



# Holland Park Mt Gravatt Parish News



## 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

P O Box 281

1227 Logan Road

Mt Gravatt Qld 4122

Telephone: 07 3349 2280

E: [hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au)

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Website:

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

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

Facebook:

[st joachim's & st agnes' parish](https://www.facebook.com/stjoachimsstagnesparish)

## 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](http://www.stvincentdepaulwelfare.org.au)

1800 846 643

## Safeguarding Officer

Dot Lomax 0474 297 201

(Safeguarding purposes only)

29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

Year B

October 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## To be a servant for others

To be human is to experience desire and ambition. To know a person's deep desires is to see into that person's soul. Desire for good, such as world peace or the end of global warming, is a positive urge of the human spirit. Other desires that focus on personal happiness and success can also be positive.

However, they may also become caught up with the 'dark side' of the human spirit leading to jealousy, blind ambition and ruthless disregard for others.

Throughout the drama of human life, desire and suffering are closely linked. This is evident, for example, in the works of Shakespeare: one thinks of the innocent, youthful desires of Romeo and Juliet, the dark and treacherous desires of Macbeth and Lady Macbeth, or the obsessive desires of King Richard III. In different ways, these desires all lead to tragic suffering.

The connection between suffering and desire is also a key insight of the Buddha who taught that all suffering is caused by human desire and that happiness or enlightenment consists in the elimination of all desires. How does this compare with the approach of our own Christian Scriptures?

The long history of Israel is one of suffering at the hands of external enemies and through internal divisions. Jesus' life-story is also one in which his efforts to bring about God's kingdom of justice and peace are thwarted by negative forces. Even Jesus' own disciples seem blind to his real mission and message.

Why are Jesus' disciples so dim-witted? In a word, they are so caught up with their petty desires and ambition for power and glory, they are unable to see Jesus for who he really is or to hear what he truly asks. They want to overcome suffering (as we all do); but they think the way to do this is in the worldly way of grabbing power, status and authority.

Jesus' response is to challenge their preconceptions: "Anyone who is to be great among you must be your servant; anyone who wants to be first among you must be your slave." Suffering is integral to our human lives. In this sense, compared to the Buddha, Jesus is more radical by insisting his followers embrace suffering as he does: "Can you drink the cup that I must drink?"

Jesus is not glorifying suffering for its own sake but shows us how to place suffering in its proper context. The message is foreshadowed by Isaiah who links positive acceptance of suffering with liberation from sin and practising justice. Acting for God's kingdom means putting one's life on the line—and even, as in Jesus' case, giving one's "life as a ransom for many".

There is another form of suffering Jesus shares with us because, like us, he experiences human weakness – though, the writer is careful to add, "he is without sin" (Hebrews). Sin is the ultimate cause of human suffering often expressed in our wayward human desires.

Jesus shows us the way to purify such desires through a life of servanthood.

Gerard Hall SM

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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**

Isaiah 53:10-11

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering.  
If he offers his life in atonement,  
he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life  
and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.  
His soul's anguish over  
he shall see the light and be content.  
By his sufferings shall my servant justify many,  
taking their faults on himself.

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Response:** Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love.

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love.  
to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield.  
May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

**Second Reading**

Hebrews 4:14-16

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Son of Man came to serve  
and to give his life as a ransom for all.  
Alleluia!

**Gospel**

Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him, 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them: 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

# Parish Diary

**Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**

Mass 8:00am  
St Joachim's

**Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Mass 6:00pm  
St Agnes'

**Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes'

**Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 9:00am  
St Joachim's

**Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>**

Reconciliation 4:30pm  
St Joachim's

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

**Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>**

Mass (Vigil) 5:00pm  
St Joachim's

**Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**

Mass 7:30am  
St Joachim's

Mass 9:00am  
St Agnes'

Mass 6:00pm  
St Agnes'

## gospel focus

### Sacrifice

*Sacrifice is a term that gets used quite a lot in religion and yet it's a term with which modern society is very uncomfortable. We're not really 'into' sacrifice. We're much more into feeling good about ourselves and comfortable in our existence. Jesus called on the rich man to make a sacrifice – to let go of what he really loved and valued. What Jesus really called the man to do was to place his trust in Jesus and not in material wealth – that was the sacrifice he was called to make. Ultimately, the man couldn't do that! He couldn't let go of certainty and security and entrust his life and soul to Jesus.*

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

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Isaiah 53:10-11

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: Hebrews 4:14-16

Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

### PARISH NEWS

#### WE REMEMBER

We remember Isabel Sheehan, Garry Condon and Fr Jack Rosenskjar. May they rest in the peace of Christ.

