



Holland Park Mount Gravatt Parish

† St. Joachim's Church, 41 Yuletide Street, Holland Park West † St. Agnes' Church, 1227 Logan Road, Mt Gravatt

† St. Joachim Primary School, 41 Yuletide Street, Holland Park West St Agnes' Primary School, 29 Tudor St, Mt. Gravatt

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

July 12th/13th 2025

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Thomas Varkey

PARISH SECRETARY

Dot Lomax

SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR

Mary Ginty

MUSIC COORDINATOR

Yolanda Apelt

LITURGY COORDINATOR

Sr. Helen Dyson

PARISH FINANCE CHAIR

Ron Pugh

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

Emergency: 07 3521 8025

WEBSITES

www.hollandparkmtgravattcatholicparish.com.au

FACEBOOK

St Joachim's & St Agnes' parish

PARISH SCHOOLS

St Agnes': 07 3349 5130

St Joachim's: 07 3397 9087

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL WELFARE

1800 846 643

OUTSIDE HOURS SCHOOL CARE

St. Agnes & St. Joachim

07 3367 6300

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE

Lyn Russo: 0474 297 201

(Safeguarding purposes only)

Being Neighbourly

The late Pope Francis reflected on the Parable of the Good Samaritan as a “ray of light” for our contemporary world where people too often fail to respond to the needs of the poor and vulnerable. Francis presented the Samaritan – whom he called “a stranger on the road” – as a symbol of fraternity and social friendship creating “a culture of encounter” that builds bridges of love among all people [“Fratelli Tutti”, No. 2].

We need to recall that Jesus tells this story of the “stranger on the road” in answer to some questions put to him by a Jewish lawyer. Wanting to know what the greatest commandment is, Jesus tells him “to love God and your neighbour”. Then he wants to know who his neighbour is? Jesus notes that neither the priest nor the Levite respond with love and care for the victim, most likely a fellow Jew.

We might miss a major point of this story if we fail to note how much Jews and Samaritans hated each other. Yet here we have the much-despised Samaritan being put to the Jewish lawyer as the pinnacle of human behaviour. So, when Jesus asks him which of the three – priest, Levite or Samaritan – was most neighbourly to the victim, he could but only reply “the one who shows him mercy”. Jesus then is quick to tell him: “Go and do likewise”!

In other words, Jesus tells his fellow Jew that he needs to become more like the non-Jewish Samaritan! In further reflection on this parable, Pope Francis challenged us all to become true neighbours to one another by actively engaging in the forming of positive relationships with people across age, race, nationality, ethnicity or religion. We are all called to build community at local and concrete levels especially with the poor, the suffering and those on the margins of society.

In other words, for Francis the parable of the Good Samaritan – or story of “the stranger on the road” – was much more than an example of someone who is kind and caring of a wounded victim. Rather, it is the parable and story that calls upon all human beings to overcome their selfish interests, myopic views and personal prejudices that pit us against others. In particular, as human beings and especially as Christians, we are called to lift up the lowly, care for those who suffer and even place our own lives on the line to protect innocent victims of corruption, selfishness and greed.

For Pope Francis, part of our love of neighbour was also reflected in our love and respect for our natural environment on planet earth. While nations that pollute the world are becoming increasingly wealthy, poorer countries are the major victims of climate change.

This is clearly evident in our own part of the world in the Southern Pacific. Let us stop, reflect and change our behaviour in order that all the world’s peoples become more neighbourly in respect of one another and the natural environment.

Gerard Hall SM

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Parish News

WE REJOICE with the Dore family as they celebrate the baptism of Edward in the parish this weekend.

