

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 Phone: 0403 743 874

PARISH PRIEST: REV MICHAEL GRACE
Email: pp.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au

SACRAMENTAL CO-ORDINATOR: TBA
Email: sacramental.clayfield@bne.catholic.net.au

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

PARISH ADMINISTRATION Telephone: 07 3268 3040

Monica Johnson (Parish Secretary)

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 25 February to Saturday 2 March

Sun Morning tea after 9:30am Mass (OLHC)

Tue Stations of the Cross 1:00pm
1:00-2:30pm Prayer Engine (OLHC)

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

Sat 6am-5pm Adoration of Blessed Sacrament (OLHC)



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

25 FEBRUARY 2024

Many ancient cultures had a conception of the gods which radically differed from our own Judaeo-Christian understanding of God. One very important conceptual difference is found in the relationship between God / the god's and humanity. Many myths paint the gods as indifferent to the plight of humans or worse, malevolent.

Corresponding to this idea of the nature of the gods, many religious systems had at their heart the need to 'appease' the gods or, if you wanted their favour, the need to win them over to your side. This was usually done by completing some ritual or a sacrifice. This misconception is at play in the story of God and Abraham (indeed child sacrifice was not unheard of in the ancient Near East); This story, however, does not seek to reinforce the idea of child sacrifice, on the contrary it overturns it. God asks the sacrifice as a "test", but it is the sacrifice of faith which makes Abraham righteous!

St Paul, in reflecting on the meaning of the Christ experience, realises just how radically this reverses the old conception about God / the gods. He understands that we do not need to appease God, nor do we need to win God's favour. God has already chosen us in Christ. He knew us and chose us before the beginning of time, as a pure gift of His grace and love! Indeed, it is God himself who offers the necessary sacrifice of reconciliation, in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. If God has given us so much, we should be fully confident that He will not refuse us anything we need. God always wills our good, and nothing we can do can ever change that.

Sometimes we still experience the 'primal' religious instinct that God needs to be appeased. Let us fully understand God's love for us and reject all such notions. Rather, when we experience doubt or fear, let us turn to Christ and pray: 'Jesus I trust in you'.

Blessings, Fr Michael



Installation Mass for Fr Michael—Sunday 3 March 2024

Archbishop Mark Coleridge will attend our Parish to preside at the Installation Mass for Fr Michael as our Parish Priest to be held at **9:30am on Sunday 3 March at OLHC, Hendra**. A most warm invitation is extended to all parishioners to join us for this special celebration. Morning tea refreshments will be shared afterwards in the Parish Centre Courtyard.



World Day of Prayer 2024—Palestine

"I beg you....bear with one another in love"

Time: 10:00 am

Date: Friday 1 March 2024

Where: Clayfield Uniting Church, 170 Bonney Avenue Clayfield.

Refreshments afterwards at the Uniting Church Hall, contributions appreciated. Parking is available on Bonney Avenue in carpark behind the church off View Street.

Our earnest prayers are always needed for all our brothers and sisters around the world and particularly now for the safety and harmony of those in Palestine.



Parish Messages.....

- **LENTEN DISCUSSION SESSIONS:** All are warmly invited to join our Lenten Discussion Sessions in the Parish. Sessions will be held:
 - * **Sundays** during Lent from 11-11:45am from 18 February in the Parish Centre at Hendra.
 - * **Thursdays** during Lent from 4:00-5:30pm at AVEO Clayfield, 469 Sandgate Rd, Albion.
- All are very welcome!**
- ♦ **MUSIC BEFORE MASS:** Jim, our wonderful organist, will be at Mass half an hour early for those keen to rehearse.
This weekend (17/18 Feb) 9:30am OLHC Mass
Next weekend (24/25 Feb) 5:00pm OLHC Mass

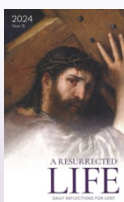
HELP NEEDED: SUNDAY COFFEE SPOT VOLUNTEERS:

Your help is needed at our Sunday Coffee Spot at Hendra! We are a small band of happy volunteers and we would love you to come and join on Sunday mornings after the 9:30am OLHC Mass. We set up, serve tea/coffee and goodies, then clean up. You could volunteer to help us with just a part of the morning's work, or for the whole time. Barista training can be provided to anyone keen for that role. Any help you can give us would be very welcome!



