



# PARISH OF ST. AGATHA

10TH JUNE 2018



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THANK YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORTING  
**5.30pm Vigil** OUR NEW MASS TIMES **11.30am**

### EUROPEAN DATA PROTECTION LAW

A new European Data Protection law, the General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”), is being introduced on 25 May 2018. This new law applies to any organisation, including our parish that manages and processes people’s personal information. We are now working on ways of ensuring that what we do with your information is compliant with this new law. It is a work in progress and over the next few months we will keep you informed through the parish website and in the newsletter as policies are put in place. If you have any questions about this please do not hesitate to contact the parish office.

CEMETERY MASSES & BLESSING OF GRAVES		
St. Fintan’s	10th June	12.00pm
Fingal	17th June	12.00pm
Glasnevin	24th June	3.00pm
Balgriffin	1st July	12.00pm
Dardistown	1st July	3.00pm

Last Sunday’s Collections	
First Collection	€171
Share Collection	€131
Month of April	
Family Envelopes	€ 1546
<b>Thank you Very Much</b>	

### USE OUR TIME ON EARTH WISELY

Our First Reading is set in the Garden of Eden with the first parents of humanity. Some people believe this story is a fairytale and place no importance to it: but they would be wrong. To understand the meaning of life, we must always return to the Garden of Eden and learn not to make the same mistakes that led Adam and Eve to fallout with God.

### FREEWILL IS A GIFT NOT TO BE ABUSED

God made them in all perfection of humanity in holiness, grace and love. He gave them everything, including freewill and authority over all creatures and the world he placed them in. He gave them each other too. God appeared to withdraw from their company for a specific reason, as He appears to sometimes do the same with us in this day and age. Why?

### WE ARE TESTED DAILY - PRIVATELY & PUBLICLY

Because God is testing us. He tests our gratitude for all He has given us. He tests our commitment, faithfulness and loyalty to Him. He tests our love for Him. This is where the Devil comes into play and carries

out his job with too much success. That is to unfortunately distract us from serving God and disobeying Him and His Commandments.

### TREE OF DEATH

The simple Commandment in the Garden was not to touch one specific Tree that God knew would lead to Death. Satan, the Father of Death, was in the form of a sneaky snake. He was after Eve, not Adam, because he wanted her to fall first - because as the First Mother of Humanity - if her soul was stained or marked with the First Sin (Original), then all humanity after her would inherit this disease of Sin - because we are all descendants of Eve. In the Rosary we pray: *Poor banished children of Eve*. Her big mistake was to enter into dialogue with Satan and he ended up seducing her with his false charm and tricking her into believing that if she ate from the fruit of that one Tree, she would gain great knowledge and never have to listen to God again. Many in this day and age are gorging themselves on this Tree of Death.

### PRIDE IS THE ROOT OF ALL SIN

Pride led to the (first) Original Sin. God returned and they were covered up. Nakedness is a symbol of innocence and they knew they had sinned by disobeying God’s Law and now they will pay a price. However, God gave them a chance to repent (Divine Mercy), and apologise but they were full of Pride and missed the sacred opportunity to Reconcile with God. People who do not go to Confession are imitating Adam and Eve’s stubbornness. Stubbornness is a form of idolatry.

### STUBBORN HARDENED HEART

Stubbornness led Adam not to take ownership of his own sin and action by blaming somebody else: his wife. Eve, also out of stubborn pride refused to take ownership of her sin and fault by blaming the Devil. Lack of repentance resulted in them been expelled from the Garden losing eternal life and all the authority gifted to them was gone. All stolen by Satan. The Devil introduced Death and Suffering into the world: not God. Yet, you never hear anybody today, blaming the Devil, or Beelzebul, for any hardship. Sadly, God gets the blame for everything. By disobeying the Word of God we can also deny ourselves Eternal Life. God is always at hand to accept our apology and start anew all over again - in Confession

### BE FOUND WORTHY ON JUDGEMENT DAY

In the Second Reading, St Paul implores us to keep on track and not get bogged down with the material things of this world. He reminds us that visible things last only for a time, and the invisible things are eternal. If we obey Jesus’ teachings then Eternal Life awaits us after our Judgement by God.

### MAKE JESUS THE CENTRE OF YOUR LIFE NOW

In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us that to be His true spiritual brother, sister or mother, we must do as He teaches or we will be like the people asking for Him outside the house. This symbolises all the souls attempting to get into Heaven after departing this life. They are outside for a reason, because they disobeyed His teachings while on earth. Through a pride that matches Adam and Eve, they lived their lives according to their own will and thinking, and they now find themselves outside the Gates of Heaven and asking for Jesus. He reminds them it is too late to get in. Those inside, who were sitting around Him in a circle symbolise the interior setting of Heaven where Jesus is the Centre of Life. He joyfully says; *Here are my mother and my brothers. Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my brother and sister and mother.*

### NEW ETERNAL FAMILY

To be a follower of Jesus is to belong to a new family, a family with stronger ties than flesh and blood. It is a family which is bound in love and obedience to God as Father, to Jesus as Brother and committed to living according to the Way of Life that God proposes. The Good News is that God eventually forgave Adam and Eve, because years later they repented, acknowledging their Sin and asked forgiveness which was granted. It is never too late in this earthly life to seek God’s Mercy in Confession. God bless, Fr Brendan