



# 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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[www.hollandparkmtgravatt](http://www.hollandparkmtgravattcatholicparish.com.au)

[catholicparish.com.au](http://catholicparish.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)

30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

October 28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Last Sunday was international Mission Sunday. It is an occasion to pray and support the missionaries and mission work of the church. And this weekend let us contribute generously for the mission of the church.

Being a member of the Missionary Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament (MCBS), I am glad that on International Mission Sunday Archbishop Mark installed me as the new parish priest of Holland Park Mount Gravatt Parish. I was also lucky to have my Superior General Rev. Fr. Augustine MCBS with me for the celebrations.

I am immensely grateful for the outpouring of support that I have received from all of you during my installation. The Installation Mass was a beautiful and memorable occasion, and it marked the beginning of our shared journey of faith and community.

I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who played a part in making the Mass and the subsequent reception such a special and memorable event. I thank Fr Vince Hobbes, Fr Jerry, parish staff, the members of the Parish Finance Council, liturgy team, the choir, the altar servers, ministers, the ushers, and all those who contributed to the liturgy. I am deeply appreciative of your dedication and hard work. Your efforts added a profound sense of solemnity to the Mass. My special thanks to those who organised and contributed to the morning tea.

To all of you who attended the Installation Mass, your presence meant the world to me. Your faith and participation create a strong and vibrant community, and I look forward to getting to know each one of you as we embark on this journey together.

I would also like to express my gratitude to all those parishioners and friends who arrived from other parishes. Thanks for the warm wishes, prayers and love. Your support and prayers inspire me and strengthen my commitment to serve this parish and guide you in your spiritual journey.

As we move forward, please know that I am here to serve you, to provide spiritual guidance, and to foster a sense of unity and love within our parish community. Together, let us continue to build a parish that reflects the love of God and the warmth of Christian fellowship.

In Christ's love and service,

Fr. Thomas



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.

### First Reading

Exodus 22:20-26

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

### Responsorial Psalm

**Response:** I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength, my rock, my fortress, my saviour.

My God is the rock where I take refuge;

my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.

The Lord is worthy of all praise: when I call I am saved from my foes.

Long life to the Lord, my rock! Praised be the God who saves me.

He has given great victories to his king and shown his love for his anointed.

### Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

### Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,

and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

### Gospel

Matthew 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

## Parish Diary

**Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 8:00am  
St Joachim's

**Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup>**

Mass 6:00pm

followed by  
Adoration and Exposition  
of the Blessed Sacrament

St Agnes'

**Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes'

**Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Mass 9:00am  
*Includes Anointing of the Sick*  
St Joachim's

**Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**

Mass of Remembrance 10:00am  
St Agnes'

Reconciliation 5:30pm  
St Joachim's

**31<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 6:00pm  
St Joachim's

**Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 7:30am  
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes'

Mass 6:00pm  
St Agnes'

*Annual Catholic Mission Appeal*





## Readings – 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Malachi 1:14 – 2:2. 8-10

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. 13

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

## PARISH NEWS

### COUNTERS

Robyn's team.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

### BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

A baptism preparation evening for families who are having their child baptised in the parish is being held on Wednesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> commencing 7:00pm in the Parish Centre. Ring the parish office to register.

### MASS OF ANOINTING AND HOSPITALITY

The mass on Friday November 3<sup>rd</sup> will include an Anointing of the Sick. This will be followed by hospitality.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

All primary school children are invited to attend CLOW at St Agnes' Church - Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at the 9:00am Mass.

### SUNDAY HOSPITALITY

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

### ADORATION AND EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

On the first Wednesday of the month, beginning on November 1<sup>st</sup> there will be Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament immediately after the 6:00pm mass at St Agnes' Church for approx. 15 minutes.

### PARISH DATE CLAIMERS

ADVENT ADORATION – Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December from 9:00am – 4:00pm at St Joachim's Church. Full details later.

