



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

30th August 2020

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 10.00pm. All are welcome.

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

We welcome Jack Colreavy, Rory Moore, Joe Hetherington, Lotti Tormey, Mia Ridgeway-Morton and Holly Duff into the Christian community. There were **baptised** recently.

The link for the Mass at 11.00am on Sunday 30th August is <https://youtu.be/l2bOS9pnjuo>

The link for the Mass at 11.00am on Sunday 6th September is <https://youtu.be/wDJ0ENrmQnY>

We wish to acknowledge and thank parishioners who have sent in the **blue and white envelopes** and to those who support the parish through the **standing orders**.

We appreciate your generosity and support at this difficult time.

Next Sunday is a **blue offering** day.

Confirmation

We welcome Bishop Deenihan to Ratoath this weekend when he will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation at Ceremonies on Saturday and Sunday.

There will be 8 ceremonies, five on Saturday and three on Sunday.

In order to comply with the Government guidelines and protocols at this time, the candidate will be accompanied only by his/ her parents and sponsor.

First Holy Communion

Next weekend we look forward to celebrating the First Holy Communion ceremonies for Ratoath Junior National School. There will be four ceremonies; one on Friday evening at 7.00pm and the other three on the Saturday at 10.00am; 11.30am and 1.00pm

Returning to School: Best wishes to the principals, staff, parents and children of our schools as they begin a new school year in the coming week. We will keep all them in our prayers this week, and we will remember in a special way, those who are going to school for the first time.

Interested in studying Theology in 2020? The one year, part-time Higher Diploma in Theological Studies at St Patrick's College, Maynooth is now offered as a "Blended Learning" programme. Closing date for applications extended to Friday 18th September 2020. For more information, please contact Barbara Mahon, Admissions & Marketing Officer at admissions@spcm.ie or see www.maynoothcollege.ie

30 Aug	Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	6 Sept	Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
7.00pm	Kathleen O'Connell (Month's Memory)	7.00pm	Ronan Cahill
9.00am		9.00am	
11.00am	Johnny Staunton and the deceased members of the family	11.00am	Ann, Aidan & Pat Murphy
12.15pm		12.15pm	Pauline Everard Angelo & David Mulvaney Denis & Breda Lane

Friday Mass for all those on the Parish List of the Dead

Some Guidance and Clarification in relation to attending Mass.

On Friday 3 July, the Government issued guidance in relation to places of worship.

The guidance increases, albeit with certain conditions, the number that may attend a church from 50 to whatever the capacity of the church is, provided that social distance is maintained.

In the briefing following this decision, it was noted that a church may have more than 50 people attending religious worship if social distance can be observed and if it can be divided into sections, each section having no more than 50 people and where each section has its own entrance/ exit.

The guidelines also mean that the number attending Funeral Masses also increases, to whatever is the capacity of the church, while maintaining social distance.

The Government document also states that congregations should be encouraged to wear facemasks and that the celebrant should wear a facemask for the distribution of Holy Communion.

Last week after the Government introduced new measures, the Irish Bishops received clarification that the situation regarding Religious Services in places of worship remains unchanged (i.e. pods of up to 50 with social distancing etc between pods and within pods. Each pod should have its own entrance/exit door).

Our parish church is subdivided with four distinct sections (**pods**) - the gallery; the family room; the seats on the right side of the main body of the church and the seats on the left side of the main body of the church.

Each section is allowed to have a maximum of 50 people, (except the family room) once social distancing is observed.

Each section (pod) has its own entrance and exit. It is important to observe social distancing at all time – in approaching and leaving the church and in the church building.

There should be no movement between the sections before, during or after Mass.

The HSE guidance states that you should wear a **face covering** in an enclosed indoor space with other people. Many parishioners now wear face coverings to Mass. We appreciate that some people are exempt for medical reasons but we encourage everyone to do their best, by wearing a face covering to keep each other safe.

Please use the **hand sanitizers** that are available in the church porches.

Holy Communion should be received in the hand.

Slow Me Down, Lord

Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind.

Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time.

Give me, amid the confusion of the day, the calmness of the everlasting hills.

Break the tensions of my nerves and muscles with the soothing music of the singing streams that live in my memory.

Help me to know the magical, restoring power of sleep.

Teach me the art of taking a minute vacations, of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to pat a dog, to read a few lines from a good book.

Slow me down, Lord, and inspire me to send my roots deep into the soil of life's enduring values that I may grow towards the stars of my greater destiny.

Meath Alzheimer Café: Meath Alzheimer Cafes are now being held on-line. The next Virtual Café will take place at 11:00 am on Wednesday September 2nd. Speaker is Rose Marie Murphy, RPN and Yoga Teacher, who will give a talk on 'How Yoga Can Improve Mental and Physical Health'.

All families/carers and loved ones living with Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia are welcome to join us.

If you wish to take part please email: meathvirtualcafe@alzheimier.ie and you will receive an invitation to attend.