Interested? Sign up sheets are at the Church door—or just come and see us at the coffee spot before or after the 9:30am Mass on Sunday.

- ♦ **Passion Play 2007 - The Greatest Story Ever Told:** To watch the Passion Play 2007, held at the Botanical Gardens Brisbane, please go to the following link: <https://youtu.be/EbLU1flxR1s?si=DQTi0WJYDklg4VRv>



DAILY REFLECTION BOOKS FOR LENT 2024 "A Resurrected Life"

These Lenten reflection booklets are produced by Evangelisation Brisbane and are available at the back of the Church. Please take a copy home today.

A \$5.00 donation would be welcomed and a donation box is provided nearby.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

OLHC Church, Hendra
1:00pm Tuesday

St Agatha's Church, Clayfield
8:30am Thursday



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ST JAMES COLLEGE, BRISBANE is a progressive multicultural Catholic coeducational college for students in Years 5 – 12 in the Edmund Rice tradition. **ENROLLING FOR YEAR 5 (2025) NOW** Attend the upcoming **ENROLMENT INFORMATION Session on Monday 4 March**. Students from all backgrounds and abilities welcome so they can flourish in their learning and realise their potential. Bursaries and scholarships available. ENQUIRIES - Enrolments Officer, 3230 8600 or MYoung@stjamescollege.qld.edu.au. www.jta.link/SJC.



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 on **Sunday 25 February**, so please come along to join us! The Birthday Book is at the Coffee Spot in the Parish Centre Courtyard—please add your name!



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 meet at 9:30am on the first Tuesday 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!

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.



Last Chance to enrol for Confirmation 2024

(Open to all children Year 3 and up who have already received Baptism!)

Enrolments Close March 4th!



1. Parent Forum and Enrolment Session

Multiple sessions to be held at Hendra and Clayfield
Monday 4 March and Tuesday 5 March
Print and submit your enrolment form. Parents Only.

Enrolments close 4 March 2024

clayfieldparish.org.au/confirmation or
motherofmercyparish.org.au/confirmation.html or

Scan QR codes above

2. Rite of Enrolment Masses

For child and parent/s. Please attend one.
Sunday 10 March 8:00am or 5:30pm (St Agatha's, Clayfield)
Saturday 9 March 5:00pm or Sunday 10 March 9:30am
(Our Lady Help of Christians, Hendra)
No registration required.

3. Book Review and Rehearsal

Parent/s +individual child to attend.
Sessions to be held at Hendra and Clayfield
Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 May
Registration required.

Confirmations

Friday 24 May (Our Lady Help of Christians, Hendra)
Tuesday 28 May (St Agatha's, Clayfield)
Registration required

Questions? Email: sacramental.clayfield@bnc.catholic.net.au

NEWS FROM OUR PARISH SCHOOL

New Enrolments—If you have a child, born between 1st July 2019 to 30th June 2020, please go to our Online Enrolment Form on our school website and complete an enrolment ASAP. Enrolments are open until the end of Term 1 and Prep interviews will be conducted early in Term 2.



We would love for families to join us on Sunday 17 March at 9:30am for Family Mass. There will be a special Children's Liturgy and great coffee and hospitality afterwards.

Wishing you all the best for the Lenten season as we journey to Easter.

Warm regards, **Adam Bennie** Principal

Observe in Faith, Reflect with Courage, Improve through Action



Project Compassion
Second Sunday of Lent
25 February



Ronita lives in a cramped slum dwelling in Manila. She desperately yearned to create a better life for herself and her two young children. With the help of FCJ, Caritas Australia's partners in the Philippines she has completed studies for better job prospects. You can help Caritas to assist people in different corners of the world facing difficult challenges and hoping to create a better world **for all their future generations**

Please donate to Project Compassion.



