



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA
NEWSLETTER

14th December 2014

The Season of Advent begins today

Advent means 'coming' or 'arrival'. During Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas. It is a time of waiting, of preparing in joyful hope. Advent also reminds us to look forward to the second coming of Christ. We pray in the creed "He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end".

The **Advent Wreath** is full of symbolism.

Circular shape ...
God's love never ends.

Evergreen Leaves ..
Eternal life

Purple Candles...
Sorrow and healing.



Pink Candle ... Joy

We welcome Christ at Christmas.

Month's Mind Mass

The Month's Mind Mass for parishioners who died during the month of October 2014 takes place today
Sunday 30th November at 10.30 a.m.

We pray for the repose of the souls of :

Mary Keeley & Con O'Connor

R.I.P

Reminder Friday 5th December
Is the First Friday of the Month

Matt Talbot Novena Mass and Prayers for Healing.



Matt Talbot was born on 2nd May 1856 in 3 Aldborough Court, off Portland Row. He was the 2nd eldest of twelve children.

Before long he established a pattern of work and heavy drinking and by the age of 16 he was a confirmed alcoholic.

Fortunately for him after his so-called friends abandoned him, he decided that he would give up drink and take the pledge.

With the help of prayer he reformed his life. Until his death in 1925 he lived a life that was radically different, marked by charity, gentleness and serenity.

Matt is seen as a champion of workers and he played a significant role in his union. He experienced unemployment and poverty. World wide today Matt's name is synonymous with fighting addiction of all kinds.

A Festival of Carols

In Aid of
St. Francis Hospice

Monday 15th December 2014
at 7.30 p.m.



During our service there will be
A Time to Remember

our loved ones by placing their name on our
Christmas Tree of Life.

Collection in aid of St. Francis Hospice, Raheny

If you know of any housebound parishioner or anybody else who might be interested in this NEWSLETTER please give them a copy.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Please support our Christmas Raffle/Coffee Morning.

Prizes include:

- 1st Prize Crib
- 2nd Prize Mr & Mrs Claus
- 3rd Prize Madonna & Light
- 4th Prize Mr. & Mrs Frosty
- 5th Prize Tin of Biscuits
- 6th Prize Tin of Sweets



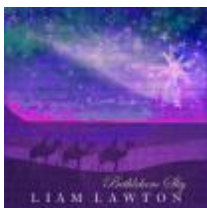
There are tickets available at five for € 2 from Mae or Rita in St. Agatha's shop at the back of the church.

Thank You

We would like to thank our parishioners for their Contribution to The Sick & Indigent Room Keepers Society collection last Sunday which amounted to **€539**.



Bethlehem Sky – with Liam Lawton;
Gardiner St Church,
Tuesday Dec 16th at 8 pm.



Tickets on sale at €10 at the Parish Office, and the Pro-Cathedral Office and Friends of the Elderly, Bolton St. Postal bookings may be made to St Francis Xavier's, Gardiner St, Dublin 1, enclosing €10 per ticket and tickets will be posted to you. After the usual expenses, all proceeds will be given to Friends of the Elderly of our locality.

A beautiful evening to prepare for Christmas is promised, and a chance to join with Liam and his support in Christmas carols, and will be mainly by candle-light.



As we come towards Christmas, the Crosscare Food Banks have once again been struggling to keep up with demand for food from people, especially families with children, in need around the Archdiocese.

In response to this growing need, Archbishop Martin is asking parishes to repeat last year's programme and, at all Masses on the coming weekend, to ask parishioners to bring non-perishable food items to Masses in their local parish Church **on the weekend the 6th and 7th of December.**

A Prayer for a Loved One with an Addiction



Dear Lord, watching someone I love being destroyed by an addiction seems more than I can bear.

My threatening, arguing, rationalising and controlling have proved futile. The problem continues and I am discouraged and frustrated. I realise I am powerless over this problem and powerless over anyone's life but my own. Guide my words and actions so that I will say and do all I can to hasten recovery.

Help me also to detach so that my loved one may admit the problem and seek help. May I take care of what is my responsibility and no more. Above all, Lord, help me let go and let You take care of everything in my life. May I never lose faith in Your power. Amen.

Matt Talbot pray for us.