



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA

15TH/16TH FEBRUARY 2020

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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

TEN COMMANDMENTS

“I am the Lord thy God, you shall not have any strange gods before Me.”

“Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.”

“Remember to keep holy the Sabbath (Sunday) Day.”

“Honour your father and mother.”

“Thou shalt not kill.”

“Thou shalt not commit adultery.”

“Thou shalt not steal.”

“Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.”

“Thou shalt not covet (steal) your neighbour’s wife.

“Thou shalt not covet (steal) your neighbour’s goods.”

SEVEN DEADLY SINS

Anger * Envy * Lust * Pride * Gluttony * Sloth (laziness by not praying, not going to Mass or the Good we leave undone) and Covetousness (taking what is not ours and becoming cold and indifferent to others needs and God’s Teachings and Word)

COMPLETE THE LAW THROUGH LOVE

Jesus tells us today (Matt 5:17-37), that He came to *complete* the Kingdom of Love that His Father established on earth, by fulfilling and not abolishing the Law of God. He reveals a new deeper meaning to which the Law commands us to aspire to. To *complete* means to finish something already begun. The Jewish people limited the application of the Law, because they practiced out of fear of duty rather than motivated by Love. Jesus teaches us that Love, Mercy and a Pure Heart should direct our lives and to understand what a sin entails. Many people stubbornly and mistakenly think they do not sin.

ANGER IS A SIN

For example, when the Divine Law commands; *Thou shalt not Kill*, Jesus explains it means more than the physical act of Murder. He is saying that if we show no mercy in our hearts by publicly stripping somebody’s good name and character with an unloving and uncharitable tongue calling them, *Fool*, qualifies as spiritually murdering their character, because Love has been replaced with Hatred. Jesus goes to the heart of the Law unfolding the real reason behind every kind of sinful murder, which is *Anger*: the Devil’s hallmark. To murder is to steal someone’s life, whether by a bullet, a knife or the sharp edge of a tongue.

LOVE BY MAKING-UP WITH EACH OTHER

Jesus says; *I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother (or sister) will be subject to judgment.* We are to fulfil the Law motivated out of Love. Reconciliation can be possible if we humble ourselves. It is wise to make an attempt to make-up. The Law is about Love and Reconciliation. Jesus asks us to settle disputes between ourselves before coming to the Altar or before ending up in a court of civil law. Make Peace before we depart this world. Jesus is also reminding us to make Peace with God too by repenting for our sins in the Sacrament of Confession where all is forgiven. The implication is that if we wait for God to settle the matter after our death, in the Divine Court of Justice, then that Judgment may warrant a harsh punishment.

PURE IN HEART AND MIND

When God’s Law says; *Thou shall not commit Adultery*, Jesus explains it means more than the physical sexual act of adultery. He explains that if a person lustfully looks at somebody, whether in reality or on a computer screen, then adultery is committed in the bedroom chamber of the heart. No sin is hidden from Him. He gives us the Gift of Himself in the form of Faith and Grace to help us exercise Love and Mercy. A sin polluted heart has no room to love God or our neighbour with all our hearts and minds.

GOD IS LOVE

If we are fulfilling the Law (Oath), like going to Mass, but continue to swear and take the Name of Jesus in vain, then Jesus says to cut it out as it’s a serious sin and can prevent our entry into Heaven. The purpose of the Law is to enlighten us with hidden Wisdom, which enables Jesus to complete and fulfil the Law in our hearts, which should be full of Love, because God is Love and is our Host residing in us. God bless, Fr Brendan