



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

6th March 2022

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 7.00pm.

Please pray for **the repose of the soul** of Brian Johnson (Milltree Park) who died during the week. May he rest in peace.

Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

On the Fridays of Lent, the Stations of the Cross will be held after the 9.45am Mass and Eucharistic Adoration will take place on Fridays from 5.00pm to 8.00pm

Trocaire: Please bring home a Trocaire box this Lent and support the Trocaire Lenten Appeal. Your donation this Lent will help build a lasting, sustainable future in over 20 countries that Trocaire personnel are working in. Thank you for the hope you bring.

Ukrainian Refugees Appeal

Supplies are being collected for a 40ft Container kindly being organised to go to the Ukrainian/Polish border by a local logistics company (Porterstown Lane area). Donations of supplies would be very welcome by 22nd March. Please call or text 0872117265 (Anne) or 0863552348 (Barbara) for details.

Lodged on 3rd March to the **Blue Envelope** Collection €2,785 and to the **White Envelope** Collection €885. Many thanks for your continued support and generosity.

First Confessions

In this first week of Lent, the boys and girls in Second Class in Ratoath Junior NS; Rathbeggan NS and St Paul's NS will come to the church for their First Confessions during school time.

Cemetery Sunday 29th May

It will be three years since we gathered for our annual Cemetery Sunday. So this year we ask you to make a special effort to come on 29th May when as a community we remember all those who are buried in the parish cemetery, recalling in particular all those who have died in the past three years. We will begin our prayers in the church where we will pray the evening prayer of the dead at 3.00pm and then we will walk to the cemetery for the rosary and blessing of the graves.

Please pass on the date to family members and those who have loved ones buried in Ratoath Cemetery

6 March	First Sunday of Lent	13 Mar	Second Sunday of Lent
7.00pm	Mary Gannon (Month's Memory)	7.00pm	Thomas & Mary Wall
9.00am		9.00am	
11.00am	Paddy Moore	11.00am	Sheila Naughton Vincent McAuley Leigha & Eddie McKeon
12.15pm	Cepta & Russell McNabb	12.15pm	Nicky Sherry (Month's Memory) Seamus, Kit, Bridget & Noel Ennis John Kellett Irene Dunne Baby Marcus Crawley

Monday Mass of Peace for the People of Ukraine

Wednesday Margaret Hughes (Month's Memory)

Thursday Mary & Liam Corcoran & Rita Cusack

Friday

Deirdre & Martin Cusack

The Synod and the Ratoath Deanery

Pope Francis has asked every diocese to provide opportunities for parishioners to meet together to share their hopes and dreams for the church, drawing on their faith and experiences.

The diocese has decided to involve all our parishioners in this process during the Season of Lent.

All parishioners in the Ratoath Deanery (which includes our parish) are welcome to attend one of the Synod meetings to be held in the **Parish Hall in Ashbourne** on **Tuesday 15th March at 8pm** or **Tuesday 22nd March at 8pm**. Each Meeting will last about one hour.

People who are active in parish life are encouraged to attend one of the consultation meetings.

On **Tuesday 15th March at 8.00pm** those involved in the liturgical life of the parish (e.g. readers, extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, choir members, organists, stewards/ collectors, sacristans etc) and those involved in prayer and apostolic groups (Society of St Vincent de Paul, Legion of Mary, Apostolate of Eucharistic Adoration, Teams of Our Lady, Meals on Wheels etc) are invited to attend.

On **Tuesday 22nd March at 8.00pm** those involved in the administration of parish life (e.g. parish staff, members of Parish Pastoral Councils, members of Parish Finance Committees, members of Baptism Teams, Safeguarding Representatives, counters, etc) and those involved in schools (e.g. pupils/students, teachers, school staff, members of parents' associations, members of BoMs, etc) are invited to attend.

However if you can't make the night that your group is assigned, please come on the other night.

And **most importantly**, if you are not a member of any of the above groups, you are most welcome and we want you to come along. The meeting will benefit from your presence and participation.

Your opinion on where you would like us to go in the future will be welcomed and respected.

And please feel free to bring someone along with you. **Everyone is welcome.**

The purpose of the meetings is to hear your views on the following questions.

1. What is your experience of belonging to the Church?
2. How can our church become a welcoming, belonging and inclusive community?
3. What opportunities are there within your parish for you to speak freely, to be listened to and to be heard?
4. How can new opportunities be found to enable people to become more active in our parish?
5. How can we find new ways to reach out to everyone, especially to those who do not practise their faith or feel distant from parish life?

A Mass of Thanksgiving will take place in **Ashbourne Church on Tuesday 29th March at 8pm**.

Everyone will be welcome to come to this Mass, asking God to bless the parishes in the Ratoath deanery as we set out to discover God's will for the church and how best to strengthen the faith in our parishes.

Pope Francis – Prayer for Ukraine and for Peace

“In recent days we have been shaken by something tragic: war. Time and again we have prayed that this road would not be taken. And let us not stop talking; indeed, let us pray to God more intensely, for peace in Ukraine. Those who wage war forget humanity. They do not start from the people, they do not look at the real life of people, but place partisan interests and power before all else. They trust in the diabolical and perverse logic of weapons, which is the furthest from the logic of God. And they distance themselves from ordinary people, who want peace, and who – the ordinary people – are the real victims in every conflict, who pay for the follies of war with their own skin. I think of the elderly, of those who seek refuge in these times, of mothers fleeing with their children... They are brothers and sisters for whom it is urgent to open humanitarian corridors, and who must be welcomed. With a heart broken by what is happening in Ukraine – I repeat: put down your weapons! God is with the peacemakers, not with those who use violence”.