



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

P O Box 281

1227 Logan Road

Mt Gravatt Qld 4122

Telephone: 07 3349 2280

E: hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au

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)

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE Year A November 25th/26th, 2023

Dear Parishioners,

In a world that often seems chaotic and uncertain, the Feast of Christ the King serves as a powerful reminder that, ultimately, Christ is the source of true peace and stability. His kingship is not one of earthly power and might, but rather, it is a kingship of love, mercy, and justice. As we celebrate this feast let us work together for his kingdom.

I am glad that our Holland Park Mount Gravatt Parish celebrates the 20th anniversary of its formal amalgamation on 30th of November 2023. As we celebrate this milestone, let us remember with gratitude the countless blessings we received and transformative moments that have shaped our parish family. With God's grace and the continued commitment of each parishioner, I am confident that our community will flourish and continue to be a source of inspiration for many. Let us come together in prayer and thanksgiving, not only for the years behind us but for the countless possibilities that lie ahead.

As we celebrate the Multicultural Sunday today, let us commit ourselves to fostering a spirit of unity and love. Let us learn from one another, appreciate our differences, and work together to build a community that reflects the inclusive love of God.

As we embark on this season of holidays and recreation, may we carry the spirit of gratitude, compassion, and joy in our hearts. As the children in year six, both at St Agnes and at St Joachim, are graduating let us remember the school communities in our prayer.

Let us be mindful of those who may be facing challenges during this time and extend a helping hand wherever possible, embodying the teachings of Christ. I do appreciate the charitable works done by Vincent DePaul Conference in our parish. Let us support them generously.

May this Feast of Christ the King be a time of deep reflection, spiritual renewal, and a recommitment to live as faithful subjects of our loving King. May the love of Christ, which has sustained us for two decades, continue to guide and inspire us as we journey forward as one family in faith.

May the peace of Christ reign in our hearts and overflow into the world around us.

Wishing you all a blessed Feast of Christ the King!

Fr. Thomas

READINGS FOR OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

First Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-12. 15-17

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

Responsorial Psalm

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

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.

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

1 Corinthians 15:20-26. 28

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left. Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me." Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me." And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'

Parish Diary

Monday, November 27th

Mass 8:00am
St Joachim's

Wednesday, November 29th

Mass is CANCELLED

Thursday, November 30th

Feast of St Andrew, apostle
Mass 9:00am
St Agnes'

Friday, December 1st

Includes Anointing of the Sick

Mass 9:00am
St Joachim's

Saturday, December 2nd

Reconciliation 5:30pm
St Joachim's

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, December 2nd

Mass 6:00pm
St Joachim's

Sunday, December 3rd

Mass 7:30am
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am
St Agnes'

Mass 6:00pm
St Agnes'

Shepherd King,

TRANSFORM OUR DESIRE

FOR POWER, WEALTH AND APPROVAL

INTO A LONGING TO SERVE YOU
AND OTHERS.

MAKE US EVER AWARE OF
HOW OUR LIVES IMPACT THOSE
MOST IN NEED OF OUR GENEROUS
SERVICE, AND GIVE US THE COURAGE TO
CHANGE THE WAY WE LIVE. *Amen.*

Readings – 1st Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

PARISH NEWS

WE REMEMBER

We remember Margaret Klemm, Oscar Labtang, Judith Orig, Glenn Labtang and Sharon Grau. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

COUNTERS

Elisabeth's team.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Tuesday, November 28th at 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

WEDNESDAY EVENING MASS

There will be NO mass this Wednesday evening at St Agnes' due to the school's Rite of Passage.

MEALS ON WHEELS

St Agnes' next roster day is Thursday, November 30th. Please advise the MOW kitchen on 3397 9150 of your availability.

MASS OF ANOINTING AND HOSPITALITY

The mass on Friday December 1st will include an Anointing of the Sick. This will be followed by hospitality.

COFFEE AND CHAT

Monday, December 4th at BrizStar Café Mt Gravatt at 10:00am.

ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKS

With Expectant Hearts, a 22 day prayer and reflection book for Advent is available in the churches this weekend. Cost:\$6 each

BREAK OPEN THE WORD

Readers are asked to collect their 2024 Break Open the Word from the churches this weekend.

NOVEMBER MASSES

This is the final week to have masses offered during the November. If you would like to have those who have gone before us remembered in Masses in November, 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.



ESTABLISHMENT OF PARISH COMMUNITY GARDEN

The parish office is currently applying to become a recipient of a cultivating community gardens grant from the Brisbane City Council. If successful, the parish office would like to purchase a rainwater tank and mobile garden beds to set up an area where a produce garden can be planted and tended to. As this is an exciting initiative that can benefit both the environment and the parish community, the establishment of a working group is needed to assist in the ongoing running of the garden. Please contact Kate Waymouth at the parish office on 07 3349 2280 to express your interest in this project.

COMMUNITY NEWS

SERVICE OF SOLIDARITY WITH GAZA AND THE HOLY LAND

On Monday, 27 November from 3:30 - 4:00pm let us come together in love, prayer and support and acknowledge the reality that impacts us all as we share messages of hope. The ACBC have said: 'Peace can come only from justice. We call people of faith to pray with us for a lasting peace and the triumph of human dignity.' Everyone is welcome. Please register in advance for this webinar: https://caritas.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DWj-zzhRoGN8Q0ifg61Zg

OUR LADY OF LOURDES' SUNNYBANK CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Friday, December 8th commencing 6:00pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 121 Mains Rd, Sunnybank. Come and join in an evening of singing, friendship and fun with Christmas carols and sausage sizzle.

THE JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

Sunday 10 Dec, 1:00pm at Cineplex South Bank

Emmanuel Community hosts the screening of the greatest story ever told and comes to life on the big screen this Christmas. Tickets start from \$14, family discounts available. Tickets must be pre-purchased, they will not be available at the door. Buy your tickets at www.ec.org.au or contact events@ec.org.au.



VOLUNTEERS...WE NEED YOU!

Co.As.It. is seeking volunteers who love to spend time and make a difference in the lives of older people. We are specifically seeking people from particular linguistic and cultural backgrounds visiting at home or in aged care centres. All that is required is one hour per fortnight and a smile. If this sounds like you, come and be part of our volunteer team.

Please call Sarina, Luisa or Loretta on 3624 6100 or email us at lorettai@coasit.asn.au.

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 2ND AND 3RD

Mercy is the heart of our mission and it drives our spirituality. It is the life force that gives purpose to our lay Catholic organisation. We also engage in the values of Compassion, respect, commitment, integrity, empathy, advocacy and courage. These values are deeply aligned to the Catholic Social Teaching principles, which underpin our works.

The deepest action of compassion is love. It is with this love that we strive to respond to those in greatest need. This work is more crucial than ever as we all struggle with the cost-of-living crisis that many of us are facing. It is through this realisation that Vinnies makes today's gospel reading from Matthew and the kingship of God a reality.

For people, like Anna, Vinnies provides support and reassurance that she will not be alone during hard times. For Grace, a volunteer, she finds comfort in the knowing that the society can provide the necessary support.

Without your generous and ongoing support Vinnies cannot support those with the greatest needs in our community.

All monies raised stays with the local conference to help those in the Holland Park Mt Gravatt community.



For however you choose to say goodbye...

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

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 ABN: 82 674 256 581

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Kieran Harvey, Principal

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 0408 640 008
enquiries@harvelawyers.com.au

Shop 4, 11 Kuring Gai Avenue, Tarragindi



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**