



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA
FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER



Fr. Brendan Kealy Adm. : 087 9117575 Office : Tel: 8554078
E mail : office@stagathasparish.ie Website: www.stagathasparish.ie

Parish Mass Times

10am Weekdays & Rosary
12pm Saturdays & Rosary/ Adoration
6pm Vigil, 10.30am & 12pm Sundays

Confessions

After Every Mass

Eucharistic Adoration

10.30am—1pm Weekdays
12.30pm—1pm Saturday

Church will now remain open until 7 days a week till 4 pm

Monday to Sunday



Feast of St. Blaise
Saturday 3rd February
12pm Saturday Mass (Every Saturday)



Throats will be blessed after the 12.00 p.m. before & after 6pm Masses



Feast of St. Agatha 5th February

our Parish Patron Saint

JESUS I TRUST IN YOU



St. Agatha came from a very rich Sicilian Catholic family. She is the Patron Saint of Nurses and of diseases of the Breast. The name Agatha means 'Goodness'. St. Agatha, like Our Lady, had consecrated her Virginity to God. The pagan Italian Roman Governor in Sicily, wanted to marry her for her beauty and her family wealth. He also wanted her to renounce her faith. She never gave in to him. He was enraged with her refusals. Abusing his authority, he had her arrested and put into prison. She was repeatedly tortured and he unmercifully had her breasts cut-off. While she was praying in her cell one night, St. Peter appeared to her and healed all her wounds, encouraging her never to lose trust and faith in Jesus, as He had not abandoned her. The story of St. Agatha is one of courage, tremendous spiritual strength, immaculate integrity and utter dependence and trust in Jesus. She was martyred on 5th February 251. Immediately in front of our Altar in St Agatha's Church, North William Street, Dublin 1, you can see an image, on the floor tiles, of the type of shears and a pair of pincers used to remove her breasts. Agatha, patron Saint of our Parish, please pray and intercede for us.

Sacrament of Baptism

Baby Jack Charles Cooney was baptised last weekend and we are delighted to welcome him into the Christian Family of God, Our Father and to our Community. Congratulations

Last Sunday's Collections

First Collection €228

Share Collection €185

THE MOTHER-IN-LAW!

Yes, Peter was married, under the Old Covenant Law, but that was before Jesus came and called Peter through Faith, to serve Him first and foremost, in a New Covenant. Peter's marriage could possibly have been a similar chaste marriage that Mary and Joseph had entered into? In the First Commandment God reminds us; 'I am the Lord your God, you shall have no other gods before me'. This means we are not to place any human being in our lives, not even our families, one's children, before the love of God our Creator and Eternal Father, who asks us to love Him first, with all our hearts, all our souls, and in all our minds.

SACRAMENT OF HEALING

After encountering Jesus in Mass, we should experience a spiritual transformation that changes us - unless we are dead objects receiving Him?! He heals us through the Sacraments of the Church which is His visible Presence in today's world. 2000 years ago, He was visible in Human Form, True God and True Man, and the healing power emanating from Him then is the same as today - if we believe through our faith.

THE POWER OF HOLY COMMUNION

When we receive Jesus today in His Sacramental Form, where His Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity is concealed and hidden but truly Present in the Holy Communion - He is genuinely offering us the sacred opportunity to be inwardly spiritually healed by Him, which afterwards should lead us to a desire to serve Him, in that holy communion moment, like Peter's mother-in-law. Peter left everything to follow Jesus. He obviously did not abandon his wife and her family or they would not have visited his mother-in-law's house. Her fever symbolises the wound of sin and how it paralyses the soul. Jesus touches and heals her and immediately she is changed and rises, with the desire to serve Him. She understood as I imagine her daughter did, that Jesus came before everybody else - and they accepted this as the whole family were all touched by God and their mindsets changed. We are His true Family. Fr Brendan.