



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

29th January 2023

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 7.00pm

This weekend we welcome the boys and girls of Sixth Class for their final Mass of **preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation**, which they will receive on 10th February.

We welcome them with their parents who are supporting them in their faith journey this year.

And next weekend we welcome the boys and girls of Second Class for their third **“Do This in Memory of Me”** Mass. At this Mass they will bring forward the prayer of the Act of Sorrow, the prayer that they will say at their First Confessions in early March, during the season of Lent. We welcome them with their parents who are supporting them in this important year in their faith journey.

Pope Francis words to young people in preparation for World Youth Day in Lisbon

“Dear young people, we are getting closer, there are still a few months to go, until the World Youth Day and already 400,000 young people have registered. It calls my attention and fills me with joy that so many young people will go to WYD, because they need to participate. Some will say, “I’m going as a tourist”. But any young person who goes to WYD, goes because, deep down, he or she has the thirst to participate, to share, to tell their experience and receive the experience of others. They are thirsty for horizons.

You young people, there are already 400,000 of you registered, are thirsty for the horizon. At this meeting, during this WYD, learn to always look towards the horizon, to always look beyond. Don't put up a wall in front of your life. Walls close you in, the horizon makes you grow. Always look at the horizon with your eyes, but look, above all, with your heart. Open your heart to other cultures, to other boys, to other girls, who are also at this World Youth Day.

Get ready for this: to open horizons, to open your hearts. Thank you”.

29 Jan	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	5 Feb	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7.00pm	Packie, Katie, Francis & Mary O’Brien Noel & Teresa Scally & baby Noel Nina Madden Pud, Mollie & Bill O’Neill Betty Shanahan John Redmond	7.00pm	Mary Gannon Angela Reilly
9.00am	Bridget & Sean Slattery	9.00am	
11.00am	Deceased members of the Connolly family Tom, Catherine & Tommy McLoughlin Martin Kerrigan	11.00am	Michael Eiffe Pud & Winnie Mahon Pauline Vidler
12.15pm	Daniel Nulty (Month’s Memory) Luc & Juliet Dehaene Michael, Mary & John Flinter Eddie McKeon	12.15pm	Eugene Gleeson Catherine Williams

Monday
Wednesday
Friday

Dymphna & Bill Mills
Josephine McCarthy
Mass for all those on the Parish List of the Dead

The **sick and the housebound** will be attended to on Friday of this week.

White Envelope Collection (Development Fund) €2,050.04

Standing Orders for December €3,150.89 Many thanks for your continued support and generosity.

Tuesday is the **Feast of St John Bosco**, the founder of the Salesian Order. He is the patron saint of youth and Catholic publishers.

Wednesday is the **Feast of St Brigid**, secondary patron of Ireland.

St Brigid had time for everyone, especially the poor and she inspired people to greater things.

Today is the 1st February, the first day of Spring. St Brigid was in touch with the rhythms of life and nature. Using rushes she wove them into a cross, to remind us that all the different strands of our lives are connected. They are connected not by chance but by the gentle presence of God in our lives.

Thursday is the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**, often called **Candlemas Day**.

The date lies half way between the Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox. It is a time of transition from Winter to Spring. The day marks the presentation of Jesus in the Temple; a day rich in symbolism, for we believe that the light of Christ is powerful and strong enough to wipe out all forms of darkness. This light knows no limits or boundaries. **Candles are blessed today** to represent the light of Christ in our lives. Today we invite this light into our lives.

Friday is the Feast of St Blaise and the blessing of throats will take place at the end of the 9.45am morning Mass. The blessing of St Blaise is a sign of our faith in God's protection and love for us and for the sick. St Blaise was a bishop of Sebaste and was martyred in Armenia in 315AD.

Tradition states that he was a physician before becoming a bishop. Since the 8th century, he has been venerated as patron of those who suffer from disease of the throat.

The prayer said at the blessing of the throat is *"Through the intercession of St Blaise, may the Lord deliver you from all ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen"*

Medjugorje 2023: Departure dates 17th May and 11th October ex Dublin. Cost €775 for May and €795 for October. Early booking discount of €50 for deposits of €100 paid before 31st January. Group leaders: Joan Ashbrook 087 7987682 and Tony Kelly 085 7535421

The **Kingscourt Parish Pilgrimage 2023** takes place from 23rd September to 30th September in honour of St Anticio to Sardinia. The cost, inclusive of return flights, half board, a schedule of religious services, three day trips and all entrance fees is €1,195 for all booking received before 17th February. Booking with Navan Travel at 046-9068600. Enquiries at Kingscourt Parish Office on 042-9667314

The 21st consecutive **Meath Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** takes place from 24th November to 2nd December. The cost is €2,095 and booking can be made with Navan Travel at 046-906800. Enquiries to Fr Gerry MacCormack, pilgrimage director at Kingscourt Parish Office on 042-9667314

Meath Alzheimer Cafés have returned to the Pastoral Centre in Dunshaughlin. The next Alzheimer Café is on Wednesday 1st February from 7 to 9pm. Guest speaker is Danielle Timmons, ASI Dementia Adviser for Meath. She will speak about "The Dementia Adviser Service". All families/carers and loved ones living with Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia are welcome. Tea, coffee, and scones will be served.