



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA

3RD JUNE 2018

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THANK YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORTING OUR NEW MASS TIMES

CHOIR NEWS!

I WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME OUR NEW CHOIR CANTOR WHO HAS KINDLY AGREED TO LEAD US ALL IN SONG FROM THE SANCTUARY/ALTAR AREA, DURING PARTS OF THE MASS. I ENCOURAGE YOU ALL TO JOIN IN THE SINGING, PLEASE! PETER, OUR MUCH APPRECIATED MUSICAL DIRECTOR, HAS ASKED ME TO MENTION THAT THERE ARE VACANCIES FOR CANDIDATES TO JOIN THE CHOIR & IF INTERESTED, CAN SPEAK TO HIM AFTER EVERY 11.30 AM SUNDAY MASS, IN THE BALCONY. CHOIR PRACTICE IS HELD EVERY MONDAY EVENING AT 6.30PM. ALL ARE VERY WELCOME TO JOIN. THANKS TO ALL THOSE PRESENTLY COMMITTED TO THE CHOIR. WHY NOT GIVE IT A TRY - IT MAY BE FUN!
FR BRENDAN

HEALING MASS
Church of the Assumption
9th June at 2pm
2 Thormanby Rd
Fr. Oliver Bagnoud

CONGRATULATIONS
To the 38 Young Adults who were
Confirmed in the Holy Spirit
Last Wednesday



THE POWER OF CHRIST'S BLOOD

St John Chrysostom (Constantinople 349-407) once wrote that if we wish to understand the power of Christ's Blood, we should go back to the ancient account of its prefiguration in Egypt. *Sacrifice a lamb without blemish, commanded Moses, and sprinkle its blood on your doors.* If we were to ask him what he meant, and how the blood of an irrational beast could possibly save people born with reason, Moses' answer would be that the saving power lies not in the blood itself, but in the fact that it is a sign of the Lord's Blood to come. The animal blood symbolised the *restoration of holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the Blood of Christ, who offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God.*

TRUE BLOOD OF JESUS

In those days, when the Destroying Angel saw the blood of a lamb on the doors of a Jewish family house, he did not dare to enter. How much less will the Devil approach now when he sees, not that figurative blood of animals on the doors, but the mark of the True Blood of Christ on the lips of Believers. Our lips are the new doors of the house or the temple of Christ - our sacramental bodies. *Lord I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof.*

Jesus brings a *New Covenant, as the Mediator, only so that we who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: His death took place to cancel the sins that infringed (broke), the earlier old covenant - because the People rejected the Old Covenant & God's Commandments and sadly never entered the Promised Land (Heaven) because they refused to repent and ask for God's Divine Mercy.*

THE SACRED TEMPLE IS CHRIST'S BODY

If we want further proof of the power of this Blood, remember where it came from, how it ran down from the Cross, flowing from the Master's side. The Gospel records that when Christ was dead, but still hung on the Cross, a soldier came and pierced His side with a lance and immediately there poured out Water and Blood. Now the Water was a symbol of Baptism and the Blood, a symbol of the Holy Eucharist. When the soldier pierced the Lord's side, he breached the wall of the Sacred Temple, revealing the Treasure of Life (Sacraments of the Church), which we are asked to consume as Spiritual immortal Food and Drink and treat with great respect and adoration. St Agatha's has Eucharistic Adoration six days a week . Sunday Adoration & Holy Rosary coming soon; 12.15pm - 1.15pm

CHRIST FASHIONED THE CHURCH THROUGH BAPTISM & EUCHARIST

Water and Blood flowed from Christ's side. As disciples of Christ and parishioners of St. Agatha's, let us not pass over this mystery without thought because it has another hidden meaning. Remember that Water and Blood symbolised Baptism and the Holy Eucharist. From these two Sacraments the Church is born: from Baptism, the cleansing water that gives rebirth and renewal through the Holy Spirit. From the Holy Eucharist, the Body & Blood which is the New Covenant of the Mystical Body of Christ, given us to nurture and nourish our spiritual life in our soul. Since the symbols of Baptism and the Eucharist flowed from Jesus' side, it was from His side that Christ fashioned the Church, just as He had fashioned Eve from the side of Adam who were the first father and mother of humanity and who let us down by falling into sin, by disobeying God's instructions. Adam was the very first human Priest ever, fashioned in the divine image of God. Jesus is the New Eternal Priest also fashioned in the divine image of God in the male gender. God is Jesus, True God and True Man.

CHRIST FASHIONED THE CHURCH FROM WATER & BLOOD

Moses gives a hint of this when he tells the story of the first man (Adam) and makes him cry out: *Bone from my bones and flesh from my flesh!* As God then took a rib from Adam's side to fashion a woman, Eve, the first mother of humanity, so Christ, who is the New Adam has given us Blood and Water from His side to fashion the Church. God took the rib when Adam was in a deep sleep, and in the same way Christ gave us the Blood and the Water also taken from His side after his own death or deep sleep on the Cross before awakening in His Resurrection. Jesus is the New Adam who has given us *bone from His bones and flesh from His Flesh*, in His Body and Blood. His Mother Mary, who is a Mother Church type, becomes the New Mother of the Bride: the Church. She becomes the New Eve.

BRIDEGROOM (JESUS) & BRIDE (CHURCH)

Understand how Christ has united His Bride (we in the Church), to Himself and what Spiritual Food He gives us all to eat. By one and the same Spiritual Food we are both brought into being and nourished. As a woman nourishes her child with her own blood and milk, so does Christ unceasingly nourish with his own Body and Blood (Corpus Christi), those who He Himself has given Life, beginning in the sanctuary of the womb.