



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

☎ 01-8256207 | ✉ ratoathparish@gmail.com | 🌐 www.ratoathparish.ie

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

5th March 2023

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 7.00pm

We welcome Emily Connolly into the Christian community. She was **baptised** recently.

First Confessions

During this coming week, the boys and girls who are in second class in Ratoath Junior NS; St Paul's NS and Rathbeggan NS will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

We are grateful to their teachers who have prepared the boys and girls for the sacrament.

We encourage all to make an effort during **Lent for prayer** by visiting the Blessed Sacrament for a period of time during Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays between 10.00am and 7.00pm in the family room of the church.

The **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed on the Fridays of Lent after the 9.45am Mass

Please bring home a **Trocaire box** for Lent, to support the **annual Lenten appeal**. With your support, Trocaire will continue to help bring lasting change to communities across the globe.

Special Collection for those affected by earthquake in Turkey and Syria:

This special collection, in response to the devastating earthquake in Turkey and Syria, will be taken up at all Masses **this weekend**. We will ask you to be generous for this appeal. The money will be sent to the Diocesan Office, which will then be forwarded to Trocaire who will work with Caritas in bringing relief to those who are in need.

We congratulate Bishop Michael Smith who celebrates the 60th Anniversary of his priestly Ordination on Thursday next 9th March.

A native of Oldcastle in County Meath, Bishop Michael Smith was born in 1940.

Following education at St Finian's College, Mullingar and the Pontifical Irish College, Rome, he was ordained a priest on 9th March 1963 in the Basilica of St. John Lateran by Cardinal Traglia, Cardinal-Bishop of Albano.

He was subsequently ordained an auxiliary Bishop of Meath in 1984 and coadjutor Bishop of Meath on 13th October 1988 and Bishop of Meath on 16th May 1990. Bishop Smith retired in 2018.

We give thanks for his prayerful witness, and his unwavering fidelity and service to the Church. May God continue to bless him with good health, a peaceful heart, and a cheerful spirit.

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| 5 March | Second Sunday of Lent | 12 March | Third Sunday of Lent |
| 7.00pm | Lily Mulvaney (Month's Memory) Paddy & Colette Devenney | 7.00pm | Dickie Sweeney |
| 9.00am | | 9.00am | |
| 11.00am | Peter Balfe | 11.00am | Michael Gilchrist |
| 12.15pm | Paddy Moore | 12.15pm | Irene Dunne Noel Ennis Seamus, Kit, Noel & Bridget Ennis Gertrude Keany |

Monday

Mel McHugo

Tuesday

John Mulhearn & James & Annie O'Brien

Wednesday

Michael, Margaret & Noel Blake

Friday

Dee Cusack

Lent – a time to rediscover the direction of life.

“Because in life’s journey, as in every journey, what really matters is not to lose sight of the goal. If what interests us as we travel, however, is looking at the scenery or stopping to eat, we will not get far. We should ask ourselves: On the journey of life, do I seek the way forward? Or am I satisfied with living in the moment and thinking only of feeling good, solving some problems and having fun? What is the path? Is it the search for health, which many today say comes first but which eventually passes? Could it be possessions and wellbeing?

But we are not in the world for this. Return to me, says the Lord. To me.

The Lord is the goal of our journey in this world. The direction must lead to him.” *Pope Francis*

Accord Navan’s **Marriage Preparation Course** dates 2023.

Couples can book here: <https://www.courses.accord.ie/booking/listing/meath>

Legion of Mary meetings are now on Mondays at 7.00 pm in the parish pastoral centre.

New members are very welcome. Contact May 087 133 4872

St. Mary's Parish Drogheda is organising a Golf Classic to raise funds for our Roof Restoration Fund. This event will be held in Laytown/Bettystown Golf Club on the 28th April. All are welcome.

For details contact Fr John Conlon stmarysdrogheda@gmail.com or Joe Harlin jpharlin53@gmail.com

Shekinah Blended Learning Courses

Spirituality (Applied Youth Ministry). Accredited by St. Patrick’s Pontifical University.

Diploma can be done over 1 or 2 years. Duration of courses: August 26th 2023– April 13th 2024.

Closing date for applications: July 24th

Diploma: 17 Days – 11 on Zoom & 6 in Maynooth.

Certificate: 10.5 Days –6.5 on Zoom & 4 in Maynooth.

Suitable for Parents, Teachers, School Chaplains and Youth Workers in parish ministry.

For further information and application form see www.shekinah.ie

Parish Youth Leader Vacancy

Currently Maynooth Parish (www.maynoothparish.org) is seeking to employ a Parish Youth Leader to lead its youth ministry and work with young people. The role will involve the resourcing, delivery, and support of a youth ministry programme in the Parish including the parish schools, parish groups as well as diocesan bodies with a focus on building capacity in the local context.

The successful candidate will engage with the development of youth and pastoral programmes as well as Sacramental preparation coordination. The candidate will actively promote and encourage the involvement of young people in the life of the local parish community.

The salary and conditions will be commensurate with the role, and experience, of the candidate.

To receive an application please contact Martina at the Parish Office. Telephone: 01- 6293018 Email: maynoothparishoffice@gmail.com The closing date and time for completed applications is March 21st at 4pm.

Light the Fire 2023: The Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal invite you to join them in Slane on St. Patrick’s Day at 5:00 p.m. Vespers on the Hill of Slane and Rosary procession to the Church for 6:00 pm Mass in St. Patrick’s Church followed by Eucharistic Adoration. Main celebrant: Bishop Denis Nulty. Event details: www.franciscansisterscfr.com/st-anthony or 041 983 0441.

Are you looking for a way to contribute towards making Ireland a more inclusive society?

Could you give a couple of hours a week to helping migrants practise their English and feel welcome in our community? Would you consider being a voluntary tutor for a **conversational English Class** that is about to begin in Ratoath village? Resources and support will be provided.

If you are interested, please contact Noel at 0892487364 or email outreach@cultur.ie .

These classes are supported by Cultúr Migrant Centre (cultur.ie).