



Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

2 March 2025

Weekly bulletin for the parish of St Agatha's, Pennant Hills

TODAY'S READINGS

OUR MASSES

Mon - Fri 6:30am, 9:30am
Saturday: 8am, 6pm (Vigil)
Sunday: 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 6pm

OUR SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: 8:30 - 9:30am Sat
Anointing of The Sick: 11am last Wed of month
Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings, RCIA: By appt

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday: 1pm - 2pm
Saturday: After 8am Mass
1st Friday of the Month 6:00pm - 8:30pm

OUR PRAYER GROUPS

Monday - Friday 12 noon: Online Rosary
Monday 1pm: Cenacle
Wednesday 6pm: Legion of Mary
Saturday 10am: Bible Study (also Online)
1st Sunday of the Month 11.30am: Rosary

OUR PARISH TEAM

Fr Raphael Kimaro AJ **Parish Priest**
Fr Peter deSouza **Assistant Priest**
Chatty Zaragoza **Parish Secretary**
Anne Bailey **Parish Worker (Seniors)**
Tina Muscat **Catechist & Sacramental Coordinator**

**For emergencies requiring a Priest
please call 0478 386 277 or 9484 1427**

OUR PLACE

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm
Phone: 9484 1427
Website: www.stagatha.org.au
School: 7256 2108

Email addresses:

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(Callahan Centre) Pennant Hills NSW 2120
Postal Address: PO Box 127
Pennant Hills NSW 1715
Parish School: Anna Montgomery - Principal
7256 2108
School Email: saph@dbb.catholic.edu.au

Entrance Antiphon

The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 27:5-8

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where a tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men.

Responsorial Psalm: 91:2-3, 13-16

Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: *Death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting?* Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Shine on the world like bright stars; you are offering it the word of life. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45

Jesus told a parable to his disciples: 'Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the splinter that is in your eye," when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye.

'There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit: people do not pick figs from thorns, nor gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart.'

PARISH VISION

We are a diverse Catholic community drawn to help each other and grow closer to God. We foster a warm and friendly environment nourished by the Eucharist and the Word. Guided by the Holy Spirit we seek to spread God's kingdom through prayer, words and action. We promote: love, peace, equality, justice, forgiveness and compassion. We look for opportunities to help others; especially the poor and disadvantaged.

Safeguarding in our Parish

Safeguarding our parish children is everyone's responsibility. At St Agatha's, we value our children, teenagers and young adults and want them to feel safe and supported at all times.

CONVERSION

COMMUNITY

MISSION

Baptisms for March 2025

As a faith community, we pray for
John Irving Black, Sofija Nicolina Brunskill,
Luca Alfonso Fitzgerald, Kaia Lily Hendricks



Please pray for the sick in our community:

Pope Francis, Jose & Josefina Carreno, Michael & Joan Bradley, Manuel Lozano, Ramon Pimentel, Anthony Walters, Bro Rizki W, Eva Grace del Gallego, Caroline Ugarte, Jenny Jones, Antonia Harkin, Kate McFadzen, Aileen Feeney, Evelyn Mousa, Hans, Denis Murphy, Marion Coglean, Patricia Farley, Precious Tamayo, Romana Choi Sung Ah, Eleanor Raftery, Paul Gooley, Andrew Chung, Margaret Donges, Linda Garrett, Michael Thom, Jill Howcroft, Henry Field, Jane McGirr, Jo Helmers, Anita Lozaga, Colin Garrity, Gerard Kenny, Vic Juan, Kain Hatch, Louise Williams, Siena Maria Burns, Mary Kent, Becky Lozano, Sarah Raftery, Ramon Quizon, Leslie Styles, Joe Lozaga, Margaret Doyle, Dorina Petre

Please pray for our recently deceased:

Fr Joe Martins, Antonio Gerometta, Connie Capri, Terese Masserot, Michael Dudman, Nena Ripoll Araullo, Michael Lyons, Dorothy Keohane, Juan (Jimmy) Gimenez, Rhondda Lucas, Edward Werbicki, Peter Chua Cheng Hin, Patria Tolentino, Fr Michael O'Toole, Michael Lennon, Ignacio Cristaudo, Agnello Mendes, Evelyn Yvonne Koelmeyer

