



# Mother of Mercy Parish

*Living and Growing in the Spirit*

St John's church  
688 Nudgee Rd, Northgate

Our Lady Help of Christians  
9 Bowman St, Hendra

St Cecilia's church  
30 College St, Hamilton

## PARISH MISSION

*To co-create a welcoming community where all can encounter and be transformed by Christ, realise their call to discipleship, be empowered to serve, and attract new disciples.*

**Parish Office Telephone:** 07 3268 3040  
**Priest— Urgent After Hours Telephone:** 0417 718 119

**PARISH PRIEST:** REV NEVILLE YUN  
**Email:** pp.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

**SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR:** Teresa Gittins  
**Email:** pmc.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

**YOUTH CO-ORDINATOR:** TBA  
**Email:** yc.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

**PARISH ADMINISTRATION Telephone:** 07 3268 3040  
Monica Johnson and Erin McMillan (Parish Secretaries)  
**Email:** hendra@bne.catholic.net.au  
Helen Price (Finance Secretary)  
**Email:** finance.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

**Parish Office** - 9 Bowman St, Hendra Q 4011

**Mail:** PO Box 3109, Hendra Qld 4011

**Hours:** Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri 9:00am-12noon

**Website:** www.motherofmercyparish.org.au

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Neville Canham

**Parish Finance Council:** Max Walters

**Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults:**

- ◆ **Compliance Officer:** Mrs Kath Shaw  
**Email:** safeguard.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au
- ◆ **Incident reports:** Vicki Ward M: 0407 550 571

**Workplace Health & Safety Officer:** TBA

**PARISH SCHOOL:** Our Lady Help of Christians  
23 Bowman St, Hendra 4011 **Telephone:** 07 3268 3070  
**PRINCIPAL:** Mr Adam Bennie  
AP-RE: Kym Waters  
**Email:** phendra@bne.catholic.edu.au

**Weekend Masses:** See listing on back page

**Weekday Mass:** Friday 9:00am St John's, Northgate

**Reconciliation/Confession:** By appointment

## What's happening in the Parish this week?

### Sunday 10 to Saturday 16 December 2023

**Sun** Morning tea after 9.30am Mass (Parish Centre Courtyard)

*Baptism of Isabelle Wane*

**Mon** *Funeral of Josephine McDonald (St Cecilia's)*

**Tue** *Funeral of Brody Lee Erwin (OLHC)*

**Fri** 9:00am Mass (St John's, Northgate)

**Sat** 6am-5pm Adoration of Blessed Sacrament



## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 10 DECEMBER 2023

10-12-23 -2<sup>nd</sup> Sun of Advent.

**Hi all,**

Here are some reflections on this Sunday's Reading:

Pittsburgh Oratory - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFsJlghr0LU>

Jeff Cavins - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFsJlghr0LU>

Archdiocese of Brisbane – Two Minute Homily - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fG9ai3RR1zE>

Sarah Hansman - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KWmJfNiP69s&t=96s>

Fr Mike Schmitz - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fcgj8XafrY>

Arts and Faith: Loyola Press - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DtZP76wvsTE>

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- 1. Preparation and Waiting:** The readings for the Second Sunday of Advent often emphasize the importance of preparation and waiting. Reflect on the idea of waiting as an active and purposeful anticipation. How can you prepare your heart and soul to receive Christ anew during this Advent season? Consider incorporating moments of stillness and reflection into your daily routine to deepen your connection with God.
- 2. John the Baptist's Message:** In the Gospel readings for this Sunday, we often encounter the figure of John the Baptist, who plays a crucial role in preparing the way for Jesus. Reflect on the message of repentance and transformation that John brings. How can you embrace a spirit of repentance and renewal in your own life? In what ways can you make straight the paths in your own heart for the Lord?
- 3. The Promise of Peace:** The Second Sunday of Advent often highlights the theme of peace. Isaiah's prophecy speaks of a time when "the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid." Consider the yearning for peace in our world today and reflect on how you can contribute to bringing peace to those around you. In what ways can you be an instrument of God's peace in your community?
- 4. Lighting the Advent Candle:** Many Christian traditions involve the lighting of the Advent candles, with the second candle often symbolizing peace. As you participate in this ritual, think about the significance of light in the midst of darkness. How can you be a source of light and hope for others during this season? Reflect on the ways in which you can share the light of Christ with those who may be experiencing darkness in their lives.
- 5. A Call to Action:** Advent is not just a time of passive waiting but also a call to action. Consider practical steps you can take to live out the message of Advent in your daily life. Whether through acts of kindness, charity, or prayer, reflect on how you can actively participate in the Advent journey and share the love of Christ with others.

