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***St Agatha's Parish***

 ***Cranbourne***





**Joy**

# St. Agatha’s Parish

# MASS TIMES

###### Saturday: 6.00pm

###### Sunday: 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.45am & 6.00pm

**Livestreamed Sunday 9.00am**

**Monday to Saturday: 9.30am**

***Please search YouTube:* St Agatha’s Parish, Cranbourne**

# Weekday Mass Times - In the Church & Live Streamed

**Monday: 5.00am** &9:30am - In the Church & Live Streamed  **Tuesday: 5.00am** &9:30am - In the Church & Live Streamed

**Wednesday: 5.00am** &9.30am - In the Church & Live Streamed

**Thursday: 5.00am** &9.30am - In the Church & Live Streamed

**Friday: 5.00am** & 9.30am - In the Church & Live Streamed

**Saturday:** **5.00am** & 9:30am - In the Church & Live Streamed

 **Reconciliation/Confession**

Friday: No Reconciliation

Saturday: No Reconcilation

**Mass for Vocations**

Saturdays 9.30am- Live Streamed

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**

 Friday: 10.00am – 11.00am – Live Streamed

Saturday: 10.00am – 11.00am – Live Streamed
Tuesday to Saturday: 8.00am - 9.00am followed by

**Divine Office:** Morning prayer 9.00am – 9.15am

**Adoration Chapel:** 24/7 Entry to the chapel is via a PIN code, obtained through the Parish Office.

**Healing Mass** First Thursday of the Month 7.15pm begins with Rosary at 6.30pm followed by Adoration & Healing Prayers

**First Saturday Mass at 9.30am**

In Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary

**First Friday Mass** 7.00pm followed by a spiritual teaching and Adoration till 10.00pm

**Mass for the Unborn:** 1st Friday of the Month 9.30am

**Holy Hour for the Unborn –** 1st Friday of the Month

7.30pm-8.30pm

**Baptisms**

Sundays at 12.30pm by appointment. Baptism Information Session held on 1st Sunday of every month, starting at 3.00pm in the Church. [Information Session Bookings may be made through the parish website or by visiting the parish office]

 **Marriages**

6 months’ notice requested.

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Year B**

**17th December 2023**

#### ST. AGATHA’S PARISH INFORMATION

**Church:** 129 Sladen Street, Cranbourne

**Presbytery:** 131 Sladen Street, Cranbourne

**Parish Office:** 1 Scott Street, PO Box 95,

 Cranbourne 3977

**Office Hours: Mon 1.00pm - 3.00pm**

 **Tue to Fri 8.30am - 3.00pm**

*[Closed for lunch 12.30pm - 1.00pm]*

 **( 5996 1985** Fax**:** **5996 1992**

**Email:** parishoffice@stagathas.org.au

**Website:** [www.stagathas.org.au](http://www.stagathas.org.au)

**For Parish News & Events:** <https://stagathas.org.au/news-and-events.html>

**Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr Joseph Abutu

**Sisters of the Nativity:** Sr. Faustina Ede &

Sr. Victoria Orinya

Sr. Julie Ogbole [St Thomas the Apostle Parish]

**Parish Safeguarding Officers:**

Leonard Foo & Loretta Chin ****5996 1985

**Email:** cranbourne.safety@cdsale.org.au

**Parish Secretary:** MrsTina Dam

**Assistant Secretary:** Mrs Nona Tusitala

****5996 1985

**St Agatha’s Primary School**

3 Scott Street, Cranbourne

****5996 2724

**Principal:** Mrs Michelle Bruitzman

# St Therese’s Primary School

131 Endeavour Drive

 Cranbourne North

****5996 7525

**Principal:** Mrs Felicity Broughton

# St Peter’s Secondary College

Cranbourne Campus - Navarre Drive Cranbourne West

Clyde North Campus – 55 MacKillop Way Clyde Nth

****5990 7777

**Principal:** Mr Chris Black

**PARISH NEWS**

**ST. AGATHA’S CHURCH - CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR’S MASS TIMETABLE

Advent Reconciliation Service:** Thursday21st December 7.00pm Several Priest available