And for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Bill Meehan, Betty de Saram, Cecilia Lew, Patrick O'Sullivan, Mary Woodward, Elizabeth Houchin, Jeremy Doowage, James Kwan, Joseph Fernandopulle, Roshika Therese Fernando, Carmella Ferraro, Rose Nieto, Teodoro John Gomes, Julia Nieto, Jose Nieto, Leslie D'Souza, Irene Muliyil, Fr Denis Callahan, Wilfred Lobo, Hilda Thomas, Michael Rochford, Nicola Rochford, Leah & Patrick Sequeira



Praying the Rosary as a Parish

Monday 1pm (Cenacle Prayer Group)

Tuesday - Friday 9am (before 9:30am Mass)

Saturday 8.30am (after 8am Mass)

1st Sunday of Month (after 10:30am Mass)

Daily Rosary Monday - Friday at 12noon

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/92575468077> passcode: 159403

Saints & Feast Days

Wednesday, 5 March - **Ash Wednesday**



Next Weekend's Readings

First Sunday of Lent, Year C

Deut 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13

Next Week's Parish Ministers		9 March 2025			
Mass	6.00pm	7.30am	9.00am	10.30am	6.00pm
Readers	S Messina T Messina	K Siddle J Siddle	T Abrams K Abrams	S Mamachan M Mundackal	Youth Mass
Prep	H Quinlan	D Salvestro	Casey Family	N Tomasovic	Pereira Family
Euch Minister	R Gomes G Yap Volunteer	Volunteer L Pereira K Holst	C Gould Volunteer T Papandrea	M del Gallego N Tomasovic	R D'Silva A Poile S Parsons
Music	Ray & Sarah		Tim's Group	Bev & Friends	Youth Group
Counters	Y Daniels J Daniels G Miller	Floral Ministry	A Budhi	Altar Society	G & M Nicholas M Soria

Reflection:

First Reading (Eccl 27:5-8)

A person's talk shows the kind of person he or she is.

Second Reading (1 Corinthians 15:54-58)

The resurrection of Christ takes the sting out of death for those who believe in Him.

Gospel (Luke 6:39-45)

A blind guide cannot lead others. A person's words flow from what fills his heart.

First Sunday Rosary

We will pray the Rosary together as a parish this Sunday, 2nd March after the **10:30am Mass**.



1st Friday Adoration 6pm—8.30pm

Friday, 7th March

YOUTH NIGHT THIS SATURDAY - Calling ALL Youth Come and Join!

7:00pm - 9:00pm, Saturday, 1st March, School Hall



Catechists in our local State Schools

We pray for our 30 catechists and for the students (and their families). May they be a witness to the Gospel, in love and truth. There will be a special blessing and commissioning of catechists at the 10.30am Mass this weekend.

A PRAYER FOR CATECHISTS

Loving Father, we pray today for our catechists. We thank you for their gift of ministry in your Church.

Grant them your wisdom that they may grow in the understanding and teaching of your Word. Grant them also your love that they may be fruitful heralds of your Word and lead others to love you.

Pour forth your Holy Spirit upon them to grant them wisdom about what is important; knowledge of the truths of faith; understanding of their meaning; right judgement about how to apply them in life; courage to persevere even in the face of adversity; reverence before all that is sacred and holy; and that loving zeal which leads others to a transforming encounter with your Son.

We pray this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Church Opening and Closing Times

Monday to Friday 6:00am to 6:00pm
Saturday to Sunday 7:00am to 7:00pm



Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Gemma Sisia who in 2002 opened The School of St Jude in Arusha, Tanzania with just three students, is coming to Australia. St Jude has grown to three schools with 1,800 students including a girls only secondary school. Gemma is speaking at 7:30pm, Sunday, 16th March at the School Hall about the School of St Jude. Pls come and join us. For info, contact Trish 0428 604 405.



Readers Needed

More lectors are needed at both the 6pm Saturday Vigil and 6pm Sunday masses. To join, please contact the parish office at 9484 1427.



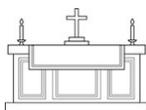
Would you like to join the Money Counters' roster?

Seeking more volunteers to join the money counting roster. Please call the Parish Office at 9484 1427 to sign up.

Calling all Families!

Altar Preparation Ministry needs you!