ADVENT PRAYER AND CHRISTMAS DRINKS - Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at St Agnes' Church commencing 6:30pm

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### THE SPIRIT OF HOPE CITY MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

St Stephen's Chapel on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023 (10.45 - 12.15pm) following the regular 10am Mass. Please join us for Prayer, Praise and Worship. We will continue to call on the Holy Spirit to lead us in praying for Renewal for our City Brisbane, Australia and the World. Bring your family and friends.

### H M CREATIONS ART AND CRAFT WORKSHOPS

Every Tuesday and Wednesday from 1.00pm to 2.30pm in The Media Room, 121 Mains Road, Sunnybank (next to Our Lady of Lourdes church). Cost: \$ 50. Seniors/Pension: \$ 45 Pay on the day: Cash only – receipts given. Bookings and Enquiries: [cd.hmcreations@gmail.com](mailto:cd.hmcreations@gmail.com)

### MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Traditionally, November is the month when we, the Church, celebrate and remember those family and friends who have gone before us. Our annual Mass of Remembrance for all who have died will be on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> commencing 10am in St Agnes Church. Mass will be followed by morning tea. If you have a loved one who has died in the last 12 months and would like to have their name included to be read out, please notify the parish office.

### NOVEMBER MASSES

It is our Christian tradition to make a special effort to offer masses and pray for our deceased family members and friends during the month of November. We should also pray for those who have died and have nobody to pray for them. If you would like to have those who have gone before us remembered in all Masses in November, could you please write their names on the Book of Remembrance. Mass envelopes are also available at both churches for Fr Thomas to offer a mass for you.

**All parishioners are invited to attend this mass.**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### GUIDED MEN'S RETREAT

Evangelisation Brisbane's Adult Formation team is excited to host a three-day guided retreat for men this November: 'Awake, Attentive, Called'. The weekend-long retreat from 6:00pm Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November to 12:00pm Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November will provide opportunities for personal prayer and reflection, as well as time to explore the breathtaking grounds and outdoor meditation activities of the Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre. Participants will also get the chance to meet other men walking the faith journey and take part in occasional group discussions.

Join with other men from across the Archdiocese for this transformational weekend of fellowship, prayer, reflection and faith sharing at Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre, Ormiston. Cost: Live in individual - \$425 (includes all meals and accommodation); live out individual - \$230 (includes morning teas, lunch and dinners). RSVP: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023, register online at: [tinyurl.com/guidedmensretreat2023](https://tinyurl.com/guidedmensretreat2023)

### THE CUSKELLY COLLEGE OF MUSIC SUMMER SCHOOL

Cuskelly College of Music Summer School will again be held in Brisbane from Monday 1 January – Friday 12 January 2024. Early bird registration closes November 6<sup>th</sup>. Click here for full detail <https://tinyurl.com/mux2wnhx>

## ANNUAL CATHOLIC MISSION APPEAL – OCTOBER 28<sup>TH</sup>/29<sup>TH</sup>



This week Catholic Mission will offer the opportunity to be part of a life-changing program which aims to address gaps in medical care, and provide families with essential health care and knowledge, equipping them with the confidence to act and autonomy over their health and well-being.

**The Maria Auxiliadora Clinic is a vital project for the Salesian Sisters and the Church in Venilale. Since its establishment, the clinic has provided life-saving treatment for families in need, like Petrolina's, whose daughter Vitoria was found to have tuberculosis. But, with an increase in the demand for treatment, the Sisters resources can only carry them so far.**

Please give generously today to help continue this life-giving program by using the appeal envelope, going online at [catholicmission.org.au/timor](https://catholicmission.org.au/timor), or scanning the QR code. Your gift will also help many other similar Church-run mission programs around the world.



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**St Joachim's Outside School Hours Care**

**41 Yuletide Street Holland Park 4121**

**07 3847 9820**

**0418 355 431**



**Binh Nguyen**

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**St Agnes**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL | [stagnes.qld.edu.au](http://stagnes.qld.edu.au)

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## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION POLICY



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

*... 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.