

Wednesday 1st February - Feast of St. Brigid

St. Brigid's Crosses will be blessed and distributed at 9 & 10 a.m. Masses.

St. Brigid is the Patron of Ireland. She founded the religious order Kildare. When Brigid was nursing a dying chieftain, who was not a Christian, she gathered rushes from the floor and wove them into a cross to explain to him the story of the death of Jesus. The chieftain was touched deeply by the story and asked to be baptised before he died.

Thursday 2nd February - The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

Candles will be blessed at the 9.00 and 10.00 a.m. Masses.

Blessed candles will be available in the repository.

40 days after his birth, Jesus was presented in the temple by Mary and Joseph to fulfil the Jewish law. This feast is also called '*Candlemas Day*' because candles are blessed and lighted this day on which Simeon recognised Jesus as '*a light to reveal God to all the nations*'.

Friday 3rd February- Feast of St. Blaise First Friday

Throats will be blessed after the 9.00 and 10.00 a.m. Masses.

St. Blaise was martyred on 3rd February 316.

According to tradition, on his way to prison Blaise healed a little boy who was choking to death on a fishbone. Ever since, people pray to St. Blaise to heal diseases of the throat.

Blessing of St. Blaise

*Through the intercession
of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr,
may God deliver you
from all ailments of the throat
and from every other evil,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son and
of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA NEWSLETTER

29th January 2006

*Feast of St. Agatha
5th February 2006*

This year the Feast of St. Agatha, the 5th February falls on a Sunday.

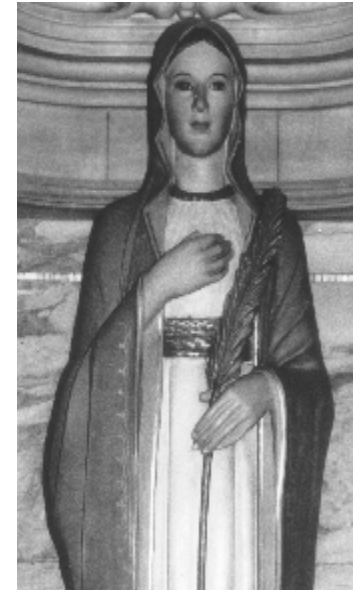
Bishop Fiachra O'Ceallaigh, the Bishop for this area is celebrating Mass on Saturday 4th February at 7.00 p.m. in the church of St. Agatha.

The music at this Mass will be led by the joint choirs of St. Agatha's and East Wall Parishes accompanied by the Quintessential Brass Band. This Mass is a celebration of both the life of St. Agatha and the life of the parish.

After the 7p.m. Saturday evening Mass and the Masses on Sunday morning - 9 a.m., 10.30 a.m. (Adult Choir) and 12 noon (Children's Mass) everyone is invited into St. Agatha's Hall for refreshments.

In preparation to celebrate this feast there will be a **Holy Hour** in the church on Friday 3rd February at 7.30 p.m.

**St. Agatha is the patron saint of this parish.
She is also patron saint of nurses and of diseases of the breast.**



*Shrine of St Agatha,
North William Street*

Church Restoration

What's happening?

The work that is taking place at present is part of the ongoing restoration of the church building which began in 2001 with the re-pointing and cleaning of the outside walls of the church.

This present stage of the works includes:

- ◆ Bringing the church up to Health & Safety requirements
- ◆ Rewiring of the church
- ◆ Improvement of altar lighting
- ◆ Installation of emergency lighting
- ◆ Installation of fire alarm
- ◆ Security installation including intruder alarm for insurance reasons
- ◆ Toilet in side porch which will be accessible by those with a disability
- ◆ Provision for extra storage heaters
- ◆ New flooring for aisles of church
- ◆ Improved access for wheelchairs at main door of church



Who is doing the work?

Architect appointed by Archbishop's House: Mr. James Cummins.
Electrical consultant engineers: J. N & G. Traynor.
Electrical contractor: O'Kane Engineering Ltd.
Building contractor: Roseberry Developments Ltd.

What will this work cost?

This will cost over €400,000 and will be completed as the money is raised.

Who is paying for this?

Archbishop's House is giving €296,000 from the Dublin Diocesan *Share* Fund. The rest has to be raised by the parish.

How will the money be raised?

The Parish Fundraising Committee are planning various fundraising activities over the coming months. Your help and support is needed. If you would like to give a donation there will members of the Fundraising Committee at the back of the church at all the Sunday Masses over the next few weekends.

Who is on the Parish Fundraising Committee?

This committee which was set up by the Parish Finance Committee are Nial Ring *Chairperson*, Maureen Grant, *Secretary*, Michael Pobjoy, *Treasurer* and Mary Irwin, Liam McGrattan, Dan Moore and Fr. Liam Rigney.

When will the church be painted?

The final stage of the restoration of the church will be the painting. Estimate cost for this is €200,000.

Wouldn't it be great to have the church painted in time to celebrate the centenary of the church in 2008 !

