



# PARISH OF ST. AGATHA

## 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2018



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### Parish Mass Times

10am Weekdays & Rosary

12pm Saturdays & Rosary/Adoration

5.30pm Vigil, 11.30am Sundays

### Confessions

After

Every Mass

### Eucharistic Adoration

10.30am—1pm Weekdays

12.30pm—1pm Saturday

### INVITATION

Following Pope Francis's visit last August you are invited to continue The Family Conversation each Thursday night **ALL ARE WELCOME - PLEASE JOIN US .....**

Marillac Centre, Catherine's Court  
Thursdays - 7pm to 8pm

### Last Sunday's Collections

First Collection €242  
 Roomkeepers Collection €165  
 November Envelopes €1926  
**Thank your very much**

Thank you all for attending the Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal on behalf of the Daughters of Charity. Many Graces were dispensed

NEIC Programme Office  
Proudly Present  
*A Magical Night of Christmas Music and Song*  
11th December, 2018  
7pm, Liberty Hall Theatre  
Admission €3  
Tickets available from Lourdes Day Care Centre, St. Agathas Parish Office or by calling 01-2223893 or 01-2226604  
Featuring The Artane Senior Band Plus special guests from our area.

All proceeds go to the Capuchin Day Centre, Dow Street



Tickets are €3, they are available from St. Agatha's Parish Office, & the Shop at back of Church Or by calling

01-2223893 or 2226604



### STAY SPIRITUALLY AWAKE AND ALIVE!

Today is the First Sunday in Advent and the beginning of a new Church year. The readings today's urge us to face the realities of this life and the next. These four weeks before Christmas are called **Advent** because the term comes from a Latin word (Adventus) meaning **Coming** of Jesus - not only at Christmas but everyday of our lives. St. John Paul II said our whole lives must be a sort of Advent, that is; *a vigilant waiting of the Coming of Christ, at all times.*

### ADVENT WREATH

You will notice on the Altar Sanctuary today, there is what we call the Advent Wreath with different coloured candles: purple, pink (rose) and white. These are called Advent Candles and symbolise the Coming of Jesus, who is the Light of the World. There are five candles on the wreath, one to be lit each Sunday leading up to Christmas with the fifth (white) candle to be lit on Christmas day.

### ETERNAL LIFE

The Circular round Evergreen Wreath is shaped in a perfect circle symbolising Eternity of Life beyond the grave, which is Resurrection. Another meaning of the word, **Wreath** is the word, **Chaplet**, which in turn symbolises Victory over Death and Sin.

### MEANING OF THE COLOURS PURPLE, PINK AND WHITE

The colour Purple represents Repentance (hence worn at Funeral Masses) and is also associated with the Kingship of Jesus, because we are all Members of that Royal Divine Family from Heaven. The colour Pink symbolises Joy. The Central White Candle symbolises Resurrection and is called the Christ Candle reminding us that Christ is the Eternal Light coming into the Darkness.

### 1ST CANDLE IS HOPE

The first candle lit this month (today) is called the candle of **Hope (Trust)** which we have in Christ and His Good News. The Eucharistic Prayer II in our Mass today says; *Remember also our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the Hope of the Resurrection, and all who have died in Your Mercy: welcome them into the Light of Your Face.*

### 2ND CANDLE IS THE WAY

The second candle we light on the 9th December symbolises that Christ is the Way. The World is lost in sin and Christ is the Light sent into the World to show us the Way out of Darkness. To love and forgive one another brings Light into our hearts!.

### 3RD CANDLE IS JOY

The third candle we light on the 16th December indicates that the only ever-lasting Joy to be found in this earth is through Christ. All other joy is fleeting and does not last.

### 4TH CANDLE IS PEACE

The fourth candle reminds us that Jesus comes to bring Peace to both the World and to people's hearts. Without Christ there is no Peace in this world.

### 5TH CANDLE IS CHRIST(MAS) CANDLE

The fifth candle represents Christ Himself who is born to Save us from our Sins and is an invitation to join Him in the Celebration of the Resurrection of the Dead that *we may merit to be coheirs to eternal life*, with Him in Heaven! It is an Invitation to be taken very seriously and for us to reply with a joyful YES, through our Faith. God bless, Fr Brendan