COUNTERS Alison's team.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM – SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

For all baptised children in Grade 3 and above who have already enrolled for the Sacrament of Confirmation, please note **Parent sessions for the Sacrament of Confirmation** will be held this coming Monday and Tuesday as follows:

Monday 14th July, 6.30pm at **ST AGNES' CHURCH**

OR

Tuesday 15th July, 6.30pm **ST JOACHIM' CHURCH**

ST JOACHIM'S MEALS ON WHEELS is rostered for this Tuesday, July 15th.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY will be held on Tuesday, July 15th commencing 4:00pm in the Parish Centre.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD will be held next Sunday, July 20th in conjunction with the 9:00am mass at St Agnes' Church. All parents are welcome to attend. Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult.

ST AGNES' HOSPITALITY will be held next Sunday after the 9:00am mass.

ALTAR SERVERS

Would you like to become an Altar Server
at St Joachim's or St Agnes?

If you have received the sacrament of First Communion
and you are interested in becoming an Altar Server,

please let the Parish Office know via

Mary at sacpr.hpmg@bne.catholic.net.au
or call the parish office on 07 3349 2280

CORRECTIONAL CENTRE PASTORAL VISITATION

A deeply meaningful volunteer opportunity with Centacare.

If you are seeking a way to witness to your faith in an active way, and have a gift to talk easily and kindly to people from very diverse backgrounds, this opportunity may offer a pathway to a deeper engagement with Jesus through the hope that your witness can bring to many in prison. A weekly commitment is required with current options available at the Wacol Correctional Centre precinct or Woodford Correctional Centre. Your training will be supported by a team of Catholic men and women currently serving as pastoral visitors.

To know a bit more or to register your interest please contact the Director, Pastoral Ministries on 33243193, or email: judy.norris@bne.centacare.net.au

PARISH RETREAT – PEACE, FORGIVENESS, AND SPIRITUALITY OF ST FRANCIS

Presented by Caroline Thompson on Saturday 19th July at Saint Rita's Parish 37 Benfer Road, Victoria Point from 9 am to 3 pm. Cost: Free Event. All welcome. Morning tea provided – please bring lunch to share (finger food). If possible, please RSVP to Grace on 0450 063 408 to help with numbers for catering and for handouts.



A warm invitation is extended to all past and present staff and students of schools and ministries associated with Edmund Rice Ministries and the Christian Brothers to join in celebrating 150 Years of Edmund Rice Ministry, in Queensland with a *Thanksgiving Eucharist on Thursday 31st July 2025* commencing 1.30pm at the Cathedral of St Stephen. Followed by refreshments in the Hanley Room, Francis Rush Centre.

Weekday Masses			
Date	Day	Time	Location
July 14	Mon	8:00am	St Joachim's
July 16	Wed	6:00pm	St Agnes'
July 17	Thurs	9:00am	St Agnes'
July 18	Fri	9:00am	St Joachim's
Weekend Masses			
July 19	Sat	5:00pm	St Joachim's
July 20	Sun	7:30am	St Joachim's
July 20	Sun	9.00am	St Agnes
Jul 20	Sun	6:00pm	St Agnes
SACRAMENTS AND SPECIAL LITURGIES			
RECONCILIATION - Every Saturday at 4.30pm at St. Joachim's Church.			
MASS OF ANOINTING - First Friday 9. 00am at St. Joachim's			
The Rosary – Every Wednesday 5:30pm at St Ages' Church			
ADORATION - First Wednesday 6:00pm at St Agnes'			
BAPTISM, WEDDINGS, AND FUNERALS by appointment			
BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION 1st Wednesday of the month			
CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY			
Children's Liturgy of the Word: 1st and 3rd Sunday 9.00am at St. Agnes' Church			
Youth Mass and Meeting on 2nd Sunday of the month at 6.00pm at St. Agnes' Church			
Family and Children's Mass on 4th Sunday of the month at 9.00am at St. Agnes			
EVENTS & MEETINGS AT PARISH CENTRE			
New to the parish Register via Flocknote by scanning the QR code.			
			
  Safeguarding Commitment			
<p>We have zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and are committed to safeguarding everyone involved in our activities, ministries and services.</p> <p>The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.</p>			