



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

26th July 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.

Mass on **Sunday 26th July** at 11.00am will be streamed. The link is <https://youtu.be/cbDW2FLfNGk>

Mass on **Sunday 2nd August** at 11.00am will be streamed. The link is <https://youtu.be/gWOywyZZd-s>

Eucharistic Adoration has resumed on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 10.00pm

We welcome Emily Keogh, Bonnie Furlong, Mary Quinn, Mary O'Neill and Jane Jordan into the Christian community. They were **baptised** recently.

Youth 2000 Summer E-Festival 14th -16th August. Register free on www.youth2000.ie.

This year the content will be online, with as much as possible live-streamed and interactive.

Baptisms have resumed. Baptisms will be held at different times on Saturday 1st, 15th & 22nd August. Those who wish to have their child baptised in the month of August should contact the parish office and we will explain the protocols that are in place.

26 July	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	2 Aug	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7.00pm	Patsy, Rita & Agnes McCabe Patrick & Wardy O'Sullivan	7.00am	
9.00am		9.00am	
11.00am	Evelyn & Colm Harpur	11.00am	Molly & Frank Maher
12.15pm	John Kellett (Junior) Sarah Browne Michael & Louise Kelly	12.15pm	Dee Fairbrother (Month's Memory) Conor Fogarty Jackie O'Sullivan

Monday Deirdre Fairbrother and Fr John Cogan

Thursday Eugene Gleeson

Safe Return to Sunday Masses.

We are delighted to welcome our parishioners as we gradually return to the public celebration of Mass and the sacraments. The normal schedule of Masses has resumed. It is an opportunity for us to gather again as a people of God to worship our Lord and Saviour and to receive the Eucharist – the Bread of Life. People have come to the realisation that “watching Mass” is very different from being physically present and participating in the celebration with other members of their family and the community. For all its advantages and immediacy, the virtual is no substitute for physical presence with the assembled community.

We are grateful to all who have volunteered to assist us so that parishioners can safely return to our church and who are there to see that we follow the guidelines that have been laid down and we ask you to follow their directions.

The Government document states that in indoor setting the wearing of face masks should be encouraged.

Instructions will be given at Masses as how to approach for the reception of Holy Communion. Holy Communion should be received in the hand.

Collection baskets will not be passed along during Mass, but collectors will collect at the entrance to the church/ or collection baskets will be placed near the doors of the church.

It is important to observe social distancing at all time – in approaching and leaving the church and in the church building.

Reflection on today's Gospel

Over the past few weeks, we have been reading Matthew 13, with its parables on the Kingdom of Heaven. Matthew uses this phrase to describe what our world might be like if we really lived like Jesus. This vision is not one focused on power, even though the word “kingdom” might be misleading. It is more a web of relationships.

Like the seed parables show us, God's kingdom grows quietly, in unexpected places; like seeds, it sometimes grows in the darkness, unseen.

Today's parable focuses on treasure, something very precious. When we are obsessed by finding something, it consumes us. We will put all our resources, time or money, into finding it. In this parable, Jesus urges us to strive for the ultimate treasure i.e. God.

During the Covid 19 crises, many people have been thinking about what is most important in their lives. A break from the “rat race” forced all of us to slow down, to step back, to pull the emergency brake. We saw who the real heroes in our society are. We witnessed many acts of kindness and community spirit. We stepped back, paused. No doubt, things will not be the same again after this pandemic. But hopefully we will have awakened to what our “treasure” really is. *from Intercom*

“Historically, pandemics have forced humans to break with the past and imagine their world anew. This one is no different. It is a portal, a gateway between one world and the next. We can choose to walk through it, dragging the carcasses of our prejudice and hatred, our avarice, our data banks and dead ideas, our dead rivers and smoky skies behind us. Or we can walk through lightly, with little luggage, ready to imagine another world”.
from “The Pandemic is a Portal” (The Financial Times)

A Prayer to St Marta (Feast day on 29th July)

O blessed Saint Marta, friend and servant of our Saviour, as you were anxious and troubled about many things, I too am troubled by --- (Mention your concerns).

Dearest saint, intercede for me with your heavenly Host. Help me to overcome my distractions and worries, to listen to His Word and to be present to Him this day.

Pray for me that I may grow in faith, hope and love and that Jesus who sat at your table will hear me and grant me a place at the banquet of eternal life. Amen.

A Prayer of St Ignatius of Loyola (Feast day on 31st July)

O Christ Jesus, when all is darkness and we feel our weakness and helplessness, give us the sense of Your presence, Your love and Your Strength.

Help us to have perfect trust in Your protecting love and strengthening power, so that nothing may frighten or worry us,

for, living close to You,

we shall see Your hand, Your purpose, Your will through all things.

Job Vacancy – School Wardens Ratoath and Slane. Salary Scale €13.89 -€15.77 per hour (EL 08/19) Application Form & Information Booklet are available on www.meath.ie/CountyCouncil/JobVacancies/ The closing date for submission of applications is Wednesday 5th August 2020 at 5.00pm. Meath County Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

We wish to acknowledge and thank parishioners who have sent in the **blue and white envelopes** to the parish office. We appreciate your generosity and support at this difficult time.