invitation to Fr Thomas' Installation

His Grace Archbishop Mark Coleridge will install Fr Thomas as the leader of our faith community on Sunday, October 22nd at 9:00am Mass at St Agnes' Church. Mass will be followed by morning tea.

Come and celebrate this joyous occasion in the life of our faith community in welcoming Fr Thomas. If you are unable to attend the mass, you are welcome to join us afterwards for the morning tea.

For catering purposes, please RSVP by ringing the Parish Office 3349 2280 or by emailing hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au. We look forward to a great celebration.

COMMUNITY NEWS

OUR LADY OF LOURDES ART SALE

Parishioners, family and friends are invited to Our Lady of Lourdes Art Sale and Wine and Cheese Evening on Friday, October 20th @ 6pm in the Avocado Room of the Paloma Centre. 121Mains Rd, Sunnybank.

Join us for some socialising and check out what we have discovered hidden away. Original artworks and other treasures on offer. All proceeds will go towards our church loan. What an opportunity to share in a little of Our Lady of Lourdes history by purchasing one (or more) of these artworks. *For a sneak peek at some of artworks on offer visit the Our Lady of Lourdes Facebook page!*

ST DON BOSCO'S RELIC VISIT TO BRISBANE OCTOBER 13TH – 22ND

The Salesians of St Don Bosco are celebrating 100 years since they arrived in Australia to work in the spirit of St Don Bosco. The Relic is touring Australia to give people the opportunity to pray to St Don Bosco in a special way with the relic.

Fri 13th	Cathedral of St Stephen,	8am - 6pm
Sun 15th	Mary Immaculate, Annerley	6.30am - 7pm
Mon 16th	Mary Immaculate, Annerley	8.30am - 11am
		3pm - 8.30pm
Thurs 19 th	Guardian Angels, Wynnum	4pm - 7pm
Fri 20th	Our Lady of Victories, Bowen Hills	4pm - 9pm
Sat 21st	Our Lady of Victories, Bowen Hills	6.30am - 10am
		1pm - 3pm

Up-to-date info at www.stdonboscobrisbane.weebly.com

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED – THAT CATHOLIC SHOP

That Catholic Shop is the on-line shop of Aid to the Church in Need. ACN is an international charity and is dedicated to the spiritual and pastoral support of suffering and persecuted Christians. Visit their website www.thatcatholicshop.com to see their full range.

INSTALLATION MORNING TEA CATERING

Assistance is required in providing morning tea after Fr Thomas' Installation. If you are able to help could you please let the office know on 3349 2280 or by emailing hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au

HPMG Parish Youth Group



Saturday 28 Oct 2023, 6-7 pm

Holland Park Parish, Yuletide St, Holland Park West
Joining together through Faith, Fun & Food

HPMG Youth Group is teacher-led by Mrs Quincey, Mr Hull, Miss Green, and Miss Ansley through interactive, fun activities. Youth Group welcomes all student's & siblings.

We are excited to welcome Fr Thomas Varkey to Youth Group this month and have him lead us in prayer prior to the children's activities.

A BBQ dinner (sausage sizzle) & beverages follow Mass, making for an easy dinner and fun evening for our community to gather and grow together whilst ENJOYING our Parish's hospitality!

HPMG Youth Group - fourth Saturday of each month - same time, same place!





For however you choose to say goodbye...

**Burial, Cremation, Church or Chapel
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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**