



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA
FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



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Parish Mass Times	Confessions	Eucharistic Adoration
10am Weekdays & Rosary	After	10.30am—1pm Weekdays
12pm Saturdays & Rosary/ Adoration	Every Mass	12.30pm—1pm Saturday

MON - FRI

6.30PM MASS

DURING LENT &

10.00AM MASS

Last Sunday's Collections

First Collection €207
 Share Collection €195

Month of January

Family Envelopes €1842
Thank you Very Much

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen

RAINBOW PREFIGURES CHRIST

In Genesis today, God uses the Rainbow as a way of uniting heaven to earth. It is a sign of a covenant or a contract. He promises Noah that He will never destroy the earth again with a flood. The rain/bow is connected to the fall of rain, in that, when rain falls to the earth it has a mutual affect in producing fruit and pleasing God - because it serves its purpose. When God's grace falls from heaven and enters our souls, we are expected to surrender to it by doing God's will on earth, and yielding the fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Mercy, Charity, Self-Control, Patience, Humility, Gentleness, Faithfulness, Goodness and Chastity.

SEVEN SACRAMENTS

The sign of the Rainbow prefigures Christ, as it comes out of the heavens and descends to the earth reflecting seven beautiful colours which prefigure the Seven Sacraments of the Church to come. They are the Sacraments of Faith instituted by Christ: Baptism, Penance, Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage, Holy Orders and Anointing of the Sick with Holy Oil of Salvation.

ARROWS OF LOVE

The word rainbow comes from two words; 'rain' and 'bow'. A bow shoots arrows. The Almighty has set His bow in the clouds as to strike us with arrows of Love, to wound us and slow us down, so we notice His Presence, and turn to Him as His adopted children. The Angels are often depicted firing these arrows of love with their bows.

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

So, throughout history, God made Himself known through many signs of covenants until He came Himself, as the One true and Eternal Covenant, using Himself, in the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, as the Stairway to Heaven. Accessing the Stairway takes courage, endurance and faith. If Satan came to tempt Jesus to give-up His mission, as we see in today's Gospel, then we are fair-game for him too. Let's not get distracted. God bless. Fr Brendan.