As you reflect on these themes, may your Advent season be a time of spiritual growth, deepening relationships, and a renewed sense of hope and anticipation for the coming of Christ.

**Blessings Fr Nev**





## Parish Messages.....

- ◆ **SVDP Christmas Appeal THANK YOU:** The Hendra Branch of St Vincent de Paul is most grateful for the generous support for the Annual Christmas Appeal last weekend. Further donations are most warmly welcomed and can be placed on the collection plates at Masses.

### Christmas Masses at all churches—Volunteers needed:

The Parish is keenly calling volunteers to assist with the Christmas Masses at all our churches as these are extra Masses this year. We are looking for Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Welcomers and children interested in being part of the Nativity Play at the Christmas Vigil at Hendra. If you and/or your family are going to be attending Christmas Masses in the parish, please consider whether you could help out!! Please place your names on the contact sheets at the doors of the churches. Christmas blessings to all!

### **\*\*THIS SATURDAY\*\* Men's Event**

#### **Chicken and Salad Dinner Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2023**

**Time: 6.00pm.**

**Venue:** MOM Parish Centre, Bowman St, Hendra.

**Speaker: Fr Nev Yun.** We will gather to celebrate Fr Nev's 10 yrs as a Priest and to hear his story.

**Contacts:** Joel Perkins 0438 241 524 - Bill Nott 0418 183 400



- ◆ **Giving Tree 2023—Hendra Branch St Vincent De Paul:**

Parishioners are invited to donate to our Christmas Giving Tree. All grocery items to support hampers being prepared St VdP can be placed under the tree in the Churches and your generosity is very much appreciated.



**Thank you for your support!**

- ◆ **CHRISTMAS NATIVITY STATUES:** Thanks to Andrew P and the Men's Shed at Nundah for their assistance with recent repairs to some of our Nativity statues at OLHC, Hendra.
- ◆ **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024:** Preparations are underway for the World Day of Prayer, held in March 2024. The country being prayed for this year is Palestine. If anyone is interested in assisting our current Parish Representative in this role, please contact the Parish Office.
- ◆ **ADVENT & CHRISTMAS REFLECTION BOOKS AVAILABLE:** The Parish has purchased copies of the booklet "**The Sign—Advent and Christmas Daily Reflections 2023**". These are produced by the Catholic Diocese of Wollongong and provide beautiful and thoughtful reflections in this Advent and Christmas season. The booklets are available at the church doors. A \$5.00 donation would be welcomed and donation boxes are placed nearby.

### **110th Anniversary of Laying of Foundation Stone at St Cecilia's, Hamilton**

On 14 December 1913, the foundation stone for St Cecilia's church was laid. The church was completed and officially opened and blessed by Archbishop Duhig on Palm Sunday, 5 April 1914.



## **Advent Adventures 2023**

### **A Mother of Mercy Parish and St Agatha's Parish initiative**

All primary school-aged children are welcome to join us for a fun-filled day of crafts, games and prayer. Let's have fun as we await the coming of the Christ child this Christmas!

**\*Tickets close on Sunday 17th December. Get in quick!\* Use the QR code to book tickets.**



## **Parish Activities**

**Parish School Playgroup:** Currently operating each week (in school terms). Held in the OLHC OSHC, 23 Bowman St, Hendra, every Friday 9:00am-11:30am (babies to Prep). All welcome. **For enquiries, call School Office 3268 3070.**

**Parish Spirituality Group:** The group meets at 9.30am on the first Tues of the month in the Parish Centre to discuss the gospel reading for the next Sunday.

**Mother of Mercy Parish Prayer Engine of the Parish:** This prayer group prays for the intentions of the parish and the personal intentions of parishioners. Prayer intentions can be placed in the special baskets at each of the churches and Parish Office. **The Prayer Engine will meet at OLHC Church, Hendra every Tuesday, from 1:00-2:30pm.** All are welcome to join in prayer! **The Prayer Engine will be on recess for the holidays from Tues 5 December 2023 resuming Tues 30 January 2024.**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** First Friday of the month after the 9:00am Mass at St John's, Northgate. All welcome.

**Anointing and Healing Mass:** Second Friday of the month at 9:00am at St John's, Northgate. All welcome.

**Portofino Mass:** Fourth Wed of the month at 11am. Due to safety and security reasons, only residents of Portofino attend. Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion distribute Holy Communion to residents every Sunday.

