

School Enrolments



Any parent/guardian who wishes to have their son/daughter enrolled for the coming year 2005/2006 is recommended to contact the school now.

St. Vincent's Girls' National School
Mrs Rita Tighe, Phone 8557240

St. Vincent's Infant Boys' School
Mr Pat Courtney, Phone 8363074

O'Connell Boys' Primary School
Mr Patsy O'Keefe, Phone 8557517

New practice concerning children who have not received Holy Communion

A new practice has been introduced into several parishes in accordance with the school religion programme 'Alive O'. This is part of the sacramental preparation programme and helps develop a respect for the church and reverence for the Eucharist.

Children are very welcome to approach a priest or a Minister of the Eucharist with his/her arms folded across the chest - this shows that they have not received their First Holy Communion.

The priest/minister will place his/her right hand on the child's shoulder and say 'God bless you'.

The child answers 'Amen'.



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA NEWSLETTER

13th March 2005

St. Patrick's Day - Thursday 17th March

Principal Patron of Ireland

Shamrock will be blessed and distributed at all Masses.

Mass Times: Wednesday 7.30 p.m. (vigil),
Thursday 9, 10 and 11 a.m.

There will be no evening Mass

Feast of St. Joseph

Saturday 19th March

Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Mass at 10 a.m.

*Statue of St. Patrick in
St. Agatha's Church*



Palm Sunday - 20th March

Blessing and distribution of Palm at all Masses.

Mass Times: Saturday 7.00 p.m. (vigil),
Sunday 9, 10 and 11.00 a.m.
and 12 noon (Children's Mass)

Weather permitting all Masses will start outside the church with the Procession with Palms.

The NEWSLETTER with the times of all the Easter Ceremonies will be distributed into every home in the parish.

Weekday Masses for Lent Monday to Friday 9, 10 a.m. & 7.30p.m.

Holy Hour on Tuesday evenings of Lent

There is a Holy Hour for the **Tuesday evenings of Lent from 8 to 9 p.m.** (after the 7.30 p.m. Mass) in the church in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Given the example of Medjugorje, it is a time of adoration, praise, thanksgiving and petition.



Housebound - Visitation for Easter

The priests of the parish would like to visit all those who are sick or confined to home, especially any parishioner who would like the Sacrament of Confession before Easter. Please contact Fr. Tony (8363451) or Sr Bridget (087 2389247) or leave your name and address in the sacristy if you would like a visit. (Sacristy: 8554078)

Date for Diary - Annual Mass for the Sick is on Sunday 8th May at 3 p.m.

Month's Mind Mass

The Month's Mind Mass for parishioners who died during February 2005 and who were buried from this church will be celebrated on **Monday 21st March 2005 at 7.30 p.m.** This Mass is organised by the Bethany Bereavement Support Group. We pray for the repose of the souls of :

*Angela Fitzpatrick
Frank Moreland*

*Christine Boylan
Bridget Donohoe*

*Carmel Byrne
William Lockhart*

Copper Coin Collection

Thanks to the contributors and collectors of the Copper Coin Collection which was held on 12th February. The total amount collected was €1,410.

Volunteers needed

to distribute an Easter Card to all the homes of the parish. If you are willing to help please contact Michael Pobjoy in the sacristy. Phone: 8554078

Parish Pastoral Council

The establishment of a Parish Pastoral Council was introduced at the last open meeting of parishioners on 11th November 2004. Following this meeting a Working Group has been formed whose work is to set up the Parish Pastoral Council for St. Agatha's Parish.



What is a Parish Pastoral Council?

This is a structure in the church that enables the people and priests to share responsibility and work together for the ongoing development of the parish that is characterized by faith, prayer, service and mission. In particular the parish Pastoral Council will facilitate the co-ordination of parish services regarding liturgy, pastoral care and administration.

Members of a Parish Pastoral Council

People to be considered for service must :

- ◆ **Be Baptised Catholics**
- ◆ **Participate in the life and worship of the parish of St. Agatha**
- ◆ **Be willing to make the necessary commitment until June 2007.**

The qualities of members of a Parish Pastoral Council:

- ◆ **are People who pray**
- ◆ **are Willing to learn**
- ◆ **are Able to work together**
- ◆ **Want to share responsibility**
- ◆ **Help spread the message of Jesus Christ**
- ◆ **are Able to bring out the best in others**

Please keep the work of this group in your prayers.

Parishioners working together for Christ