



Holland Park Mt Gravatt Parish News



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Fr Thomas Varkey

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St Joachim's Church

41 Yuletide Street

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St Agnes' Church

1227 Logan Road

Mt Gravatt

Parish Office Hours

Monday – Friday

8:30am – 4:00pm

Parish Details

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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

Seton College

07 3291-5333

St Vincent de Paul Welfare

1800 846 643

Safeguarding Officer

Dot Lomax 0474 297 201

(Safeguarding purposes only)

MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Year B

June 1st/2nd, 2024

The sacrament of communion with God

Today's liturgy continues with the theme of living in communion with God as it presents a second great symbol – the eating and drinking of food.

Because our liturgy has developed over 2000 years and has become quite formalised we can lose sight that its basic element is a gathering of people round a table to share nourishment. Jesus had many meals with his disciples and friends but only a few meals are written about in the Gospels. The meal this Gospel highlights is his final one. For that reason, the gathering had a special, poignant significance. It also coincided with the great Jewish celebration of liberation called the Passover. During this meal Jesus gave the ritual bread and wine a new meaning: that of his own life. When he was no longer physically present with disciples they were to continue to gather around a table, to share bread and wine, and by his words, 'This is my body; this is my blood', he promised that in these gatherings he will be present.

And so Christians had continued this practice of the Lord's Supper, in homes, in caves, in catacombs, in halls, in prison cells and cathedrals. The Eucharist gathers God's fragile, frequently failing people, to nourish, forgive and bless. Hear the invitation: 'Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed' (Prov 9:5).

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Francis' Focus

Pope Francis points that at the Last Supper Jesus 'breaks himself apart'. In doing so, the Pope suggests, Jesus shows his followers 'that the aim of life lies in self-giving.'

The Pope reminds us that we find the greatness of God in a piece of Bread, in a fragility that overflows with love, that overflows with sharing.' In the fragility of the Eucharist, the Pope adds, we find 'the strength of the love that becomes small so it can be welcomed and not feared.'

The Pope also highlights how the Eucharist reveals 'the strength to love those who made mistakes.' It was on the night he was betrayed, with Judas at the table, that Jesus 'responds to Judas' "no" with the "yes" of mercy.'

'When we receive the Eucharist,' the Pope explains, 'Jesus does the same with us: he knows us; he knows we are sinners; and he knows we make many mistakes, but he does not give up on joining his life to ours. He knows that we need it, because the Eucharist is not the reward of saints, no, it is the Bread of sinners.'

'The Eucharist,' the Pope says, 'is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak.' That being the case, this Sunday we might do well to ask ourselves what situation or person we are being strengthened to help.

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READINGS FOR MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

First Reading

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

Exodus 24:3-8

Responsorial Psalm

Response: I will take the cup of salvation,
and call on the name of the Lord.

How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?
The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name.
O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful.
Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds.
A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name.
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people.

Second Reading

Hebrews 9:11-15

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.

He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover.

And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

Parish Diary

Monday, June 3rd

Mass 8:00am
St Joachim's

Wednesday, June 5th

Mass 6:00pm
St Agnes'

Thursday, June 6th

Mass 9:00am
St Joachim's

Friday, June 7th

(includes Anointing of the Sick)

Mass 9:00am
St Joachim's

Saturday, June 8th

Reconciliation 5:30pm
St Joachim's

10th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, June 8th

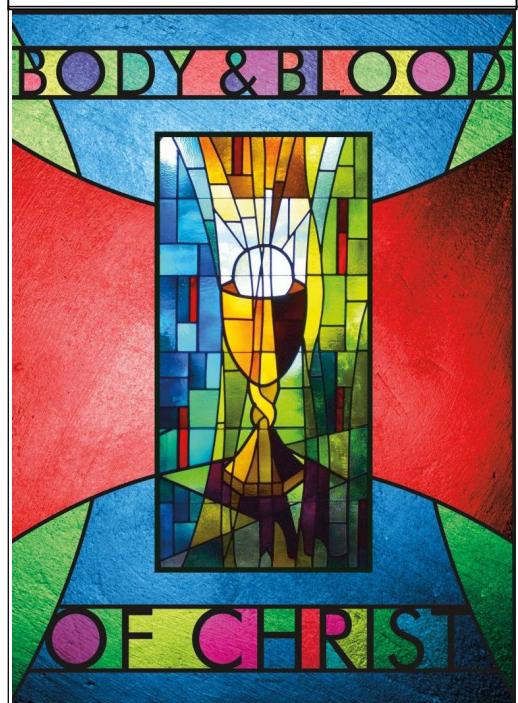
Mass (Vigil) 6:00pm
(includes Celebration of 1st Communion)
St Joachim's

Sunday, June 9th

Mass 7:30am
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am
(includes Celebration of 1st Communion)
St Agnes'

Mass 6:00pm
St Agnes'



Readings – 10th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Genesis 3:9-15

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Gospel: Mark 3:20-35

PARISH NEWS

WE REMEMBER

We remember Travis Crossland, Fr Jim Smith and Nancy Tiainen. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

COUNTERS

Robyn's team.

COFFEE AND CHAT

On Monday, June 3rd, join other parishioners for morning tea and fellowship at BrizStar Café, Mt Gravatt Plaza commencing 10:00am. Everyone is welcome and you are free to just turn up.

