

PARISH OF ST. AGATHA 10TH NOVEMBER 2019

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Parish Mass Times

10am MASS & Rosary

11am Sat. Mass & Rosary/Adoration

5.30pm Saturday Vigil Mass

11.30am Sunday Mass

Eucharistic Adoration

10.30am—1pm Weekdays 11.00am—12.00pm Saturdays

Confessions After Every Mass



ANNUAL NOVEMBER MASS FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS



Next Tuesday 12th November at 7.00pm. **May they rest in peace.**

Parish pastoral council

Next meeting, Saturday 23rd November, at 12:30pm after 11am Mass, Eucharistic adoration, rosary and prayers. We thank Sr. Anne for her service, as she moves on to new pastures. This leaves a vacancy and if you feel you would like to be a member of the council or nominate another person, please feel free to elect a name for possible election. contact Fr Brendan 0879117575

Altar List of the Dead Envelopes

The parish **Altar List of the Dead Envelopes** are available in the Church. When completed they can be placed either in the timber Boxes or Collection Baskets during

FAMILY OFFERING ENVELOPES & THANK YOU FOR YOUR ALMS GIVING

Family Offering Envelopes for the coming year will be distributed to homes during this week. If you do not receive any, please contact your distributor or Maureen in the parish office (01 8554078). This is our main means of support for the upkeep and maintenance of the Church. I wish to thank all of you who contributed religiously and so generously throughout the year. If you wish to contribute please contact the parish office or one of the collectors. Your support is very much appreciated. Fr. Brendan

NO HANKY PANKY IN HEAVEN!

In today's Gospel (Lk 20: 27-38), the Sadducees rejected the idea of Resurrection because they thought it was never preached by Moses. Jesus corrected them by revealing how Moses implied Resurrection. They then asked if seven dead brothers had all separately married the same childless widow over time, and she then died - whose wife will she be in Heaven? Jesus tells us that the only Marriage or Covenant that matters in Heaven is the one with God, not with each other.

HEAVEN IS NOT EARTH

Jesus makes it very clear that the miracle and purpose of the Resurrection of the Dead is not for the Risen Soul to continue living an earthly lifestyle. Our dead human body remains on earth and our living soul is given a new spiritual body. Life in Heaven is not an extension of our life on earth. Heavenly citizens willingly surrender to God's Will, Divine Law and Ways in the spirit of holiness & prayer. Jesus wants us to know the difference between earthly and heavenly life.

THE DESIRE TO SEE JESUS FIRST

In Heaven, Jesus implies there is no sex. The relation between husband and wife, though appointed on earth, will not be known in the heavenly one, because everyone will be treated equally as Children of God. The desire for intimacy will be a holy and chaste communion-ship with God. To be in His Presence should be our only desire to go to Heaven. To meet our loved one's will happen after we meet Jesus and only if, they are judged worthy of a place in the other world and in the resurrection from the dead. Sadly, there is no guarantee if a faithful spouse reaches Heaven first, that the other spouse automatically follows. People cannot be owned to each other in Heaven, like they are on earth, because ownership (Marriage) belongs to God in Heaven.

NO PHYSICAL INTIMACY

This spiritual Eternal Marriage (Covenant) we enter into with God begins in baptism. The purpose of an earthly marriage between a man and a woman is to procreate and have children, for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven. If it is God's Will. There will be no need to procreate in Heaven - hence no sexual activity. An earthly marriage is not eternal but it is to be forever in this world only. The vow made on the wedding day is, *I take you as my lawfully wedded husband/wife, until death do us part.* The source and summit of our life should be the Eucharist –not sex.

WE WILL BE GENDERLESS

After death, Jesus is not saying we become Angels, but that we will live like them, who are genderless & in full Holy Communion with God. We will see the image of Jesus in each other. That is why the Bible refers to women as *Him or the Son*, because it is teaching us to see *Him*, who is Jesus, in everybody now, as it will be in Heaven. The Church's purpose on earth is to shape us for the future communion & prayerful life living with God. There is no suffering, anger, depression, hatred, violence, hurt or sin in Heaven. Only Love, Joy, Peace, Rest, Holiness, Harmony and Happiness. On earth, Priests, Religious Brothers and Sisters are asked to lead the flock now by example of what it will be like to live in the chaste World to come. God bless, Fr. Brendan