



ST AGATHA'S PARISH

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Very Rev Dr Adrian Farrelly KCHS JCD

Mrs Catherine Newell

Mrs Jane Cameron

Monday - Friday: 8.00 am to 12.30 pm and 1.30 pm to 4.30pm

Please note Office is closed 12.30 - 1.30pm.

Mrs Carol Sayers

Ms Sarah Daws



Jesus Communion Mission

Administrator

Executive Assistant

Administrative Assistant

Parish Office Hours

School Principal

Outside School Hours Care Coordinator

A Parish of the North East Deanery in pastoral association with Hamilton Hendra Northgate Nundah Banyo Wavell Heights Aspley Geebung Zillmere Bracken Ridge Sandgate and Brighton

1 January- Mary, the Holy Mother of God Year B

1st Reading: Numbers 6:22-27; 2nd Reading: Galatians 4:4-7; Gospel: Luke 2:16-21



Mary, Mother of God

In the 4th or 5th centuries the title "Mother of God" was at the centre of a major row in the Church. How can a human being be God's mother? God by definition is self-existent, God has no beginning or end and definitely no father or mother.

The controversy was not just about words, an argument among Church people with nothing better to do. What was at stake was the identity of Jesus and whether he could restore, the human family to harmony with God.

With the fall of Adam and Eve, we lost the oneness, the intimacy with the Father, Son and Spirit we were created to enjoy. We created a rift.

On a family level the rift was like that created when a disobedient arrogant son or daughter turns their back on their parents and leaves. The rift can only be healed by the son or daughter, the family member, coming home. A non-family member cannot do it.

So with the human family and God only a member of God's family can make the home-coming and heal the rift.

If Jesus was only a human being and not divine as well, he could not heal the rift. Those who objected to Mary being called mother of God were destroying the union of natures on Jesus - he was not divine. If not divine, then he could not take us into harmony with the trinity. So, in 431 the Church gave the seal of approval to the title. Mary carried and gave birth to one who was divine and human.

He would live by his name - Jesus - one who saves. Mary gave the world the ultimate blessing. May we treasure him spend time with him and model our lives on him.

Fr Adrian Farrelly

Pope's Three Christmas Wishes. Having lit the largest Christmas tree in the world (the tree is located on a hillside in Gubbio, Italy) on December 7, Benedict XVI made three wishes:

- 'That our gaze, that of our minds and our hearts, not rest only on the horizon of this world, on its material things, but that like this tree it be directed up toward God. God never forgets us but He also asks that we don't forget Him.
- 'That we recall that we also need a light to illumine the path of our lives. But what light? It is the Child whom we contemplate on Christmas, in a poor and humble manger, because He is the Lord who draws near to each of us and asks that we receive Him anew in our lives.
- 'That each of us contribute something of that light to the spheres in which we live: our families, our jobs, our neighbourhoods, towns, and cities. That each of us be a light for those who are at our sides; that we leave aside selfishness, that we pay greater attention to others, and love them more.'

In our prayers we remember



We pray for those who have died:

Neil Hinson, Cody Ross, Sr Margaret Press, John Cardinal Foley, Sadie O'Brien, Brian Hill.

And for those whose anniversaries occur about now:

Sally Meehan, Peter Fardoulis, Helen Vescey-Dalos, Stan McKenzie, Reilly and Pitt Family, Peter, Noel and Eve Turnbull, Emerita Socorro, Carmel and Allan Burke, Marjorie, Tom and John Geddes, Grace Russo, Dell Murphy, Estelle Rees.

Those who are sick:

Benedetta De Santi, Pam Farr, Dennis Farr and William Mitchell, Sue Hall, Patricia Woolhouse, Judy Freeman, Jan Heslewood, Johnathon Adams, Rosaria Tieppo, Jennifer Baker, Jayne Burns, Monica Hay, Maia Balsillie, Ryan Masterson, Pamela Bright, Charles Kannengiesser, Ronald McCann, Alison Doust, Garry Ahern, Jonathan O'Brien, Alma Kaus, Peter Wood, Andrea Collis, Gabrielle Greathead, Vera Jokic, Chas Hudson, Don Morrison, Rosina Waugh, Tim Devlin, Sr Mary McDonald, Loretta Giles.

You will note a number of names which have been on the sick list for many months have been removed. If you would like to have a name put back on please contact the parish office. Also a reminder to let us know when names are no longer required to be shown on the list.

PARISH ROSTERS

Please arrange a substitute if you are unavailable on your rostered day.

	6.00pm	7.00am	9.00am	5.30pm
<u>READERS</u>				
31 Dec/1 January	Julie-Anne Gibson Graham Gibson	Jeanine Bygott Anne O'Connor	Wilma O'Connell Michael Crutcher Anna Coventry	Life Teen Mass
7/8 January	Ann Goves Marie Ho	Mary Kelaher Aleira Egan	Jill Weld Jane Arkinstall Trish Ryan	Life Teen Mass
<u>COMMUNION MINISTERS</u>				
31 Dec/1 January	Eddie Foley	Angelo Gumirato	Henry Weld	Life Teen Mass
7/8 January	Trish Hickey	Jan Corser	Cecily Dobson	Life Teen Mass

Gift Bearers will be arranged by the Communion Minister, except for the Young Parishioners' Mass and special masses.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy will resume 29 January

ORGANISTS:

31 Dec/1 January	Eithne Stafford	Mark Leung	Sr Marguerite	Life Teen Mass
7/8 January	Teresa Fuller	Mark Leung	Catriona McPherson	Life Teen Mass

SANCTUARY CARERS

31 Dec/1 January	Victor Podesta, Jane Lynn
7/8 January	Santina Catalano, Maria Fistrovic

Volunteers needed. These important ministries need more volunteers. Please contact Fr Farrelly or the Parish Office on 3262 2859 if you would like to help.

Note: All Readers and Children's Liturgy Team Members are asked to pick up their copy of *Break Open the Word* for Year B. Books (with your name on them) are available on table in church foyer.

Jesus and Leisure.....Jesus said to the disciples, 'You must come away to a lonely place all by yourselves and rest a while.' (Mark 6:31) When we stop running and doing, we give God time to break into our lives and remind us of who we are and where we are going.

THIS WEEK

PLEASE NOTE - NO MASS
MONDAY 2 JANUARY 2012

OFFICE reopens Tuesday 3 January 2012

A VOCATION VIEW:

The Old Law said that every first born male shall be dedicated to the Lord. Is there a priest, deacon, brother, or sister from your family? Now is the time for families to encourage a vocation!

Readings - 8 January - The Epiphany of the Lord Year B

1st Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6; 2nd Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3,5-6; Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12