



PARISH OF ST. AGATHA
MARCH NEWSLETTER



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Parish Mass Times	Confessions	Eucharistic Adoration
10am Weekdays & Rosary	After	10.30am—1pm Weekdays
12pm Saturdays & Rosary/ Adoration	Every Mass	12.30pm—1pm Saturday

DURING LENT
MON - FRI MASS
10am & 6.30pm
&
12.00pm Saturday

RALLY TO SAVE THE 8TH
 SAVE THE DATE 10.03.18
 2PM SAT 10 MARCH
 PARNELL SQUARE.



ST PATRICK'S DAY MASS TIMES (NO 10.30AM OR 12PM MASS)
VIGIL 6.30PM - FRIDAY 16TH MARCH - ST PATRICK'S VIGIL MASS
11.30AM - SATURDAY 17TH MARCH - ST PATRICK'S DAY MASS
 Later same Evening: **6PM - SATURDAY 17TH MARCH - VIGIL MASS**

SUNDAY MARCH 18TH
10.30AM and 12PM SUNDAY MASSES 18TH MARCH

OUR BODY IS A TEMPLE

In today's Gospel, Jesus is emphasising that the new temple or new house He wishes to live in is our bodies. We are like tabernacles. Before receiving Jesus' new Presence in His Sacramental Risen Body and Eucharistic flesh today, we will refer to ourselves as a house saying; *"Lord I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof..."* He has 'Zeal' meaning, 'passionate' love, for you and me that it devours Him - even to death. Are we devoured by our love for Him? Do we put God first in our lives as asked in the First Commandment.
 SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION OR MERCY
 Clearing out the robbers etc from the temple is what He does in the Sacrament of Confession, because the temple he refers to is our souls. We are made in

His image as temples from our baptism. The unclean spirits enter the temple which is our soul when we sin. In every Confession, Jesus enters our souls and as it were, drives out all alien spirits, with His authority symbolised by a knotted rope. He dispels the darkness of sin and replaces it with His Divine Light and Grace, renewing us spiritually. It is a necessary Sacrament that we cannot live without. Regular Confession spiritually refreshes us, yet many ignore it?

TEN COMMANDMENTS EDUCATE US FOR THE BETTER

In the First reading of Exodus today, God clarifies the Ten Commandments that will benefit our souls. Remember that Heaven is ruled and subjected by these Divine Laws of God. They are a necessary guidance needed to lead the kind of life which will ensure we spend our future existence in the company of Jesus, the Saints in Heaven including our loved ones. We cannot make up our own map to find heaven! Jesus died on the Cross in order to bring new spiritual life into our souls leading us to a New Way to live. He is the Way, the Truth & Life.

THE CROSS

The Cross inflicts mortal injury on death. Spiritually, our Cross is dying to ourselves which inflicts a mortal wound on our Pride, Selfishness, Anger, Impatience etc which are sins. Through Jesus' Wounds, He draws us into His Sacred Heart. He calls us to present our bodies as living sacrifices to God, through self-discipline, as He did. The Cross mirrors Sacrifice, Obedience, Love and Mercy. The Cross represents a Death that leads to Resurrection that leads to Eternal Life.

THE NAME JESUS IS A HOLY PRAYER NOT TO BE MISUSED

God states clearly that to take His Holy Name, outside the context of a prayer, is to misuse its graceful purpose and is a mortal sin. To selfishly utter; *"Jesus Christ,"* or *"Jesus,"* or *"Christ,"* or *"O my God,"* outside the context of a prayer, whether in anger, or a passionate bodily embrace, or out of bad habit, is to curse God. How would we like if people constantly used and shouted out our own name randomly all over the place? God is asking us to think of His feelings. The remaining Commandments are self-explanatory, like not to lie, not to steal, not to gossip (false witness), not to be jealous or envious towards each other, not to cheat with others, not to kill, be kind to our parents, and not to idolise members of our family or money but to idolise God our Creator - first and foremost. He is asking us all to practice self-discipline especially in this Lenten Season! God bless, Fr Brendan.