We are looking for volunteers across all mass times to help prepare the altar for our Vigil and Sunday Masses. Monthly roster. Full training provided. Please contact Chatty 9484 1427 or Amelia 0413 922 574 ameliapereira@hotmail.com.



Please Help Us Clean our Church

Join our **Altar Society Ministry** and help keep our Church presentable and welcoming for all! Bimonthly roster so you are only scheduled six times a year. Please call the Parish Office 9484 1427 to sign up.



Altar Serving Ministry - Junior & Senior Altar Servers Invited

help continue building the altar serving ministry at St Agatha's. Formal training provided. If interested, please call the Parish Office at 9484 1427.



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

We would like to offer the Sacrament of Holy Communion to our homebound parishioners and those in Nursing Homes & Retirement Villages on a more regular basis. If you are interested in participating in this ministry, training and mentoring provided. Please contact Anne Bailey at the Parish Office.

Getting to know you - Visitation Ministry

Do you know of any parishioners or neighbours who would like to have a visit from someone who can engage in conversation, provide occasional companionship and learn from their wealth of knowledge and experience? If you would like to find out more, please contact Anne Bailey on 9484 1427 or anne.bailey@bbcatholic.org.au

Subscribe for automatic delivery of the Bulletin each week

Sign up to have the Parish Bulletin delivered into your inbox as soon as it is published (usually Friday afternoon). Go to the Parish website and subscribe yourself here - <https://stagatha.org.au/read/> or forward your details to the Parish Office 9484 1427 or stagathas@bbcatholic.org.au

Altar Society Roster

Please collect the new roster from the filing drawers in the Church foyer (left hand corner of the grey cabinet behind Piety Stall glass display)



Small Groups for Lent

This year, Lent will begin with Ash Wednesday on 5th March. If you are **interested in hosting or joining a Lenten Group this year (online or in person)**, please contact Anne Bailey at the Parish Office with your preferred day and time and you will be put in touch with others. Sign-up sheets are available in the Church foyer. Copies of the Diocese of Broken Bay Lenten booklet, "A Promise of Hope", will soon be available for groups and individuals.

First Reconciliation Program

Please pray for the 59 children preparing for First Reconciliation and for their parents and group leaders meeting over the coming weeks.



Parish Farewell for Fr Stephen - Sunday, 23rd March.

Fr Stephen will celebrate 10:30am Mass, followed by Lunch in the Hall. More details to come.

First Fruits Offering / Planned Giving Renewal Program

Thank you very much to those who have taken the time to read, reflect, pray, and give financially to fulfil our Parish's plans and become planned givers. Your ongoing support will make a difference in the long term and allow our Parish to thrive and continue proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It's been a joint effort between our Diocese and all Parishes to build a more sustainable future for our Parishes. Your offering, no matter how big or small, will enormously contribute towards renewing our faith and giving our Parish a chance to continue with its ministries. You can still give anytime by filling the envelope and handing it over to the Parish office. While we will no longer be actively promoting the First Fruits Offering, parishioners are still welcome to join our Planned Giving Program, as it remains an ongoing Parish initiative. We thank you for your generosity, interest, and continued support. Find out more about the First Fruits Offering and our Planned Giving Program by contacting the Parish Office at 9484 1427. St Agatha's Parish is grateful for your offering. God Bless you.



Craft Group

Friday, 14th and 28th March
10am - 12nn Callahan Centre
Contact Deb Wiggins 0434 122 499

Mount St Benedict College OPEN DAY Sunday, 2nd March 10am - 2pm *Please note: Families with a daughter in Year 5 should apply now for Year 7, 2027. Online Expression of Interest forms should be lodged by the end of Year 4.*

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

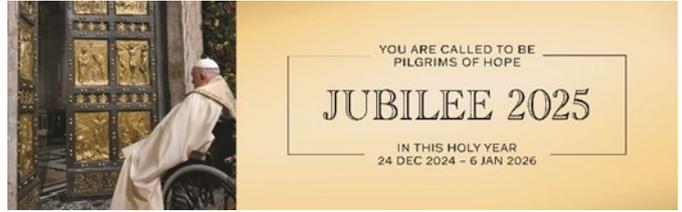
A Quick Journey through Salvation History
Session 3, Sunday, 2nd March



A free 8 session course will be offered for Young Adults (aged 18-35) after 6pm Sunday Mass in the Parish Centre. You are invited to join this Bible Study group where we will watch a DVD and share our thoughts as well as sharing a meal together. Continues each fortnight till 11th May. For further information, contact Eilia Keyhane – eilia.key@hotmail.com or 0435 162 957.

