



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA

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PEACE COMES FROM THE POWER TO FORGIVE AND LOVE.

In the Second Reading today, St Paul reveals to us that before the world was ever made, God chose us in Christ. We all initially came into existence from a decision made by God in Heaven, long before we were ever conceived in our mothers wombs. That is why St Paul says; *God has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of Heaven in Christ.* This means that from Heaven the decision was made to bring us into existence, in this earthly time, as part of God's hidden & predetermined Plan, which was to create us as His adopted children through Jesus, in Baptism.

THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

So life in the womb does not happen by chance but by God's Grace & Divine Will. God knew us before we were formed in the womb. It is a Mystery of Life & will become very clear after we depart this world. But let's try to understand it now before it is too late. As God's adopted children, we are promised an inheritance of a Kingdom beyond this world! This is the Good News of Eternal Life, which must be purchased. This is done by spending as much time with Jesus in daily prayer and the required Sunday Mass. We are asked to pledge our loyalty to God's Will and Teachings, while we live in this earth. We must remember, God is eternal & always in control. This is the message Jesus gave to the disciples to go out and preach.

CHARITY IS TWO-FOLDED

Just as the prophet Amos, in the First Reading under the Old Covenant, was sent out to preach God's Will to the people of Israel, so too were the Disciples sent out - but in pairs - by Jesus, who is the New Covenant. They are sent on a mission of charity asking the people to repent which will bring peace into their hearts. There is symbolism in the fact Jesus sent His Disciples out in pairs, because the principle of Charity is twofold – Love of God & Love of one's Neighbour.

SACRAMENTAL JESUS IS PRESENT IN THE WORD & THE EUCHARIST [MASS]

The Mission of Christ never changes from age to age & remains a twofold message of Love & Mercy, which are charitable acts. The Disciples were sent out to Heal souls through God's Divine Mercy. His Priests are sent out on the same mission today to heal through Him, in the Sacrament of Confession. Jesus also sent the Disciples out to inform the people of His Divine Love, which He does again, in this age, through the Sacrament of the Eucharist (Mass), which is Love, through His priests. Every Mass informs those present, of God's presence among us. The Eucharist is the ultimate sign of Jesus physically among us in sacramental form. Do we betray Him by not believing this? Judas sat at Table with Jesus but didn't believe. Jesus instructed the Disciples to take nothing for the journey but be happy with what He gave them. St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta once said; *I do own things but they don't own me.* God bless, Fr Brendan

OPENING HYMN

SWEET HEART OF JESUS

Sweet Heart of Jesus! Fount of love and mercy,
Today we come thy blessings to implore;
Oh touch our hearts so cold and so ungrateful,
And make them Lord, thine own for evermore.

*Sweet Heart of Jesus! We implore,
Oh, make us love thee, more and more.*

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

THE BELLS OF THE ANGELUS

The bells of the Angelus
Call - us to pray
With sweet tones announcing
the sacred Ave.

**Chorus: Ave, Ave, Ave Maria
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

HAIL QUEEN OF HEAVEN

Hail, Queen of heaven, the ocean star,
Guide of the wanderer here below,
Thrown on life's surge, we claim thy care,
Save us from peril and from woe.
Mother of Christ, Star of the sea
Pray for the wanderer, pray for me.

FUND RAISING FOR SIDE CHAPEL OF REMEMBRANCE FOR OUR DEAD

From next Winter, as a cost cutting exercise on electricity bills, we will use the side Chapel of St Agatha's for future **10am Weekly Daily Masses**. Funerals will be held in the main Church as will weekend Masses. The proposal is to professionally fit an adjustable Partition & Door, in the Archway & to carpet & paint area. Access will still be from the main Church. To finance this transformation, everybody is invited to make a donation & in return, the Names of your Loved ones will be placed on the walls of this Remembrance Memorial Chapel which already has the names of deceased past parishioners on the walls. Your support on this will be gratefully appreciated & pleasing to God. Thank you.