**No Reconciliation:** Friday 22nd or Saturday 23rd December

**Christmas Eve:** Family Mass **6.00pm**, **9.00pm** & **Midnight Mass** (carols from 11.30pm)

**Christmas Day: 7.30am, 9.00am, 10.45am “NO EVENING MASS”**

**New Year’s Eve: 6.00pm and 11.00pm to Midnight Mass, Adoration and Praise & Worship**

**New Year’s Day: 9.00am & 10.45am**

**Dear Parishioners,** The Sacristy will be strictly off limits to all, except the Sacristans.

Parish Advent Reconciliation will be celebrated at St Agatha’s 7.00pm this Thursday 21st December, Tuesday 19th Dec at Our Lady Help of Christians 7pm-9pm, Narre Warren, Wednesday 20th Dec at St Thomas the Apostle Parish, Clyde 7pm.

Please note Sunday 6.00pm Mass is a Christmas Eve Mass. If you attend this Mass as a Sunday Mass you are obliged to attend another Mass for Christmas.

During the week both primary schools celebrated their end of year Mass, we wish the staff, students and their families a very Happy, Holy and safe Christmas and New Year. I wish to express my appreciation for the support of St Agatha’s, St Therese’s School and St Peters College Principals and Staff. I will miss them schools’ staff, children and families. I will keep you in my prayers as I hope you keep me in yours.

Last Sunday Bishop Greg Commissioned sixteen new Diocesan Mission Council (DMC). The members, drawn from across the Diocese, will assist Bishop Greg in investigating, discerning, and proposing practical priorities and strategies for the development of the Diocese’s mission and pastoral life. During the Rite of Commissioning, members pledged to, "accept the call to serve co-responsibly and with discernment the animation and renewal of Christ's mission of sharing and proclaiming the Gospel in a synodal way." We congratulate and prayer for Etherton Mandzvidza, Cranbourne. May God bless you Fr Joseph

**We Welcome as a Child of God:** Jaze Manaloto, child of Denn & Ma Jessica.

**SIMBANG GABI** Masses will be celebrated at 5.00am from 16th December until 24th December followed by breakfast in the parish hall. Simbáng Gabi is a devotional nine-day series of Masses practiced by Filipino Catholics leading to Christmas Eve.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION** for the Sisters of Nativity will be taken up at all the Christmas Masses. Thank you.

**PARISH OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE:** The parish office will be closed from 21st December and reopens on Tuesday 16th January 2024.

**SISTERS OF NATIVITY** will be on recollection from 20th December to 23rd December. The Sisters will be unavailable at during these dates.

**ST VINCENT de PAUL CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL:**  Our Conference will again be distributing Christmas presents to those most in need within the Cranbourne area. We ask for your generous donation of toys for children 0-14 years of age. Please bring unwrapped toys and place them in the baskets on the Sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity.

**CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES** can be place in the second collection bag, thank you.

**RCIA:** Parishioners are invited to collect a prayer card from the foyer for our Junior RCIA Catechumens and candidates.

**FR JOSEPH FAREWELL AND PARISH FEAST DAY:** Sunday 4th February 10.45am Mass followed by lunch at St Agatha’s School Hall.Clipboards will be placed in the foyer after Christmas to write your name if you are able to assist.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION 2024:** Information & Parent Workshop Wednesday 7th February at 7.00pm and Thursday 15th February at 7.00pm in the Church. Parents need to attend only one session, no need to bring your child.

**ST VINNIES FOOD BIN:** “Donating food is a practical way to help people going through a tough time.” If you’d like to help the St Vinnies Food bin in the foyer is available for you to donate nonperishable food. Thank you.

