



Parish Priest
Fr Thomas Varkey

Office Staff

Dot Lomax

Kate Waymouth

Pastoral Coordinators

Mary Ginty

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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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)

26TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Year B

September 28th/29th, 2024

Us and Them

In today's Gospel it is John, not Peter who is the spokesperson for the disciples, and he raises an objection to others working Jesus' name but who are not one of the 'in' crowd – 'he was not one of us'. John here voices the tragic judgement that people often make about those who are different from themselves. Instead of focussing on what they share in common - being able to cast out demons, working in the name of Jesus – John measures this other person's activity sole in terms of his belonging with the discipleship group or not. Does he have the same Galilean accent? Does he recognise the importance of the inner group of disciples? Has he followed Jesus from the beginning, or is he a later arrival? Jesus' reply points out that the disciples have no monopoly on Jesus' name. The ability to work miracles is not something on which disciples have a franchise. God is able to work outside their select group.

The other material in this Gospel probably goes back to independent sayings of Jesus that Mark has collected into this context. Using the extreme examples, typical of oral teaching, Jesus speaks of the deadliness of sins. Some years ago, news reports told of a young hiker in America whose arm was trapped beneath a boulder. His desire for life was so strong that he amputated his arm, rather than remain trapped and die. This graphic example depicts the point of Jesus' teaching. Choose life not death, even if the life choice costs.

© Mary Coloe PBVM

Season of Creation

Twice in today's Gospel Jesus refers to the everlasting fire of hell. Better to lose a hand or an eye than endure that, he says, making some dramatic points about sin and sacrifice.

At this moment in human history Jesus' choice of imagery and his message about dramatic action are especially pertinent. As Pope Francis declares in his encyclical Laudato Si', climate change is an imminent threat to our world. For Christians, this raises two issues directly relevant to this passage from Mark.

On the one hand, we have a duty to protect ourselves and each other from catastrophe by checking our own sinful behaviours and habits. We should seriously consider what we can do to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels through personal usage, investment options, and political choices. We cannot dodge responsibility on this issue. Our faith demands action.

On the other hand, we also have a duty to find common cause with everyone else who shares this concern. Pope Francis encourages us to work with people of other religions 'for the sake of protecting nature, defending the poor, and building networks of respect and fraternity.' When it comes to protecting our common home, 'Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

Nick Brodie

First Reading

Numbers 11:25-29

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look', he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

Responsorial Psalm

Response: The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

The law of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple.

The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just.

So in them your servant finds instructions; great reward is in their keeping. But who can detect all his errors? From hidden faults acquit me.

From presumption restrain your servant and let it not rule me.

Then shall I be blameless, clean from grave sin.

Second Reading

James 5:1-6

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 9:38-43 45. 47-48

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

Parish Diary**Saturday, October 5th**

Reconciliation 4:30pm

St Joachim's

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**Saturday, October 5th**Mass (Vigil) 5:00pm
St Joachim's**Sunday, October 6th**Mass 7:30am
St Joachim's
Mass 9:00am
St Agnes'
Mass 6:00pm
St Agnes'**gospel focus****Anyone not against us is for us**

It is sometimes quite baffling why the movement for ecumenical dialogue is so labored and apparently delivering such limited results. It seems that it is human nature to dwell much more on what makes us different rather than on what we have in common. Unfortunately, efforts to build dialogue between Christian churches seem to inevitably turn up the differences that impede dialogue more than the commonalities that foster dialogue. Jesus made it clear that "anyone who is not against us is for us". Perhaps if we focus on the common goal of leading people to Jesus we can get beyond the differences that set us against each other.

This weekend we welcome:
 Saturday Evening – Fr John Lai
 Sunday Morning – Fr Tom Elich
 Sunday Evening – Bishop Brian Finnigan

PARISH NEWS

WE REMEMBER

We remember, Paul Hilton, Joan Walford and Valentino Valentine. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

COUNTERS

Maureen's team.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Tuesday, October 1st at 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

“WELCOME TO THE PARISH” EMAIL

Over the coming weeks/months you may receive an email welcoming you to the Holland Park Parish from Fr Thomas. Please do not be alarmed by this, it is not a scam. As I input the data from our recent census into our new system it automatically generates this email. Apologies to those who may have already received one, but we were not aware that this would occur.