**SATURDAY ADORATION:** The Blessed Sacrament is exposed every Saturday, including holiday times, from 6am—5pm at OLHC Hendra for personal prayer. Entry to the Church is via the Bowman St side door. Please sign in and out. **For enquiries, please contact Julie Anne on 0418 193 235 or Pat on 0411 597 781.**



**ALPHA** Have you been involved with Alpha? Are you curious to know more about Alpha?

All are invited to the **Festive Season Alpha reunion** on 27/12/23. Please BYO drinks and a plate of food to share to the MoM Parish Centre, 9 Bowman St. **Time:** 6-8pm on Wednesday 27/12/23, No need to RSVP.

We're planning for our next Alpha to begin in May 2024. Please consider inviting yourself and/or someone else. All are welcome.

For more information please go to: [www.alpha.org.au/try](http://www.alpha.org.au/try)

### **Adult Faith- RCIA**

The RCIA Team (Hendra/ Clayfield) has had a very busy year bringing people into our faith.

Next Sunday 17th at 5.30 Mass at St Agatha's Daniel will be Received into Full Communion with the Catholic Faith and Melinda - a mum at St Agatha's school -will become Catholic after being baptised Anglican.

The Team thanks Fr Nev for his commitment to this very important Ministry- always attending our meetings and being a significant part of each journey. Also Monica and Rosemary for their admin support.

**The Team - Kate Lorelei Janeen Joseph**

### **Piety Shop - Christmas Items Available**

Come to St Gerard Majella's Piety Shop and see our great range of Nativities, Cards and various Christmas items.

We are located at 146 Maundrell Tce, Chermiside West

Open 9am - 3pm Monday to Friday. Also open at weekend masses.



**Simbang Gabi 2023**, a Filipino tradition of 9 day pre-Christmas celebration in joyful waiting and preparation for Jesus' birth in our hearts, will be on **15 to 23 December 2023 at St. Joseph and St. Anthony's church, 30 Eldorado St. Bracken Ridge.** (Sunday to Friday 6:45pm-Rosary; 7:00pm-Carols; 7:30pm-Holy Mass and Saturday 7:15pm-Rosary; 7:30pm-Carols; 8:00pm-Holy Mass). **Further info: Jima 0432374239**

## NEWS FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOL

School resumes on **Tuesday 23 January 2024**.

Every blessing for a wonderful holiday break. May it be filled with fun, festivities and moments that will be treasured in years to come.

Warm regards, **Adam Bennie** Principal

*Observe in Faith, Reflect with Courage, Improve through Action*



### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

17 DECEMBER 2023

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

First Reading: Is 61:1-2, 10-11

Second Reading: 1 Thess 5:16-24

Gospel: Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

### Commemoration of Saints December 2023

- Mon 11 St Damasus I, pope  
Tues 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Wed 13 St Lucy, virgin, martyr **MEMORIAL**  
Thu 14 St John of the Cross, priest, doctor **MEMORIAL**

**PRAY FOR US....**



## 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Masses 2023

### 4th Sunday of Advent—Saturday 23 December

St Cecilia's, Hamilton 4.30pm - Vigil Mass

Our Lady Help of Christians 5.00pm - Vigil Mass



### 4th Sunday of Advent—Sunday 24 December

St John's, Northgate 7.30am Mass

Our Lady Help of Christians 9.30am Mass

### Christmas Vigil Masses—Sunday 24 December

St Cecilia's, Hamilton  
4.00pm - Carols and Christmas Vigil Mass

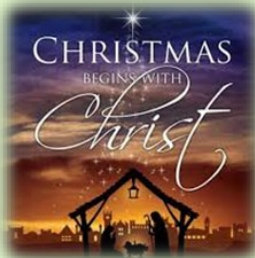
Our Lady Help of Christians  
4.00pm - Carols and Christmas Vigil Mass



### Christmas Day Masses—Monday 25 December

St John's, Northgate 7.30am Christmas Day Mass

Our Lady Help of Christians 9.30am Christmas Day Mass



### Cathedral of St Stephen Advent Concert Series

Dominic Perissinotto (organ) | Sunday 3rd December | 5:00pm

Christopher Trikalis (organ) | Sunday 10th December | 5:00pm

Susan Collins (violin) | Sunday 17th December | 5:00pm



MUSIC AND POETRY  
TO CELEBRATE THE ADVENT SEASON

Tickets through [www.trybooking.com/CNAC22](http://www.trybooking.com/CNAC22)



### Parish Birthdays

Have you entered your birthday in our Parish Birthday Book?

Each last Sunday of the month, we celebrate the birthdays of our Parish family members with a Birthday cake after the 9.30am Mass at Hendra.