**DIVINE WILL RETREAT:** St Philip’s Catholic Parish Hall, 60 Junction Rd, Blackburn North 12th January 7.30pm – 9.00pm. 13th 10.30am-4.00pm, Sunday 14th Jan 1.30pm-4.00pm. Enquiries Call Graham 0418 318 236 or gebert@optunet.com.au

**SISTERS OF THE NATIVITY ASSOCIATE FRIENDS (SONAF):** Be a part of our Life and Mission Prayer Meeting/Mass and Grief Support – Every 2nd Friday of the Month at 6.00pm at the Nativity Convent 109-111 Sladen Street Cranbourne.

**ST AGATHA’S PIETY STALL:** Dear Parishioners we ask you to support our little shop and buy your Nativity Sets from us.

They are cheaper than in the shops because we want you to have them in your homes. We want you to have them for years and then pass them onto your children.

Like everything else they have gone up, but we keep the cost as low as possible, please consider using us. We also have a large assortment of religious and spiritual items for sale and lots of gifts for Christmas. Come and visit us.

If you can’t find it, we will help you find it and even get it in. Support

Fr Joseph’s decision to keep it going for you.

**MOTHERS WHO PRAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN:** No meetings during school holidays, resume early February.

**AUSTRALIAN NATIVITY SCENE (ANS) AT ST ELIZABETH'S PARISH, DANDENONG NORTH. Monday, 4 December 2023 to Friday, 12 January 2024.  St Elizabeth’s Parish, 107 Baker Rd, Dandenong North.** Come along to watch Australia’s well-renowned and the largest traditional nativity scene display in its **20th year on display** at St. Elizabeth’s Parish in Dandenong North.  **Display is closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day. FREE** and open to all age groups. Children are to be accompanied by an adult/guardian/parents. **Viewing time:**    After mass times and any other time by appointments only (**Visitors take prior appointments to view the display**) Contact: Wilson on 0428 927 110 or 9795 6217 <http://www.facebook.com/AustralianNativityScene/> **|** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nativity\_scene#In\_Australia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nativity_scene%23In_Australia)

**MARY’S ADVENT JOURNEY:** Journey with Mary in her response to God’s call. Become aware of God’s presence this Advent. Four Thursdays 14 Dec, 21 Dec Tow time options 10.30am or 7.00pm.Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Narre Warren. Bookings via Parish office 9704 7935 or olhc@olhc.org.au

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| **Christmas Eve** | **LECTOR** | **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS** |
| **6:00pm** | Childrens Choir | S Spaull, D Lutu, Volunteer, M Lutu, A Hughes, L Caballero, A Ortencio |
| **9.00pm** | G Nelson | M Cincotta, G Nelson, J Connell, T Heldt |
| **Midnight** | A Ulu | P Joseph, L Joseph, J Macdonald, C Perera,T Lupeamanu, M Nieuwesteeg, Y Prasetyo |
| **Christmas Day** | **LECTOR** | **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS** |
| **7.30am** | R Beloso | C Beloso, R Beloso, R Trevisan |
| **9.00am** | L Adikari | S Spaull, T Dam, M Nieuwesteeg |
| **10.45am** | L Gillespie | C Tyminski, Y Prasetyo, A Ortencio |
| **NEW EVE YEAR**  | I Lemalu | P Joseph, I Lemalu, L Joseph |
| **9.00am** | C Gostimir |  |
| **10.45am** | A Ortencio | A Ortencio, L Gillespie, C Tyminski,  |

**SAFEGUARDING:** All parish volunteers are reminded that you are required to comply with the diocesan and parish policy as follows:

1. To have a valid Working With Children Check certificate from the Department of Justice;

2.To sign the current parish Code of Conduct every 3 years; and

3.To undergo the diocesan Safeguarding Training annually (either on-line or in person whenever it is available).

Should you have any difficulty in complying with any of the above requirements, kindly inform the parish office and we will assist you to do the necessary.



