



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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Opening hours for the Parish Office: 10.00am – 1.00pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday

18th April 2021

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 10.00pm. Suspended

Holy Hour in the Nursing Home chapel on Monday and Friday evenings at 7.30pm. Suspended.

In **Level 5 restrictions** public worship will not take place. The 11.00am Mass on Sundays will be streamed. The link can be found on the parish website www.ratoathparish.ie.

The week morning Masses (Monday to Friday) at 9.45am will also be streamed.

On the weekdays, the church will remain closed until after the morning Mass and will be open at approximately 10.15am for private prayer during the day.

10 mourners are permitted at funerals but this will increase to 25 mourners on 26th April

The **Parish Office** will remain closed in these weeks. You may email or phone the office to book Masses, organise certs etc. Messages etc can be left in the letter box at the office.

Fr Gerry and Fr Yohanna will be available at all times for those who wish to see a priest.

White envelopes lodged €1,170 on 13th April and **blue envelopes** lodged €1,920 on 13th April

Standing Orders for March €4,050.74

We are most grateful to all our parishioners who have left in envelopes and donations to the parish office at this time and we thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Eucharistic Adoration will take place **every Friday** after the morning Mass until 6.00pm.

We will review this when we resume public worship in the church.

Next Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday when we celebrate the **World Day of Prayer for**

Vocations. Pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life, especially for our diocese.

A vocation is an initiative of love from the heart of God. He calls in a gentle and loving way and invites us to respond in freedom.

Discerning a vocation to the priesthood and religious life takes time, prayer, reflection, patience and attentiveness to God's action – undertaken with the assistance of others.

It also takes courage to respond to the interior movements of the Holy Spirit. Coming to know what God wants for us takes time. It is a process. Following God is not about a one-time experience. It is about becoming a friend of Christ and friendships take time.

You can leave your **Trocaire box** at the door of the parish office or if you are using the Trocaire envelope, you can leave your contribution in the letter box at the office. Please **do not** leave your contribution at the back of the church.

18 April	Third Sunday of Easter	25 April	Fourth Sunday of Easter
11.00am	Patrick Cleary (Month's Memory) John Kellett (Month's Memory) Pierce Glynn Rita Cannon Tony Donnelly Bridie Lynch For those who sympathised with the O'Sullivan family on the death of Terry	11.00am	Bridget Boshell Anthony King Mattie McCabe Pierce Glynn Kathleen Foy

Monday

Pat Dennehy

Tuesday

Michael & Mary Nally

Wednesday

Special Intention

Friday

Noel Martin (Month's Memory)

This Sunday's Gospel Reflection

from Intercom

Today's gospel is one of the resurrection accounts from St Luke's gospel.

It begins with the disciples recalling their experience on the road to Emmaus and how they recognised Jesus at the breaking of the bread. The gospel continues into another account of the risen Jesus with his disciples. Jesus interrupts the disciple's story with "Peace be with you", yet in this account, they are terrified by this. Jesus shows them his wounds and Luke tells us they are full of joy, but they still can't believe it and think it is a ghost. Jesus shows them he is no ghost as he asks for food and eats fish with them. Jesus then journeys with them back through the scriptures in order to open their minds. He speaks to them compassionately, trying to relieve their anxiety and fear.

Jesus tells the disciples that "you are witnesses to these things". Luke wants to establish an important point, that these disciples are witnesses to the Resurrection, they ate with Jesus after his death and he opened their minds. The resurrection accounts in the gospels are not fantasy, they are actual experiences of Jesus' disciples.

So often in Luke's gospel Jesus conveys his message through food and banquets, moments of celebration. The risen Christ brings compassion and joy in difficult spaces.

Today let us share with Jesus the situations in our lives which need an injection of compassion and Easter joy.

"Every year the dull and the dead in us meet our Easter challenge: to be open to the unexpected, to believe beyond our security, to welcome God in every form, and trust in our own greening" (Joyce Rupp)

The Year of St Joseph

On the 8th December 2020, in a letter *Patris corde*, Pope Francis declared the Year of St Joseph, beginning that day. The letter marked the 150th anniversary of Pope Pius IX proclaiming St Joseph as patron of the universal church. St Joseph is described as a beloved father, tender and loving, obedient, accepting, courageous, working and a father in the shadows.

Against the background of Covid-19, Joseph shows the importance of the ordinary person, the unnoticed who exercises patience and offers hope every day.

Pope Francis tells us that for 40 years he has said a prayer every day to St Joseph after Morning Prayer and he ends the letter with another prayer:

Hail Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man.

Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life.

Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage and defend us from every evil. Amen

Revision of the Lectionary (Scripture readings for Mass)

The Irish Episcopal Conference considered a revision of the Lectionary for Mass earlier this year. Discussing the various options, they decided that the *Revised New Jerusalem Bible* could be the basis for a new edition of the Lectionary for Mass.

The latest edition of the much-loved translation is in clear succession to the earlier editions.

While all liturgical change runs the risk of being traumatic, thus would retain a lot of familiar phrases and cadences. New scholarship and language issues would be addressed, but the translation would be in clear continuity with the present one. Before moving forward with the process, they decided that it was important to hear the opinions of the Catholics of Ireland.

Therefore, the Bishops' Conference is now seeking submissions from interested parties to its secretariat for liturgy, and these can be sent to liturgy@iecon.ie.