



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

2nd Sunday of Advent

Year A

December 6th/7th 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.hollandparkmgravattcatholicparish.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)

If you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit

If John appeared in our Churches today what would we make of him? Smile at his delusion? Be embarrassed by his challenge? Be angered by the upset to our normal religious routines? If these questions cause discomfort, John caused discomfort in his time, so much so that he was thrown into prison and executed. John preaches the coming of God. Nothing about him is attractive – the environment is the harsh Judean wilderness, his clothes and food are bizarre and his message 'Repent' is hardly an advertising slogan. And yet people come to him. Jerusalem, all Judea and the whole Jordan district go to him for baptism. People can recognise truth. It may not be attractive, some may prefer to avoid it, but we cannot fully hide from the truth. John speaks to the truth of God. God is near. God is coming. Is your life open to receive God or not?

The word translated as 'repent' means something, like 'change your way of being, change your heart' – *metanoia*. John doesn't go into details of how to do this. Exactly what '*metanoia*' means is left to each individual. All John demands is a true change of heart. This is why he is critical of the Jewish leaders who are presented here as just going through the motions. They want the ritual of baptism without doing the hard work of seeking the truth in their lives. Rituals are easy. Truth seeking costs. As we prepare yet again for the celebration of God's coming may we approach it at the level of our hearts, even if that call for some changes.

SPIRITUALITY SPOT - Advent Reflection

Advent Prayer of Confession



*Ever present Peace, you came to save us,
but that is so hard to remember in this hectic season.
Our impatience for Christmas to arrive gets in the way
of listening to our children singing in their rooms.*

*We let blinking lights blind us to your
quiet presence in our noisy world.*

*We get so caught up in the stories of violence we cannot hear
your voice reminding us not to be afraid.*

*Gardener of deserts, as you poured out your mercy on all
who have gone before us, shower us with grace and forgiveness.*

*Then, our eyes will be opened to all your wonders,
our ears will echo with the anthems of the angels,
and our emptiness will be filled with the life
gifted to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

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Readings for 3d Sunday in Advent

Reading 1: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

Psalm: 145

Reading 2: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

Parish News

WE REMEMBER Adrianus Vermeulen. May he rest in the peace of Christ.

COUNTERS Alison's team.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM For those who give by envelopes your new set is available in the churches this weekend. If you are interested in being part of the program please contact the parish office, there are several payment methods available.

WORKING BEE IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS will be held at both churches on Saturday, December 13th from 8:00am - 11:00am to give the churches a general clean up before Christmas, NO windows.



| Weekday Masses | | | |
|---|-------|--------|--------------|
| Date | Day | Time | Location |
| Dec 8 | Mon | 8:00am | St Joachim's |
| Dec 10 | Wed | 6:00pm | St Agnes' |
| Dec 11 | Thurs | 9:00am | St Agnes' |
| Dec 12 | Fri | 6:00pm | St Agnes' |
| Weekend Masses | | | |
| Dec 13 | Sat | 5:00pm | St Joachim's |
| Dec 14 | Sun | 7:30am | St Joachim's |
| Dec 14 | Sun | 9.00am | St Agnes |
| Dec 14 | Sun | 6:00pm | St Agnes |
| SACRAMENTS AND SPECIAL LITURGIES | | | |
| RECONCILIATION - Every Saturday | | | |
| 4.30pm at St. Joachim's Church. | | | |
| HOLY ROSARY | | | |
| Every Wednesday 5:30pm St Agnes Church | | | |
| MASS OF ANOINTING - First Friday | | | |
| 9.00am at St. Joachim's | | | |
| ADORATION - First Wednesday | | | |
| 6:00pm at St Agnes' | | | |
| BAPTISM, WEDDINGS, AND FUNERALS | | | |
| by appointment | | | |
| BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION | | | |
| 1 st Wednesday of the month | | | |

Advent and Christmas Invitation

As Advent and Christmas draw near, we warmly invite all families to join our parish community in preparing for the season and celebrating together at our Christmas Masses. Advent is a preparation time for Christmas, a time to reflect on the true gift of Christmas - GOD WITH US! Please join us whenever you can.

ADVENT Join us...

**Reflective/mediative time at St Agnes' Church, from 9am-10am, every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday during Advent (Nov 30-Dec 19). Drop by the Church when you can, if even for just 5 minutes, to enjoy reflective music & imagery, helping to slow down and make some room in our hearts for this Christmas time.

**Advent Prayer and Reconciliation, St Agnes' Church, 6pm, Monday 15 December. Advent Prayer is another way to help us focus on the presence of God in our lives and the meaning of Christmas. Reconciliation helps us to prepare our hearts for Christmas.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve - Wednesday, December 24th.

| | | |
|--------|------------------|---------------------|
| 4.45pm | Christmas Carols | St Joachim's Church |
| 5.00pm | Vigil Mass | St Joachim's Church |
| 6.45pm | Christmas Carols | St Agnes' Church |
| 7.00pm | Vigil Mass | St Agnes' Church |

Christmas Day—Thursday, December 25th

| | | |
|--------|------------------|------------------|
| 7.45pm | Christmas Carols | St Agnes' Church |
| 8.00am | Mass | St Agnes' Church |

Archdiocese of Brisbane Safeguarding Commitment. The Archdiocese has zero tolerance for all forms of abuse and is committed to safeguarding everyone involved in its activities, ministries and services. The safety and wellbeing of children and adults-at-risk is paramount.

Office for Safeguarding Services - Telephone: 07 3324 3752; Email: safeguarding@bne.catholic.net.au