COFFEE AND CHAT

October Coffee and Chat will be on Monday, October 14th due to the King's Birthday holiday on the 7th.

ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

The annual mass of remembrance will be offered on Saturday, November 2nd commencing 10:00am at St Agnes' Church.

ANNUAL MULTICULTURAL MASS 2024

This year's Multicultural Mass will be held on Sunday, November 3rd commencing 9:00am in St Joachim's Church. This will be followed by morning tea and a cultural display from various members of our community in the parish hall.

As this is a Parish event, our aim is to enable all parishioners to have the opportunity to attend and/or participate in the event. With this in mind it has been decided to only have one mass on this Sunday.

We ask parishioners to give serious consideration to how you can assist the parish in planning, preparing, participating in and providing for this celebration.

Please write your name on the sign-on sheet which is located on the Gifts Table in each of the churches or please contact parish office at hpmpg@bne.catholic.net.au or 0735218025.

Let's make this year's Multicultural Mass a true celebration of our unity in diversity!

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

The parish would like to invite all children in Year 5 and above who have received their First Holy Communion to join us in preparing for the Sacrament of Penance.

Where: St Agnes' Church
 When: Saturday 26 October
10.30am - 12.00pm OR
 1.00pm - 2.30PM



- * Children only need to attend one session.
- * This program is for children/candidates only.
- * Parents are not required to attend.

Please **RSVP ASAP** to secure your place.

hpmpg@bne.catholic.net.au or ph:3349 2280



Parish Spotlight Gerard Ward

Describe how you came to our parish.

I grew up in the local area and attended St Agnes school during the mid-1990s, and during this time I was an altar server at Sunday mass. More recently, my own family has celebrated several milestones in the parish; Betina & I were married at St Joachim's church and our son Alistair was baptised at St Agnes church.

Please describe your current involvement in our parish.

I'm currently a member of the Parish Finance Council, and a mass co-ordinator for the 6pm Sunday mass at St Agnes.

Please describe one thing that is memorable about our parish.

The parish is fortunate to have singers & musicians who add to the energy and engagement during mass, which helps to create a welcoming and inclusive experience each week.

Please describe one challenge that you believe the parish will need to be ready for in the future.

The two churches and other facilities within the parish have a rich history but also have an increasing need for ongoing maintenance and repairs, which the Parish Finance Council is working with Fr Thomas and Kate from the Parish office to address these long-term needs of the parish community.



Knights of the Southern Cross Qld

Annual Combined Branches

Fundraising Dinner

Hosted to raise funds to support the local charity work of Sr Salvacion Buno, through St Francis Table Ministry.

Saturday, October 5th; 6:00pm for 6:30pm start
 St Francis of Assisi Hall, West End

Cost: \$50 includes 3 course dinner and some drinks
 Bookings required by October 2nd for catering purposes



Scan the QR code or visit
www.trybooking.com/CUSPV
 to book your tickets.



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Pilgrimage to Marian Valley

Will include blessing and opening of newly built Divine Mercy Chapel

Saturday, October 5th 2024

The Shrine of Our Lady Help of Christians
Marian Valley, Canungra

A coach will be departing Holy Spirit Church, New Farm at 9am.

Cost \$30.

RSVP: September 27th

Jan: 0438 721 447

Maureen 0413 136 544



The 'Spirit of Hope' Prayer Meeting

St Stephen's Chapel

(In the grounds of the Cathedral in Brisbane City Centre)
(We Meet every 1st Wednesday of the Month)

Next Meeting Wednesday 2nd October 2024

10.45am – 12.15pm

(after 10am Mass)

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#

Contact: Maureen 0403002199 or Helena 0405321901



Invitation to attend our Fr Mark Raper SJ Talk

'The Escalating Crisis in Myanmar and the Role of the Church'

Thursday 10 October at 7.00pm

St Ignatius Church, Kensington Tce, Toowong.

Entry is free, however donations will be collected for Jesuit Mission's work in Myanmar.

All are welcome to join us or alternatively view online at St Ignatius Parish YouTube Channel - <https://youtube.com/live/i8JXJqNLvgE?feature=share>



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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
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