



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA

26TH AUGUST 2018

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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 BELL OF THE ANGELUS

The Bells of the Angelus, Are calling 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.

DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK

Date: 8th September, 2018

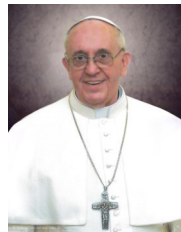
Bus leaving St. Agatha's Church: 8.00 am — Bus Leaving Knock: 5.15pm

Cost: €20 (includes tea and scones en route)

Please pay€10 deposit to one of the Sisters

St. Agatha's Welcomes Pope Francis

The Parish of Saint Agatha's extends a warm and holy Welcome to Pope Francis, who when visiting Croke Park, will be in our Parish. We pray that his presence, as the Vicar of Christ on earth, will renew Graces and Peace in families and hearts. May Almighty God continue to bless him with the help of Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth. Bienvenido Papa Francisco!



NOT TO FOLLOW JESUS' TEACHINGS - IS TO BETRAY HIM

Today, St Paul emphasises the importance of a husband's role in the Family. In the Garden of Eden, it was Eve, the woman who sinned first, but God refers to it as Adam's sin! This is because Adam was given the role of responsibility to provide, protect and look after Eve: his new Family. He got distracted from his duty of care and abandoned her for a time, leaving her available to be seduced by Satan, which fractured the Covenant or Marriage or Relationship, God had made with them and all humanity. They were the first humans recorded in the Bible.

JESUS IS THE NEW ADAM

The Sacrament of Marriage is founded on the model between Jesus' (The Bridegroom) relationship with the Church (His Bride). We are the Church: His Bride, as it were. The model of all Marriages mirrors this Eternal Covenant (Marriage) of Love which is highlighted in every Mass. Jesus is the New Adam and He will not abandon or take His eyes off us. If we allow Satan to seduce our hearts, it is because we have taken our eyes off Jesus to pursue sinful interests, that offend and bring pain to the heart of our beloved Jesus, causing Him to weep all over again.

ONE BODY, ONE SPIRIT

Jesus does not expect a husband to abuse his responsibility and fatherhood role in a marriage, but to treat his wife and family as he would treat himself. God created us male and female so that we could image and project the love within the Trinity, by becoming a sincere Gift to each other. The most uncompromising form of love consists precisely in self-giving, in making one's, 'I' into someone else's property. Both the man and woman become one. A husband or wife should not say; *My children, My family or My home*, but rather say; *Our Children, Our family and Our Home*.

TO DISBELIEVE JESUS IS TO BETRAY HIM

The couple lighting one candle on their wedding day symbolises dying to their individuality and becoming one with each other. Giving their hearts to each other as one. Jesus shares His Heart, pouring and emptying Himself out for us, to spiritually feed on the Sacramental Food, from His New Risen Body. This is His Eucharistic Flesh and Blood: the beginnings of Eternal Life. Many did not believe this to be possible in today's Gospel. There are still many *Judas'* in the Church today, who still continue to disbelieve Jesus. Outwardly, they appear to believe, but inwardly they do not believe and separate their hearts from Jesus' Heart, through stubbornness of heart. To disbelieve His Presence in the Living Holy Bread is to; **Betray Him**. We are reminded of this in every Mass during the Consecration (the action to change into Sacred Living Life) when the Priest says; *At the time He was Betrayed*. To deny Jesus is to deny ourselves Eternal Life. Let us realise Jesus' Teachings are our only options against false truths. Who else would we listen to?! God bless, Fr Brendan