Safeguarding Microsite

The launch of the Safeguarding Broken Bay Microsite in 2024 which is a public facing site that has multiple resources can be used by both Chancery and Parishes to raise awareness within our communities. As well as having multiple resources, including Diocese Policy and Guidelines, through the website we are able to promote and create awareness of Key Safeguarding events throughout the year. Further information can be accessed via the following link - www.dbsafeguarding.com.au.



Jubilee events for March 2025

- 8-9 March** Jubilee of the World Volunteering
- 28 March** 24 Hours for the Lord
- 28-30 March** Jubilee of the Missionaries of Mercy

Installation of Relic of St John Vianney at Mary Immaculate, Manly | 2 March

Bishop Anthony has designated Mary Immaculate, Manly as the Shrine of Hope for Priests and Vocations for the Holy Year, under the patronage of St John Vianney. The relic of St John Vianney will be installed at the Shrine at by the Bishop at the evening Mass on **Sunday 2 March, 2025**. Come along and pray for our own Parish Priest at this special Mass! Join us also in praying for people discerning - or living already - their vocations to the many states God calls us to – married life, religious life, and the committed single life. Yes, if you read that sentence twice and thought “that means everybody” then you read that sentence right! The Shrine of Hope for Priests and Vocations is for everybody!

Jubilee Pilgrim Passports – Kicking off on 3 March 2025

With the installation of the relic at the last of the three Shrines of Hope for the Diocese of Broken Bay, we are ready to launch our Jubilee Pilgrim Passport initiative for the Holy Year. Our Parish will receive Pilgrim Passports and an accompanying Prayer and Resource Journal next week. Make sure you get a copy when they become available and use it to record your own local Jubilee Pilgrimage to the holy sites in the Diocese of Broken Bay.

Pls contact Anne Bailey at the Parish Office if anyone from St Agatha's would like to help organise Parish pilgrimages to the three Shrines in the Diocese.

Jubilee of the World of Volunteering | 8 – 9 March 2025

The Jubilee of the World of Volunteering is an opportunity to thank, affirm and encourage the many lay people who contribute to the world through volunteering.

The Art of Celebrating Holy Week | Saturday 15 March 2025

Members of Parish Liturgy Committees, Acolytes, Ministers at the Altar, Senior Servers and Extraordinary Ministers of Communion are invited to attend this day seminar, which will focus on the different Holy Week – Easter Triduum liturgies: Palm Sunday, Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday, Holy Saturday & Easter Sunday 9:30am - 3pm in the Caroline Chisholm Centre, 2/423 Pennant Hills Rd Pennant Hills. Morning tea and lunch provided.

To register, please email mission@bbcatholic.org.au

- Saturday 10 May – Back to Basics
- Saturday 16 August – RCIA – Practical Foundations | Liturgical Fundamentals | Ongoing Formation
- Saturday, 25 October – Rekindle Our Wonder

For more information or to register your interest, please email mission@bbcatholic.org.au



Project Compassion Sunday 1st and 2nd of March 2025

This Lent, we are called to *Unite Against Poverty* through Caritas Australia's Project Compassion. Your generous support this Lenten Season will enable Caritas Australia to provide life-changing support to vulnerable communities in need.



this Lent

Please donate today.

You can support Project Compassion 2025 through the donation boxes, envelopes or by scanning the QR code above.

Or online at: caritas.org.au/project-compassion

Or by calling: 1800 024 413

Thank you for standing with us, as we *Unite Against Poverty this Lent*.

First and Second Collections

1st Collection: supports the priests of our Diocese

2nd Collection: used to meet Parish running costs



Ways to contribute to the collections:

- Forms are available in the church foyer;
- the Tap n Go facility is available in the church foyer;
- set up a Bank Standing Order - BSB 062 784 ACC 100002208;
- **Giving BB app** <https://brokenbay.goodgiving.com.au> contact the Parish Office 9484 1427.



At St Vincent de Paul, we provide people in immediate crisis with food, clothing, other everyday essentials, help with bills, a friendly face to listen, and importantly referrals as needed to other services. Call 9477 5010 for assistance.