**The Recently Deceased:**

**Those whose anniversary or remembrance occurs at this time:** James Kennedy, Lilly Nathan, Maria Koreti Petelo, Enid Besterwitch, Linus Johnson, Baby Daniel, Michelle & Shane, Antony & Jennifer D’Silva, Fr Patrick Kavanagh, Fr John Gowen, Mgr Thomas Lynch, Fr James Duff

**Those who are sick:** Otto Harris, Alwyn Magee, Richard Nathan, Danielle Howe, John Larkin, Carmel Hall, Mia Bruynen, Joseph Prakash

*With respect for the privacy of the person who is ill, we can only accept requests from the ill person or their immediate family.*

*Loved ones prayed for on the sick list will remain on the list for one month, unless advised otherwise.*

*If you would like a Mass Offered for a loved one, special occasion or other intention please contact the Parish Office*

*at least a week prior to the date requested.*

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY – Fourth Sunday of Advent 2 Sam 7:1-5,8-12,14,16 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

**ST AGATHA’S VOICE FOR LIFE**

 **MASS FOR THE UNBORN – 9.30am Mass**

1st Friday of the Month

**HOLY HOUR OF ADORATION, 7.30pm**

1st Friday of the Month – at our Adoration chapel



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| **16th & 17th December 2023** | **Lector** | **Extraordinary Ministers** |
| **Sat Vigil 6.00pm** | L Lim | R Trevisan, M D’Costa, M Parrocho |
| **7.30am** | I Lemalu | M Vechoorettu, C Beloso |
|  **9.00am** | Y Prasetyo | M Nieuwesteeg, S Spaull, T Dam |
| **10.45am** | Youth Group | E Mandividza, A Ortencio, T Lupeamanu |
| **6.00pm** | L Piedad | J Connell, E Clinch, A Ulu |
|  |  |  |
| **CHURCH COUNTERS** |  | L Clark, T Raffa, B Duyvestyn |
|  |  |  |
| **23rd & 24th December 2023** | **Lector** | **Extraordinary Ministers** |
| **Sat Vigil 6.00pm** | Childrens Choir | D Grace, M Cincotta, A Hughes |
| **7.30am** | L Piedad | R Beloso, P Joseph |
| **9.00am** | T Dam | Y Prasetyo, M Dam, G Nelson |
| **10.45am** | E Mandividza | L Gillespie, K Auvale, T Lupeamanu, R Samson |
| **6.00pm** | Christmas Roster | Christmas Roster |
|  |  |  |
| **CHURCH COUNTERS** |  | C & M D’Lima, L & P Joseph |

 **GROUPS & MEETINGS**

**RCIA:** [For Adults interested in becoming Catholic] Enquiries: Tina 5996 1985

**RCIC:** For children aged 4 years and above preparing for Baptism. Sr Victoria 5996 1985
**MOTHERS WHO PRAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN:** Mon 7:30pm Parish Hall Contact: Mary Krotwaar 0417 391 298

**CATECHETICS [R.E.] CLASSES:** Each Wed at 4pm in the Hall during School Terms. Enquiries: Sr. Victoria 5996 1985

**THE BRIGADIERS OF LOURDES:** 2nd Saturday of the Month 2.30pm – 4pm. Enq: Lorraine Dunkley 5996 8771

**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET:** Weekdays after morning Mass & Rosaryin the Church.

**SAMOAN DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP:** Tuesday 6.30pm to 8.30pm in the Church. Enq: Epati 0432 410 480

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP**: Mon 10.30am Parish Hall Ph: Jacinta 0426 973 026

**PARISH CELLS COMMUNITY:** For further information contact Parish Office.

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTION:** Providence House, 135 Sladen Street. 1 hour by appointment only. Enq: Ruth 0477 800 161 or Divine 0427 706 498

