



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA

20TH OCTOBER 2019

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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

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY TODAY

World Missions Ireland is Pope Francis' official charity for overseas mission. Every parish in the world, including the parish of St. Agatha, is the Holy Father's chosen instrument for sharing the Gospel and building the Church throughout the world. The whole Church is one big Parish.

Through our prayers and generosity we can reach out to missionaries who work in some of the most inhospitable, marginalised and disadvantaged communities in the world. Your support means aid can be distributed to struggling communities, allowing them to grow and thrive. No one has ownership over one parish in the Church, as we are all pilgrim parishioners and entitled Members of the Mystical Body of Christ, which is His Universal Church.

As global Members of this Universal Church, other less well-off members desperately rely on our kindness and charitable nature. We can bring hope and love to places where there are turmoil, poverty, and uncertainty. The Share Collection today will be replaced by the World Mission Collection. On behalf of Pope Francis and in anticipation of the generosity of the parish of St. Agatha, thank you for all the lives you will make possible to survive and live. Fr. Brendan

ANNUAL NOVEMBER MASS FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

The November Mass for the Holy Souls of the Deceased Faithful Departed Parishioners will take place this year on 12th November at 7.00pm. Those Families bereaved through the past year will be notified by letter in due course.
May the rest in peace.

GOD DELAYS HIS RESPONSE TO EXPAND OUR HEARTS WITH SPIRIT

In today's Gospel (Lk 18:1-8), Jesus is teaching us to be persistence in our prayer life and says we should be like the widow. This means we should persevere in *pestering* God until we receive His response. One reason that we don't always receive what we want, even through prayer, is that we give up too easily. We are lacking in much faith (trust) and patience. The secret of faith is to place our total trust in God. Today, Jesus is speaking about the powerful prayer of petition, asking God for what we need, that will benefit us, our families and the world, body and soul. The widow cried out for Justice and eventually received it. If an unjust judge gives, think how God, the Just Judge will give so much more

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Moses persistently continued raising his outstretched tired arms to God and succeeded getting what he wanted, victory over the enemy. This prefigured Christ's outstretched arms on the Cross, which also brought Victory over the Enemy (Devil), in today's spiritual battle between Good and Evil. This Suffering Act of Love brought us New Life beyond the grave. The two men either side of Moses represent us, in helping Jesus to continue to bring Salvation and Justice into the World, as co-redeemers (co-rescuers from evil by our prayer life). Jesus never gave up in asking God to forgive us, for sinning against Him. He persisted to the very end: *Father, forgive them for they know what they do.*

NEVER GIVE UP

St. Augustine told us that God sometimes delays in giving us what we want because He wants our hearts to expand with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit which are; Love, Joy, Peace, Faith, Patience, Self-Control, Mercy, Wisdom, Knowledge, Courage, Holiness, Respectful Fear of God. The more passionately we desire something, the more ready we are when it comes, the more we treasure it. The very act of asking persistently is accomplishing something spiritually important, in that our trust in Him to deliver, is evident and pleasing to Him. So when Jesus seems slow to answer our prayers, we must never give up. Never fall-out with God because we do not get our own way. All Parents sometimes, 'give and take'.

FAITH & TRUST ARE THE KEY

St Paul in the Second Reading reminds us that practicing endurance and perseverance in the faith, will truly profit our souls. It is our Christin duty to participate and be dedicated full heartedly in the Mission of the Church, which we celebrate today. To share the teachings of Christ with family and others and to defend the Faith. To help those in need. This pleases God greatly. Jesus teaches us to, *Knock and the door shall be opened to you; seek and you will find; ask and it will be given to you.* This is an expression of total dependence on God, because without faith (trust) in Him, there can never be Victory over Sin or this World. God will never see us wrong. Have Faith in God, that He knows how to prepare our souls to enter Heaven. Like a child, we should keep on asking. God bless, Fr. Brendan