The next celebration is **Sunday 31 December**, so please come along to join us! The Birthday Book is at the Coffee Spot in the Parish Centre Courtyard—please add your name!



## WE PRAY FOR....



**The Recently Deceased:** Josephine McDonald  
Brody Lee Erwin

**Anniversaries:** Nicholas Campbell, Sharon Mary-Anne Bartholomeusz, Edith Lorna Byrne, Patricia Aileen Knight, Alois Frank Kunej, Elizabeth Margaret Casey, James Francis Fitzgerald, Eduardo (Edward) Gilberto Abreu, Marina Glynn McPhee, Edward Lino Abreu, William Harold Johnson

**The Sick:** Maria Ward, Stan Janssen, Hadge Banks, Paddy "Peter" Ryan, Lyn Smith, Linda Farrell, Tina Watson, Mary Gilmer, Rosaria Fazio, Monica Johnson, Alison Leis, Val Walsh, Carole and Gordon Hodge, Frank McHugh, Trevor Gozzard, Nick Newton, Theresa Claffey, Salustia Zavaleta, Brenda Gueizelar, Robert Montalegre, Gloria Morris (sister of Elaine Eneberg), Charlie Richards, Naomi Garden, Carmel Bates, Heather Skinner, Fiona Brogan, May Donaldson, Keith Wiskar, Leanne Gracie, John Conroy, Anthony Hallin, Br Tom Dempsey, Michael Hardy, David Edmunds, Betty Mahony, Michael Hand, June Thompson, Jan O'Donoghue, Peta Ziegenfusz, Andrew Price, Angela Krista

### ITEMS WANTED—OLD/WORN/UNUSED STATUES:

If anyone has old/worn/unused statues, I am happy to collect them. During the floods in Lismore a lot of people lost statues. These will be given to the Carmelite Nuns, Goonellabah, Lismore who will restore/paint them. Contact Annette 0404 247 958.

### SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS PREVENTION AND PROTECTION POLICY

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.



**VOCATION VIEW:** The people's cry: "Lord, let us see your kindness". Who will prepare the way of the Lord coming to us today?



To talk to someone about your vocation, please make contact with Vocation Brisbane: 1300 133 544

[vocation@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:vocation@bne.catholic.net.au) [vocationbrisbane.com](http://vocationbrisbane.com)



We acknowledge the traditional owners and custodians, who have walked upon and cared for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationships of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of reconciliation.

### Items for inclusion in this Newsletter

Please email or write out to: [hendra@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:hendra@bne.catholic.net.au)

Cut Off Deadline - 1:00pm Tuesday.



**DONATIONS TO THE PARISH:** We very much appreciate your continued financial assistance and donations to the Parish are most warmly welcomed. This can be best achieved by direct debit to the following account:

**Mother of Mercy Parish Account BSB 064 786 Acc—100007977**

Please note "Donation" and your name as a reference. Please your receipt to: [finance.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:finance.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au) after your payment has been made.

Another way to donate easily is via the **PARISH GIVING APP**: Scan the QR code below, or the code attached to the church collection plates, to your mobile telephone and follow the prompts to complete your giving donation.

<http://parishgiving.brisbanecatholic.org.au>



Do you have a Family Trust? Did you know that making your weekly gift to the Parish through dividend income from your trust reduces your tax obligations? Additionally, these gifts are not counted against your family tax benefit payments. Contact your financial advisor for details on how you can save taxes and help build our Parish community at the same time.

**MASS TIMES**

- Saturday 5:00pm Vigil:** Our Lady Help of Christians Hendra
- Sunday 8:00am Mass:** St Agatha's Clayfield (Families Mass)
- Sunday 9:30am Mass:** Our Lady Help of Christians Hendra (Families Mass)
- Sunday 5:30pm Mass:** St Agatha's Clayfield (Youth Mass)

Fr James O'Donoghue has been asked to say the following Masses for the time being at:

- Saturday 4:30pm** St Cecilia's Hamilton
- Sunday 7:30am** St John's Northgate

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

- Thursday 9:00am** St Agatha's Clayfield
- Friday 9:00am** St John's Northgate

*Please be considerate of mask wearing at this time.*  
**Please DO NOT attend Mass if you are UNWELL**

**READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS ROSTER OLHC 9:30am**

Date	Reader	Eucharistic Minister
10 December	Angela and Ambrose Devereaux	Kate McLean and Robyn Jeynes
17 December	George, Clara, Sylvie Shillington	Barbara Nelson and Lorelei Gozzard

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