#### SUNDAY HOSPITALITY

There will be hospitality after the 9:00am masses at St Agnes' this weekend.

#### COUNTERS

Maureen's team.

#### CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOW)



All children are invited to join us for CLOW at the 9am mass at St Agnes' today. All parents are very welcome! Children under 5 years must be accompanied by an adult.

#### ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

The annual Mass of Remembrance will be offered on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> commencing 10:00am at St Agnes' Church. If you have lost a loved one during the last 12 months and you would like to have them remembered during the mass please let the office know. Everyone is welcome. There will be morning tea afterwards.

#### DATE CLAIMER - MASS OF THANKSGIVING

On Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> there will be a Mass of Thanksgiving for the Parish held at St Agnes Church commencing 6:00pm. The mass will then be followed by Supper. Please mark your calendar.

#### HOSPITALITY AT ST JOACHIM'S

There will be hospitality after the 5:00pm and 7:30am masses at St Joachim's next weekend.

### ANNUAL MULTICULTURAL MASS

#### ONLY 2 WEEKS TO GO

#### YOUR INVOLVEMENT IS ESSENTIAL FOR ITS SUCCESS

This year's Multicultural Mass will be held on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.**

To make this event a success, we are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to join our team. Volunteers will be working together to arrange the Liturgy, cultural program, culturally diverse foods etc. Whether you have a passion for liturgy, enjoy organizing cultural programs, or love sharing and preparing food from around the world, we need your help!

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 [hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hpmg@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.

[sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au) or ph:3349 2280

## Appeal will be held in the parish next weekend, October 26/27<sup>th</sup>



In Mongolia, Chuluunbaatar suffered a life-altering injury while trying to rescue a submerged vehicle, leaving him unable to work and reliant on scarce support services for basic needs. Without shelter and food, Chuluunbaatar faces the real risk of freezing to death.

Resources are limited, but the Church in Mongolia is working hard to provide essential services to people in need.

**This World Mission Month, we invite you to extend your generosity to help enhance these vital services. Your support can make a significant difference to the lives of many, offering hope and tangible assistance to individuals like Chuluunbaatar.**



Free call: 1800 257 296  
[catholicmission.org.au/mongolia](http://catholicmission.org.au/mongolia)

SCAN ME



## OLD PRESBYTERY/PARISH OFFICE ASBESTOS AND DEMOLITION PLANNING

In 2023, the Parish Finance Council undertook an assessment of the old building to review the possibilities of converting the property for redevelopment. When the decision was made to demolish the building for future consideration, the Parish then commenced the process of planning ahead to assess the risks involved in a demolition project in their Parish car park. After carefully considering the advice of the combined inputs from the Archdiocese of Brisbane and Brisbane Catholic Education's Workplace Health and Safety advisory teams, the Parish is now confident in their decision to move forward and have engaged a licenced building contractor to safely remove the asbestos from the White House building as the first stage to completing the demolition program.

The date for this first stage has now been set for a period of five (5) days from Monday 11 November until Friday 15 November 2024. The carpark on Logan Road will be closed for visitor parking during working hours. **Mass will go ahead as normal on Wednesday evening however the Thursday morning mass will be transferred to St Joachim's on November 14<sup>th</sup>.**

During this time the Parish will be working with St Agnes School to maintain a safe environment for all, and we ask that the school and Parish communities follow the directions and communications provided to ensure everyone's safety.



**BISHOP MICHAEL PUTNEY MEMORIAL LECTURE** Tuesday, 22 October from 7:00pm - 9:30pm

The Hanly Room, Francis Rush Centre (196 Charlotte Street, Brisbane City).

Each year we honour the memory of Bishop Michael Putney, who led the way in areas of Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations in the Archdiocese of Brisbane, by hosting a lecture in his name. This year the theme is *You are My Flesh and Blood: The Ecology of God* with guest speaker, Archbishop Mark Coleridge. This event is open to all, and there is an opportunity for BCE teachers who teach religion to have their attendance accredited as part of their Professional Development. Cost: \$10 in person | \$5 to attend via Livestream. Please RSVP by Friday 18 October. To register please visit the website: [tickets.org.au](https://tickets.org.au) - [Australia's Premier Ticketing System For Organisations](https://www.ticketmaster.com.au/australia/Pages/Enrolment.aspx)



Enrolments are invited. Contact <https://www.sansisto.qld.edu.au/enrolment/Pages/Enrolment.aspx>



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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.