

PARISH OF ST. AGATHA NEWSLETTER

26th November 2006



Feast of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

Monday 27th November

In 1830 Our Blessed Mother appeared to a Daughter of Charity, Catherine Labouré, in the Chapel at Rue du Bac, Paris. One of her messages to St. Catherine was to have a medal made with the following prayer inscribed on it



*O Mary conceived without sin,
pray for us who have recourse to thee*

Our Lady also gave a promise of great graces to those who wear this blessed medal. Because of the miracles associated with the wearing of this medal the people named it the 'Miraculous Medal'.

Miraculous Medal and prayer leaflet are available in the Repository at the back of the church.

The Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal will be prayed and medals will be blessed during 9 a.m., 10 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. Masses on Monday 27th November.



The Novena Prayers are prayed after the 10 a.m. and 7.30 p.m. Masses every Monday in St. Agatha's Church.

Dublin's Oldest Charity

The annual collection for the *Sick and Indigent Roomkeepers Society* takes place during the Masses this weekend, replacing the usual Share collection - the second collection.

This collection is taken up only in the City Centre churches

ISANDS

Christmas Service of Remembrance

In St. Nicholas of Myra Church Francis Street
On Sunday 3rd December at 7.30 p.m.

'SANDS is a voluntary organisation which was formed in 1983 by a group of parents whose babies had either been born dead (Stillbirth), or had died shortly after birth (Neonatal Death).



Pre-Advent Walk of Light



**An inter-church journey
on Sunday 26th November
from St. Ann's Church,
Dawson Street at 6.00 p.m.**

*To celebrate the coming
of Christ's Light*

WinterLight 2006 An Advent Service



**in St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral
on Saturday 2nd December
at 4.00 p.m.**

*This is an opportunity to take time out
for reflection, prayer, music and
personal preparation amid the
Christmas rush.*

If you know of any housebound parishioner or anybody else who might be interested in this NEWSLETTER please give them a copy. Next issue 3rd December 2006.

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Follow the star around the parish

Last year many families placed a large star in their window following the Advent theme "Follow the Star". Because of this it has been decided to continue this year. If you didn't get an opportunity last year and would like to host the star for a day - that is to have it lighting in your front window - please contact Helen Dowling at the sacristy 8554078.

Enrolment Ceremonies

Congratulations to both the girls and boys from St. Vincent's Girls and O'Connell Boys Schools who were presented for enrolment by their parents for the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion on Sunday 12th November.

First Communion will be on Saturday 12th May 2007

Today (Sunday) 55 boys and girls will present themselves for enrolment for the Sacrament of Confirmation during the 12 midday Mass. It is a significant stage in their preparation.

Confirmation will be on Wednesday 30th May 2007

Please pray for them and their families.



Can you give a hand on your street?

Following an appeal in a previous newsletter some people volunteered to distribute the **Parish Newsletter** during the year.

At present we print 1,100 copies of the Newsletter but there are 2,500 homes in the parish. We need to spread the news!

If you are willing to distribute the Newsletter to your neighbours please contact Michael Pobjoy in the Sacristy at 8554078.

Good News...Church to be painted!!

The church is to be painted early in the New Year. Approval for this project was given during the past week by the Dublin Diocesan Finance Committee. The Committee also agreed to support the project with financial assistance from *Share*, the Dublin Diocesan Development Fund. The architect, Mr. James Cummins, is putting the work out for tender this week.

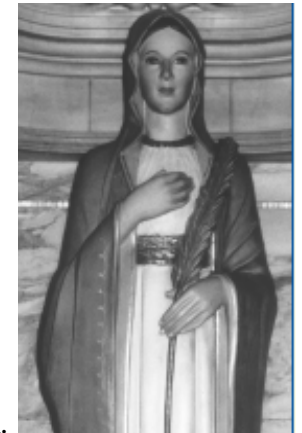
Good News...

€40,000 grant from Dublin Docklands towards refurbishment of Mortuary Chapel

The Dublin Docklands Development Authority will be giving a grant of €40,000 towards the refurbishment project of the Mortuary Chapel in St. Agatha's Church. The project of refurbishing the Mortuary Chapel was proposed by the Parish Pastoral Council at its meeting in June 2006. An application for funding was made to the DDDA under its Community Development Project initiative.



The Mortuary Chapel was built onto the Church of St. Agatha after World War 11 with the money given to the parish as compensation for the damage done by the German bombing of North Strand in May 1941. It contains the Shrine of St. Agatha - the only shrine to St. Agatha in Ireland. Very appropriate for the Mortuary Chapel is a large statue of the Pieta which will be cleaned and restored. Two Harry Clarke windows - one depicting Our Lady and the other St. Agatha also adorn this chapel.



*Shrine of St. Agatha
North William Street*