



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

4th December 2022

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 7.00pm

Please **pray for the repose of the souls** Nancy Ralph (Curragha Road) and Mariam Neenan, mother of Alan Neenan (Clonkeen) who died recently. May they rest in peace.

We welcome Zoey Howley, Fiada Gorman, Tadhg Colgan, James Sheridan, Phoebe Boland and Cian and Charles Green into the Christian Community. They were **baptised** recently.

Thursday is the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**.

There will be a Mass at 11.00am and 7.00pm on the day.

White Envelope Collection (Development Fund) €2,317.90 and **Blue Envelope** €1,115.00

Many thanks for your continued support and generosity.

Parish Envelopes – can you help? In the next few weeks the parish envelopes will be distributed and we thank and are grateful to all who assist in leaving boxes of envelopes at the door of houses. We are looking for a few more volunteers to help with this work. If you can spare about an hour in the next few weeks, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Synod 2021-2024: During Lent, many people in the Diocese of Meath took part in synodal conversations. The Church now invites us to consider how our voices have been heard, and how our voices resonate and/or diverge with the voices of others across the world. A working meeting will be held in **Dunshaughlin Parish Centre on Saturday 10th December from 2:00pm to 5:00pm** at which we will read the working document “*Enlarge the space of your tent*” in conjunction with our diocesan and national syntheses. All are welcome to participate but please note that this is a working meeting which requires preparatory work in advance.

Anyone interested in participating must register at meathsynodalpathway@gmail.com.

An invitation to **young adults** (18-40 years) to prepare for the joys of Christmas with a prayerful **retreat** at Dalgan Park, Navan. 16th to 18th December Friday evening - Sunday after lunch).

Cost: Donation (full board, own room). Contact: Sr. Úna 090 6481666 or Michael 086 2453123.

Email: youthretreats@gmail.com

4 Dec	Second Sunday of Advent	11 Dec	Third Sunday of Advent
7.00pm	Sergei Buga Alan Rafferty	7.00pm	Margaret Ward
9.00am	Dan & Joan Moore	9.00am	
11.00am	Frank & Molly Maher Kathleen, Billy & Liam Lynch Joe Keogh	11.00am	Ben & Vonnie Cullen Richard King & Bridget Wall
12.15pm	Sean Eiffe Eamonn Coyne Steve Lynch Teresa Joyce	12.15pm	Frank Goodman Angela Walsh Teresa Joyce

Monday	Special Intention & Ella and Joe Kennedy & the deceased members of the family	Wednesday	Nora Wilson
Tuesday	Special Intention		
Thursday	Christy & Kathleen Martin & Moira Edwards (11.00am) Christopher & Kathleen Hartford (7.00pm)		

SVP Annual Christmas Appeal

The **St. Vincent de Paul Annual Church Gate Collection** will take place next Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th December. We would like to thank you for your generosity to this worthy cause.

As it comes into its busiest two months of the year, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SVP) is receiving an average of 800 requests for help every day.

Launching this year's SVP Annual Appeal entitled "Impossible Choices", Rose McGowan, SVP National President, said that despite the additional cost-of-living support payments made by the Government, there are many people who are struggling to meet basic family expenses.

"Last year, there were a record-breaking 191,000 requests for help received at the national and regional offices. That figure looks likely to be exceeded this year, with 168,000 requests already received to the end of October, a 19% increase on the same time in 2021.

The cost of living measures such as the one-off Fuel Allowance, double social welfare, child benefit and state pension payments will help low-income households during what will be a very difficult winter, but these measures are only temporary. The SVP is very worried that many of these families will continue to struggle into next year.

In the coming months, the cost of living crisis will hit different households in different ways, particularly with the rising costs of food, energy and housing. Add in Christmas costs, and you can see how difficult life will be for those on fixed incomes, whether that income comes through the State or from low-paid employment.

Those hardest hit will include one parent-families, low-income workers; households on fixed social welfare incomes; low-income households in rural areas; people with disabilities and their carers. They are all facing impossible choices this Christmas and into the new year. That is why we are seeking donations to help families pay for food, heat their homes and ensure their children get a decent Christmas.

We are asking people to please donate whatever they can spare at either a local collection, online or over the phone to help people who are struggling now and will continue to struggle through this winter and into the new year."

Pope Francis on Prayer

"Let us think of a house plant. We have to water it consistently every day. We cannot soak it and then leave it without water for weeks. Even more so with prayer. We cannot live only with strong moments of prayer or occasional intense encounters and then go into hibernation. Our faith will dry up. We need the daily water of prayer, we need time dedicated to God, so that he can enter into our time, into our lives; consistent moments in which we open our hearts to him so that he can daily pour out on us love, peace, joy, strength, hope, thus nourishing our faith."

From talk given by Pope Francis on 16th October

Legion of Mary Reunion: All active and auxiliary members of the Legion of Mary are invited to an enjoyable "get-together" in Dunshaughlin Pastoral Centre on Sunday 11th December from 3.00pm to 6.00pm. Please contact Mary on 087 1334872 if you can come.

Christmas Mass Bouquets are available from the Parish Office.

Preparations for Marriage: Accord:

Couples can book: www.courses.accord.ie/booking/listing/meath