



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA

29TH JULY 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 BELLS OF THE ANGELUS

The bells of the Angelus
Call - us 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.

FUND RAISING FOR SIDE CHAPEL OF REMEMBRANCE FOR OUR DEAD

From next Winter, as a cost cutting exercise on electricity bills, we will use the side Chapel of St Agatha's for future **10am Weekly Daily Masses**. Funerals will be held in the main Church as will weekend Masses. The proposal is to professionally fit an adjustable Partition & Door, in the Archway & to carpet & paint area. Access will still be from the main Church. To finance this transformation, everybody is invited to make a donation & in return, the Names of your Loved ones will be placed on the walls of this Remembrance Memorial Chapel which already has the names of deceased past parishioners on the walls. Your support on this will be gratefully appreciated & pleasing to God. Thank you.

EUCCHARISTIC OVERTONES

Last Sunday we heard of Jesus' concern for the spiritual welfare of the crowd who appeared lost in spiritual direction of God's Way. He felt sorry for them and went about spiritually feeding their souls with His Teachings and Guidance through His Word which we hear every Sunday in Scripture. The people listened attentively as they filled their hearts and souls with His spiritual wisdom.

BECOME LIKE A CHILD

This Sunday we now see Jesus' practical concern for the crowd, numbering 5000, knowing they would be physically hungry. So He goes about to feed them by performing a miracle with strong Eucharistic overtones. For Jesus to work healing miracles in us and through us, we must become like little children: hence it is the little *boy* in today's Gospel, who willingly hands over his 5 loaves and 2 fishes - entrusting his possessions to Jesus, to do what He willed with them. To entrust our self and our life to the Lord, we must become like little children, humble and pure, by placing our Trust in Him: and He won't let us down as seen in today's story.

LIVING BREAD WITH A HEARTBEAT

This miracle prefigures and prepares us for the coming of the Eucharist or Holy Communion. After the Resurrection from the Dead, Jesus transforms Himself into the guise and shape of Living Bread containing His beating Heart, to feed our immortal souls, allowing our hearts to beat as one with His. We see and recognise Jesus, in this age, in the sacramental form of the Church. If Jesus remained in the World as in Human Form, He would be limited to reach every corner of the earth, in that He would only be in one place at the one time, but through the Holy Spirit, working in and through the Priest, He can multiply Himself in every Mass throughout the world, in Sacramental Form, as shown and proved with the earthly multiplication of the Loaves and Fishes. We witness this miraculous spiritual multiplication of Himself in every Mass, transporting and transforming Himself in every Holy Communion. We must Believe or we miss out on the Grace that accompanies every Holy Communion.

IT IS GOD'S WAY TO REACH US PHYSICALLY

It is an ingenious Way to reach everybody in the world, in the same day, the same way, but in different places, in order to help us enter into a deeper physical Communion or Relationship with Him. Sadly many people ignore His True Presence in the Eucharistic Living Bread and remain spiritually dead after receiving Him. Our soul is like a petrol tank in a car - if it is empty, then while the car looks great on the outside, it cannot operate properly inside. If we do not feed our souls with the sacramental presence of Jesus in Holy Communion, and **BELIEVE** His Presence in the Living Bread, then we will be spiritually empty inside. Today, let us begin to increase our awareness of the Goodness of God, and His True Presence when He comes to us physically in Holy Communion! God bless, Fr Brendan