You can donate to Project Compassion with donation boxes and envelopes available from your parish, or call 1800024413 or caritas.org.au/project-compassion

MENS Breakfast and Seminar: Saturday 2 March 7am – 2pm

WHAT? Deacon Dr Peter Pellican will lead a **half-day Seminar**. We will be joining Men from 2 other parishes. Two elements will be covered: **What does it mean to follow Jesus as a husband, father, uncle and son?** and **what does it mean to follow the example of Jesus in the workplace, church and the community?** There will be lots of time for discussion and reflection.

WHEN? SATURDAY 2 MARCH 2024. 7am – 2pm.

RSVP On or before SAT 17 February (HURRY! numbers are limited to venue capacity) For catering purposes, please **RSVP Bill on 0418183400 or Joel on 0438241524.**

WHERE? St Peter Chanel School (library room), 41 Chaprowe Rd, The Gap.

Cost? \$25 cash (on the day) or bank transfer (beforehand).

PREPARATIONS FOR LENT—BUS TRIP TO MARION VALLEY

Sandgate Brighton Catholic Parish are planning a bus trip to Marian Valley on **Saturday 16 March**. Cost will be \$35 per seat (includes morning tea). The bus will leave Sacred Heart Church at 7am. The program for the day will be Holy Mass, morning tea, Stations of the Cross, Lunch in grounds (BYO), departing at 1pm. Anyone interested in participating, please book via the Parish Office on 3869 1377 or email sandgatebrighton@bne.catholic.net.au as soon as possible so transport can be secured.

EMBER DAYS—In 2008 the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference decided that the Australian Church should observe the first Fridays of Autumn and Spring each year as special days of prayer/penance. These days seek God's blessing of favourable weather and a fruitful harvest from the land. In good times it is natural to offer praise and thanksgiving for the blessings bestowed on us. In times of drought or flood in Australia, our prayers focus on people and places affected by natural disaster. Ember Days aim to connect our prayers for good weather and harvests with our responsibility to care for the earth as stewards of the world's resources.



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.



NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

3 MARCH 2024

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

Gospel: John 3:16



Commemoration of Saints February-March 2024

Tue 27 Feb St Gregory of Narek

Fri 1 Mar Autumn Ember Day



PRAY FOR US.....

WE PRAY FOR... Prayer Request

The Recently Deceased: Joan Finucane

Anniversaries: Mabel Ellen Fogarty, Francis Thomas Heeny, Mary Mabel Hutchinson, John Franco Arba

The Sick: Lorraine Neville, Matthew Hand, Maria Ward, Stan Janssen, Hodge 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, 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, Megan Stuart

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: If you need an example of a person responding to a vocational call, look at Abraham – called in old age to leave his country, father a child, and then asked to sacrifice the child. What faith! Vocation is a risky response to a unique call from God. Please pray for vocations.



To talk to someone about your vocation, please make contact with Vocation Brisbane: 1300 133 544
vocation@bne.catholic.net.au vocationbrisbane.com



St Ursula's College, Yeppoon—Alumni Afternoon Tea

Alumni Afternoon Tea: past students, parents, staff members and Presentation Sisters are invited to attend an Afternoon Tea celebrating St Ursula's College, Yeppoon.

Sunday 10 March 2024, 2:30pm-5:00pm

Ballygriffin Room, St Rita's College, Clayfield

Complimentary glass of bubbly or wine on arrival; delicious catered afternoon tea; raffles and entertainment. Tickets \$50 per person and available online at <https://events.humanitix.com/st-ursula-s-college-alumni-afternoon-tea>. For more information email Rebecca Birchley (nee Gleeson) at r.birchley@hotmail.com

Items for inclusion in this Newsletter

Please email : 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 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)

Further Masses continue at present as follows:

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

Date	Reader OLHC 9:30am	Eucharistic Minister OLHC 9:30am
25 February	Andrew and Ambrose Devereux	Kate McLean and Pat Shine
3 March	Robyn Jeynes and Roselyn Rayappan	Barbara Nelson and Louise Nott

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