



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

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

July 18th/19th 2026

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

WEBSITES

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

catholicparish.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)

Gardening for the soul

The gospel continues on from the parable of the Sower that we heard last week. Divine Wisdom, now present in Jesus, continues to teach those who would listen. If God, the householder, sows only good seed why is it that there are such mixed results? The parable makes two points. Firstly that an enemy is responsible for the weeds, not the householder; secondly that the householder will deal with these weeds at the harvest time.

It is important to read this parable in its context. Jesus is dealing with why so many do not respond to his teaching, for his ministry receives a very mixed response. In the symbolism of the parable, the reign of God that Jesus announces is met by vigorous opposition from the powers of evil. This is the reality in Jesus' time, the reality faced by Matthew's community and it continues to be our reality. The voice of the Gospel continues to struggle to be heard in our present society. Other values are presented as offering a better way of life – if we allow asylum seekers in, our 'white Australian' quality of life may change – if we stop embryonic research we may lose our scientists and possible cures for many illnesses.

With many of the complex issues we face it is not easy to discern the weeds from the wheat. On the two issues named above good people of faith hold different views. The parable seems to suggest that the servants need to live with both the wheat and the weeds and leave the task of judgment to God. Jesus offers this teaching to console and encourage his followers. Their task, as servants, is to sow goodness. The task of destroying evil is God's.

Perhaps an even greater challenge is to realise that the parable speaks about me. The paradox within my own life – I too have to learn to live with the wheat and the weeds within my own heart. Many years ago I read a story of Tony D'Mello's; it goes something like this. The preacher came and asked the class, 'If all the good people wore white and all the bad people wore black, what would you wear?' Mary Jane answered, 'I'd wear polka dots!' For all our good intentions, and efforts we will probably continue to struggle with some issues all our lives. The garden of our soul will always need a little weeding. These inner struggles will continue to call us to conversion and we will continue to need to call on God and allow God to be the gardener of our souls. Knowing the weeds and wheat within our own individual lives, can help us be a little more patient, or tolerant of the weeds and wheat around us – in our families, communities, our Church. This is not an invitation to complacency but a reminder to 'get real' as young people say.

The reading from Romans is from chapter 8, and earlier in this letter Paul had lamented, 'When I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inner self, but I see in my outer self another law at war with my soul' (7:21). I think Paul speaks of this same inner struggle of knowing the weeds and the wheat which leads him to rely on the Spirit of God as he says in the reading today. 'The Spirit helps us in our weakness... The Spirit intercedes for us ... the Spirit searches the inner hearts of all people.' Paul then continues, 'If God is for us, who can be against us' (8:31). In the struggle to live a good meaningful life, we can sometimes be our own worst enemy in being far too harsh and unforgiving towards ourselves. The Parable may invite us to greater kindness towards ourselves and to leave the task of major garden work to God.

© Mary Coloe

Parish News

WE REMEMBER Ana Mendoza, Alma Farrah and William, Vincent and Johnny Ward. May they rest in the peace of Christ

WE REJOICE with the Banks and Lu families as they celebrate the baptism of Murphy, Edward, Samuel and Mary in the parish this weekend.

COUNTERS – Maureen's team

MEALS ON WHEELS The Holland Park team is rostered for this Tuesday, July 21st.

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S MASS will be held in conjunction with the 9:00am mass next Sunday, July 26th.

CANCELLATION OF WEEKDAY MASSES

There will be no mass this Wednesday July 22nd or Thursday July 23rd due to Fr Thomas attending the Clergy Convocation.

HISTORY GROUP

Connecting the Past with the Present: Please see the display board outside each church for another story that links a current parishioner with the original St Agnes' Church.



St Vincent de Paul Society
good works

Winter Appeal Thank you

The local conference of St Vinnies would like to express their sincere thanks to Parishioners and St Agnes' School for their donations to our annual Winter Appeal. Your generosity and continued support has seen a total \$4263 raised.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM – SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION For families already enrolled for the Sacrament of Confirmation, Enrolment Masses will be held on the weekend of Saturday 25th July and Sunday 26th July. The children will receive their resources on this weekend and are formally enrolled in the program.

PARISH FAREWELL TO DOT LOMAX

After 23 years of dedicated service as our Parish Secretary, Dot Lomax will be retiring. We give thanks to God for her faithful commitment and the many ways she has served our parish community. You are warmly invited to join us for a Farewell Mass on Friday, 14 August 2026 at 6.00 pm St. Agnes Church, followed by drinks, light refreshments, and fellowship in the Parish Centre. Please mark this date in your calendar and come along as we thank God for Dot's years of service and wish her every blessing and happiness in her retirement. Fr. Thomas

PARISH SECRETARY – HOLLAND PARK MOUNT GRAVATT PARISH

Looking for a meaningful way to give back to your parish community?

Holland Park Mount Gravatt Parish is seeking a Parish Secretary to support the Parish Priest and help ensure the smooth day-to-day operation of their parish. The role is Permanent Part-Time – 20 hours per week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 9:00am–2:00pm).

To apply, email hunterb@bne.catholic.net.au

THE ARCHDIOCESAN CENTRE FOR CATHOLIC FORMATION exists to facilitate a deeper experience of God in the Catholic tradition. It offers 4 core modules in Catholic Foundations and as well as supplementary guest lectures, short courses, retreats and one-off events. For more information go to: <https://bit.ly/4gFtuRV> There are brochures Module 4 commences August 17th.

Weekday Masses

Date	Day	Time	Location
Jul 20	Mon	8:00am	St Joachim's
Jul 22	Wed	NO MASS	St Agnes'
Jul 23	Thurs	NO MASS	St Agnes'
Jul 24	Fri	9:00am	St Joachim's

Weekend Masses

Jul 25	Sat	5:00pm	St Joachim's
Jul 26	Sun	7:30am	St Joachim's
Jul 26	Sun	9:00am	St Agnes
Jul 26	Sun	6:00 pm	St Agnes

SACRAMENTS AND SPECIAL LITURGIES

RECONCILIATION - Every Saturday

Every Saturday 4:30pm St Joachim's Church

HOLY ROSARY

Every Wednesday 5:30pm St Agnes Church

MASS OF ANOINTING - First Friday

9:00am St Joachim's Church

ADORATION - First Wednesday

6:30pm 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

2nd Sunday of the month at 6:00pm St Agnes'

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.



STOPline is an independent service that receives information about suspected abuse, harm and other serious misconduct by workers (including priests, religious, employees, educators, practitioners, support workers and volunteers).

STOPline

Phone: 1300 304 550

Email: A0B@stopline.com.au

Online Report: bne.catholic.stoplinereport.com