**YOUTH GROUPS INVIGORATE [Age 12-14]** Meet 3rd Sunday of the month 12noon to 3.00pm after 10.45am

**AGAPE [Age 18+]:** Meet 1st Sunday of the month 12noon to 3.00pm after 10.45am Youth Mass. Enq: 5996 1985

**VOICE FOR LIFE GROUP:** Enquiries: Maria Nieuwesteeg 0409 563 864 or email voiceforlife@hotmail.com

**SANTO NINO:** Mass last Friday of the Month: 7.00pm. Enq: Tulip Ramirez 0431 211 115

**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL:** Vinnies Shop - 218 High Street Cranbourne. Phone: 5996 3926, **Vinnies Help Line: 1300 305 330**

**St. Vincent de Paul MEETING:** 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the Month in the Hall; Rosary 7.00pm; Meeting 7.15pm.

**CATHOLIC CARE GIPPSLAND:** For Family & Relationship Counselling phone 5941 4100 for appointments.

**GODSTART:** Post-Baptism follow-up Program. For further information contact the Parish Office: 5996 1985

We acknowledge the Bunurong and Wurundjeri peoples and recognise the gift of their culture to the life and spirit of Australia.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL** Parish Pastoral Council members are a means of communication for perceived needs in the Parish, ideas, suggestions & feedback.

 <https://www.facebook.com/StAgathasCP> @StAgathasCP   **PARISH APP**: The parish APP is available from ‘**GOOGLE PLAY STORE**’. It contains Mass Times, Parish Calendar, Weekly Bulletin and much more! Simply **search for St Agathas** and download the APP to your mobile device

**LIVE STREAMING MASSES:** Sunday 9.00am Mass, Masses 9.30am weekday are Live Streamed, for those parishioners who are home bound and unable to attend Mass. <https://www.youtube.com/StAgathasParishCranbourne>

***third sunday of advent, 17th december 2023***

FIRST READING

Is 61:1-2.10.11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for the Lord has anointed me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor, to bind up hearts that are broken; to proclaim liberty to captives, freedom to those in prison; to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. "I exult for joy in the Lord, my soul rejoices in my God, for he has clothed me in the garments of salvation, he has wrapped me in the cloak of integrity, like a bridegroom wearing his wreath, like a bride adorned in her jewels. "For as the earth makes fresh things grow, as a garden makes seeds spring up, so will the Lord make both integrity and praise spring up in the sight of the nations."

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

1. My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour. He looks on his servant in her nothingness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. R.

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! His mercy is from age to age, on those who fear him. ***R.***

He fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty. He protects Israel, his servant, remembering his mercy. ***R.***

SECOND READING

Thess 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and for all things give thanks to God, because this is what God expects you to do in Christ Jesus. Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the gift of prophecy with contempt; think before you do anything - hold on to what is good and avoid every form of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect and holy; and may you all be kept safe and blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; he sent me to bring Good News to the poor. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

John 1:6-8.19-28

A man came, sent by God. His name was John. He came as a witness, as a witness to speak for the light, so that everyone might believe through him. He was not the light, only a witness to speak for the light. This is how John appeared as a witness. When the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" he not only declared, but he declared quite openly, "I am not the Christ." "Well then," they asked, "are you Elijah?" "I am not," he said. "Are you the Prophet?" He answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you? We must take back an answer to those who sent us. What have you to say about yourself?" So John said, "I am, as Isaiah prophesied: a voice that cries in the wilderness: Make a straight way for the Lord." Now these men had been sent by the Pharisees, and they put this further question to him, "Why are you baptising if you are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not the prophet?" John replied, "I baptise with water; but there stands among you ... unknown to you ... the One who is coming after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal-strap." This happened at Bethany, on the far side of the Jordan, where John was baptising.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Memorial Acclamation**

Save us Saviour… … …



In the day of the Lord, all sorrow and mourning will cease. The Lord will save his people. Be patient, and be ready; the coming of the Lord is near.