



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

23rd July 2023

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 7.00pm

Please **pray for the repose of the soul** of Paddy Cunningham (Monaghan), brother of Anne O'Malley. May he rest in peace

White Envelope Collection (Development Fund) €2,316.50 and **blue envelopes** €715.00
Many thanks for your continued support and development

There will be **no 12.15pm Mass** on Sundays in the months of July and August.
The 12.15pm Mass will resume on Sunday 3rd September.

The **2023 July Athletics Summer Camp** will take place in Claremont Stadium, Commons Road, Navan on 24th-27th July from 10am-1pm.
To reserve a place please call Claremont Stadium reception on 046 902 9693

World Youth Day in Lisbon from 31 July to 6 August

The 37th World Youth Day will take place in Lisbon, Portugal, from 31 July to 6 August next, with the theme chosen by Pope Francis 'Mary arose and went with haste' (*Luke 1.39*). This global celebration of faith by young people usually takes place every three years. Pope Francis is expected to attend WYD during which he is expected to visit and pray at the Marian Shrine in Fatima and celebrate the closing Mass on Sunday 6 August.

To date, Irish participation at World Youth Day in Lisbon includes almost registered 1,500 pilgrims, including at least twelve different nationalities from Ireland. These pilgrims include sixteen diocesan groups, including nine bishops some of whom will be available to give catechesis on the WYD theme: 'Mary arose and went with haste'.

The Diocese of Meath has over 40 pilgrims attending and of those six are from the parish of Ratoath. We wish them every blessing on the World Youth Day.

Over 200 pilgrims will also attend with members of the Association of Leaders of Missionaries and Religious of Ireland (AMRI). In addition, various religious movements hope to participate with groups of young people including Jesus Youth, the Neo-Catechumenal and Communion and Liberation. Fifteen Irish groups will attend pre-WYD events in Portugal.

| 23 July | Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time | 30 July | Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time |
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| 7.00pm | Patsy, Rita & Agnes McCabe | 7.00pm | Peg, Harry & Nan Everard Mary & Joseph Elliott Patrick O'Sullivan |
| 9.00am | | 9.00am | |
| 11.00am | Margaret Murrihy (Month's Memory) Val & Cormach Murrihy Rose McCarthy Des Kelly James & Kate Donnelly & John & James Junior | 11.00am | Jackie O'Sullivan |
| 12.15pm | No Mass | 12.15pm | No Mass |

Tuesday Gail Geoghegan
Thursday Fr John Cogan

Wednesday Special Intention

Excerpt of Message of Pope Francis for World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly on this Sunday 23rd July

....This year, the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly takes place close to World Youth Day. Both celebrations remind us of the “haste” with which Mary set out to visit Elizabeth. In this way, they invite us to reflect on the bond that unites young and old. The Lord trusts that young people, through their relationships with the elderly, will realize that they are called to cultivate memory and recognize the beauty of being part of a much larger history.

Friendship with an older person can help the young to see life not only in terms of the present and realize that not everything depends on them and their abilities. For the elderly, the presence of a young person in their lives can give them hope that their experience will not be lost and that their dreams can find fulfilment.

To better appreciate God’s way of acting, let us remember that our life is meant to be lived to the full, and that our greatest hopes and dreams are not achieved instantly but through a process of growth and maturation, in dialogue and in relationship with others. Those who focus only on the here and now, on money and possessions, on “having it all now”, are blind to the way God works. His loving plan spans past, present and future; it embraces and connects the generations. It is greater than we are, yet includes each of us and calls us at every moment to *keep pressing forward*.

For the young, this means being ready to break free from the fleeting present in which virtual reality can entrap us, preventing us from doing something productive.

For the elderly, it means not dwelling on the loss of physical strength and thinking with regret about missed opportunities. Let us all look ahead! And allow ourselves to be shaped by God’s grace, which from generation to generation frees us from inertia and from dwelling on the past!

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is meant to be a small but precious sign of hope for them and for the whole Church. I renew my invitation to everyone to celebrate this Day and to make it the occasion of a joyful and renewed encounter between young and old. To you, the young who are preparing to meet in Lisbon or to celebrate World Youth Day in your own countries, I would ask: before you set out on your journey, visit your grandparents or an elderly person who lives alone! Their prayers will protect you and you will carry in your heart the blessing of that encounter. I ask you, the elderly among us, to accompany by your prayers the young people about to celebrate World Youth Day.

Prayer for Grandparents (Pope Benedict)

Lord Jesus, you were born of the Virgin Mary, the daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne.
Look with love on grandparents the world over. Protect them!

They are a source of enrichment for the families, for the church and for all of society. Support them!
As they grow older, may they continue to be for their family’s strong pillars of Gospel faith, guardian of noble domestic ideals, living traditions.

Make them teachers of wisdom and courage, that they may pass on to future generations the fruits of their mature human and spiritual experience.

Lord Jesus, help families and society to value the presence and roles of grandparents.
May they never be ignored or excluded but always encounter respect and love.
Help them to live serenely and to feel welcomed in all the years of life which you give them.

Mary, Mother of all the living, keep grandparents constantly in your care, accompany them in their earthly pilgrimage, and by your prayers, grant that all families may one day be reunited in heavenly homeland, where you await all humanity for the great embrace of life without end. Amen.

National Grandparents' Pilgrimage to Knock and the celebration of the **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** both take place this Sunday 23rd July