



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA (& THE HOLY SOULS)

22ND SEPTEMBER 2019

Fr. Brendan Kealy Adm.: 087 9117575 Office : Tel: 8554078
Sr. Nuala Dolan DC: Chairperson Parish Pastoral Council
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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

Child Safeguarding Policy Statement

Archdiocese of Dublin recognises and upholds the dignity and rights of all children, is committed to ensuring their safety and wellbeing and will work in partnership with parents/guardians to do this. The Archdiocese recognises each child as a gift from God, and values and encourages the participation of children in all activities that enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual and social development.

All diocesan personnel (including clergy, religious, staff and volunteers) have a responsibility to safeguard children through promoting their welfare, health and development in a safe and caring environment that supports their best interests and prevents abuse.

Your Parish Safeguarding Representatives **Patricia Walsh and Maureen Grant** are contactable through the parish office

If you have a concern about child abuse, please contact either:

Diocesan Child Safeguarding & Protection Service (CSPS)
Designated Liaison Person
Mr. Andrew Fagan, Director, Child Safeguarding and Protection Service,
Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe College, Dublin 3. Tel. 01-8360314.
(Mon-Fri: 09:00 - 17:00)

Deputy Designated Liaison Person
Ms. Julie McCullough, Child Protection Officer,
Child Safeguarding and Protection Service,
Holy Cross Diocesan Centre, Clonliffe College, Dublin 3. Tel. 01-8360314.
(Mon-Fri: 09:00 - 17:00)

OR
Tusla Office: 01 77 18 500

OR YOUR
Local Garda Station: 01 666 8 600



WE CANNOT BE SLAVE TO BOTH SIN AND GOD - MAKE THE CHOICE NOW

The wasteful steward, represents *the children of this world* or the Unbelievers, who waste the gifts of Faith and Life. The steward understood his time was up (symbolising our death), but cleverly put into action a plan to selfishly save himself and ensure his earthly future. In his dishonesty to his master, he also benefited others. Jesus notes how unbelievers can be more shrewder about their future, than we, who are, *the children of the Light (the Believers)*.

BE SPIRITUALLY SHREWD/ASTUTE

Jesus obviously told this story not to encourage dishonesty but to draw attention to the foresight of the steward. He is teaching us to become spiritually *astute* when planning our own divine future, so that we will be welcome in Heaven. It is wise to be fully prepared when the Lord, *calls us to account*, for the lives He gave us. We need to be constantly reminded that we are the stewards and never the owners of what we possess. Our bodies and lives are the property of God and we are simply stewards appointed to take care of these temples, on loan from God.

MONEY IS A LIMITED RESOURCE

Money may have secured a temporary welcome for the dishonest steward, in the earthly homes of those whose debt he reduced, but money will not purchase a welcome into the Heavenly Home. What will ensure a welcome, is for us to spend ourselves wisely in charity, for the sake of others. To wipe out all outstanding spiritual debt owed to us, by forgiving those who offend, betray and *trespass against us*. Jesus wiped clean the eternal debt we owed to the Father, by showing Mercy on the Cross. It was a debt we created by sinning. We are still called to die to our sins and forgive.

THE PRINCIPLE OF LIFE

The unjust steward selfishly saw his master's resources, as a means for his own personal enjoyment and advancement. This represents the Unbelievers who steal full ownership of their bodies, given to them by God. They live for themselves and do as they please. If we understand the principle that everything we own is a gift from God, then we understand that God is the owner of everything and that we are His stewards. We are to use God's resources (faith and life), to further His goal of Salvation for the World. We can do this by reducing or removing any burden (suffering), we have caused to our neighbour, by mercy.

FORGIVE US OUR DEBT AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS

Nobody should be in debt to us. If Jesus wiped out our debt to Him, then we must wipe out other peoples debt to us. We are not qualified to hold others accountable, because of our selfish pride. Judging others, adds a heavy burden of emotional debt on them. Learn from the unjust steward but be just in making life easier for those living and working around us, by forgiving those who are indebted to us, which means those who sinned against us. Like Jesus, the faithful Steward, let's contribute to the eternal debt, owed to God, by spending love and mercy on each other. God bless, Fr. Brendan.