ADORATION AND EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

There will be Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament immediately after the 6:00pm mass at St Agnes' Church on Wednesday, June 5th for approx. 15 minutes.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

A baptism preparation evening for families who are having their child baptised in the parish is being held on Wednesday, June 5th commencing 7:00pm in the Parish Centre. Ring the parish office to register.

MASS OF ANOINTING AND HOSPITALITY

The mass on Friday, June 7th will include an Anointing of the Sick. This will be followed by hospitality.

SUNDAY HOSPITALITY

There will be hospitality after 7.30am mass next weekend.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Since February, Daniel Hutchens has been engaged in the RCIA process preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. He has been attending 9.00am mass with his sponsor Camille Ramos and has moved through the stages of enquiry, into catechesis, which involves learning about the Catholic faith, reflecting on the scriptures and coming to know the person of Jesus.

The next stage of Daniel's preparation involves more public prayer within the community. On this feast of the Body and Blood, we are reminded that we are the Body of Christ in the world so, let us be a welcoming community for Daniel and all who desire walk with us.

Congratulations

The Sacramental Program for First Communion has now been completed and culminates with the children being welcomed to the Table of the Lord for the first time. I extend my thanks to the children and their families for their commitment to the program. I would also like to thank Mary Ginty, our Sacramental Program Coordinator who has prepared the children for this celebration and all those who have assisted Mary in any way. With God's Blessings
Fr Thomas

This weekend end we welcome Amelia Goodrick, Faith Greenwood, Oliver Stokes, Max Gillespie, Arthur Taylor, Zara Reordan, Maeve Corney, Jessica van Eps, Nicholas van Eps, Brooklyn Kruithof, Lyla Chaseling, Xavier Alexander, Georgia Yeates, Freya Ivers, Penny Sommerfeld, Lucas Nucifora, Ruth Clair, Annabel Whiting, Anneliese Sorgel, James Tat, Francis Guerin, Nicholas Kennedy, Daniel Reupena, Claudia Smith, Eligh Pinti, Declan McAree, Jessica Keegan, DanaLunar, Eli Pickup, Savannah Dawson, Paxton Danieleotto, Neill Wagner, Caitlin Wagner, Saoirse Gibney, Oliver Callaghan, Elijah Nuich, Henry Hunter, Florence Brown, Eve Donnelly, Sophie Longden, Matteo Casabella, Karthik Joyal, Charlotte Bremner, Isabella Harrison.

Parish Spotlight ~ Maria Casabella

Last weekend my husband, Carmelo and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary with a blessing by Fr Thomas at the 9:00am mass. Following mass we hosted a morning tea.



Carmelo arrived in Australia in November 1973 for our wedding however, 3 weeks after his arrival I lost my mum to Lymphoma and the wedding was postponed.

By chance, a friend of ours told us about a little cottage in Mt Gravatt that was for sale. Growing up in Kangaroo Point it was like moving to the country. We took a chance and bought it, then three weeks later on 25th May, 1974 we were married.

In 1978, we received a knock on our front door. A priest from St Agnes' Church by the name was Fr Bill Morris introduced himself. Over a cup of tea, I asked if he could baptise our son, Joseph, as I was pregnant again with our second child, Elizabeth. We ended up having two christenings in one year.

From then onwards Carmelo and I became involved in the parish and later at the school after our children commenced their education at St Agnes. My grandson, Matteo now attends St Agnes' School. We currently assist with the upkeep of the grotto at St Agnes Church and gardens behind it.

I would like to thank Fr Thomas, my family and friends for celebrating with us and sharing in the wonderful day we had last Sunday and Dot for her assistance in preparing for the celebration.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation will begin in July this year. Enrolments open Monday 3rd June.

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 Mary at sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au



SUNDAY

JUNE 9TH
St Agnes Church

6:00pm



The mass will be followed by hospitality and a meeting. All young members of our parish are invited and encouraged to come along and check it out.

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

"HE WHO FOLLOWS ME WALKS NOT IN DARKNESS" - JOHN 3:12

2PM SUNDAY 2 JUNE 2024

Starting and ending at the Cathedral of St Stephen and featuring prayers, rosary, hymns and Benediction with proceedings led by Archbishop Mark Coleridge.

corpuschristibrisbane.com

 SCAN TO VISIT WEBSITE

CCR HEALING MASS

Are you in need of healing prayer for you or your family? An invitation is extended to attend a healing Mass at St Mary Magdalene's Church, Bardon on Fri, 7th June, at 7.30pm. Fr. Thomas Varkey will be the celebrant. The Sacrament of Healing will be administered during Mass together with a personal prayer. Prayer ministry will also be offered after Mass for anyone who would like further prayer. Supper provided. For more information, contact Len Airey on 0421 977 849 or by email to lenpatairey@gmail.com



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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.



**CATHOLIC
CHILDREN'S
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NETWORK**

Hey Parents!

Children and Church:
what's your experience?

Scan the QR code to fill
out this short survey



The 'Spirit of Hope' Prayer Meeting St Stephen's Chapel

(In the grounds of the Cathedral in Brisbane City Centre)

Wednesday 5th June 2024 10.45am – 12.15pm

Join us, as we Pray, Praise and Worship the LORD!

Calling on the Holy Spirit to lead us in praying for Renewal!!

Personal Prayer Ministry will be Available

EVERYONE WELCOME!

