



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

12th September 2021

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 7.00pm.

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

First Communion Days

We congratulate the boys and girls of Ratoath Junior National School who received their First Holy Communion at ceremonies at 10am; 11.30am; 1.00pm and 2.30pm this Saturday.

We thank their parents who have supported them on their faith journey this year.

We are also indebted to the principal and the teaching staff for their work with the pupils in guiding and supporting the students in what was a very difficult year.

Thanks too to Larry, Deirdre and Eamonn who provided the music for the ceremonies which greatly enhanced the celebration on the day.

Next **Saturday 18th September** the boys and girls of St Paul's National School will receive their First Holy Communion at the ceremonies at 10am; 11.30am and 1.00pm to be followed at 2.30pm by the boys and girls of Rathbegan National School.

New Guidelines for Church

1. Churches can now operate to **50% of capacity** for all ceremonies.
So all **Masses, funerals and all other services** can operate at 50% capacity, except in the case of marriages, the limit of which remains at 100 persons until 22nd October.
2. **Masks** must continue to be worn.
3. Please continue to use the **hand sanitizers** that are available in the church porches.
4. For the **distribution of Holy Communion**, parishioners can approach the altar from the central aisle from both sides and return to your seat by the aisles near the walls, as in pre-covid times.
5. **Holy Communion** should be received in the hand.
6. All **signs**, restricting access to every second pew have been **removed**, and parishioners can sit in any pew of their choosing. The removal of barriers allows parishioners to occupy each pew but we would suggest that the capacity of each pew be reduced to half.

Thanks to all our parishioners for their cooperation with the new guidelines.

12 Sept	Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	19 Sept	Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7.00pm	Thomas, Kathleen & Martin Madden	7.00pm	Ray Fox (Month's Memory) Jim & Lydia Everard Peter Murray John & Maura Foley
9.00am	Kathleen Gunn	9.00am	
11.00am	Terry O'Sullivan	11.00am	
12.15pm	James Gorman (Month's Memory) Joseph & Mary White	12.15pm	

Monday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday

Patricia McAuley
Jim & Jimmy Landy
For all those buried in Ratoath Cemetery
Kathleen and Jimmy Cusack & the deceased members of the family

Tuesday Special Intention

Reflection on Sunday's Gospel

from Intercom

In the second reading from St James we read, "What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith by do not have the words?" And in our Gospel reading we here: 'The way you think is not God's way but man's...".

These are challenging texts which remind us to reflect on what path we are walking as followers of Jesus. Jesus' path was radically different to what people of his time expected of a Messiah. It was a path that would lead to much sacrifice. Being a Christian today means following Jesus' example, being counter-cultural and making sacrifices for the greater good.

Today is also the second Sunday of creation, a time we are called to explore our relationship with nature, God's creation. Pope Francis reminds us in *Laudato Si – On Care for our Common Home* that 'We are not God'. He challenges us to re-examine our vocation to care for creation.

In the past we misinterpreted God's words in Genesis to mean that we could have dominion over all of creation, own it and plunder it for own use. Pope Francis invites us to explore our role as cares of creation and reminds us that the very first commandment we were given to be protectors of this beautiful world.

Yet, we know the earth cries out to us that we are living through the sixth mass extinction of life on this earth due to human activity. Ecosystems are collapsing; biodiversity is in crisis.

Laudato Si is a hope-filled, document, reminding us that we set out on a new path, of turning things around.

The Season of Creation

The season of creation is a global ecumenical season which runs from the 1st September until the Feast of St Francis of Assisi, 4th October. Below is a prayer for our earth, written by Pope Francis in his encyclical on the environment, *Laudato Si*

A Prayer for our Earth.

All powerful God, you are present in the universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with your peace that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognise that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey toward your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle, for justice, love and peace.

Standing Orders for August €3,372.72

€1,805 lodged to the **blue envelope** account on 9th September.

Many thanks for your continued support and generosity.

FIT Pre-Tech Apprenticeship and FIT Advanced Manufacturing starting soon in Dunshaughlin.

Fully funded with hands on practice, 39 weeks full-time.

If interested please contact 0879097605/rosemarybrady@fit.ie for more details.