



# 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

11<sup>th</sup> September 2022

**Eucharistic Adoration** on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 7.00pm.

We welcome Agatha Adaovits, Rian Murphy, Chloe Cummins, Sophie Bowler, Ella Connors and Aidan McAuley into the Christian community. They were **baptised** recently.

This weekend (10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September) the **church gate collection** is in aid of the **Parish Altar Society**. This collection is used by the altar society for flowers for the altar, linen for the church, cleaning equipment etc and other items in connection with the various ceremonies etc

**White Envelopes** (Development Fund Account) €1,855.50

**Blue Envelopes** €2,801.84

**Standing Orders** for August €3,496.28 Many thanks for your continued support and generosity.

## Telegram from Pope Francis to King Charles III on the death of Queen Elizabeth II

“Deeply saddened to learn of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, I offer heartfelt condolences to Your Majesty, the Members of the Royal Family, the People of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth. I willingly join all who mourn her loss in praying for the late Queen’s eternal rest, and in paying tribute to her life of unstinting service to the good of the Nation and the Commonwealth, her example of devotion to duty, her steadfast witness of faith in Jesus Christ and her firm hope in his promises. Commending her noble soul to the merciful goodness of our Heavenly Father, I assure Your Majesty of my prayers that Almighty God will sustain you with his unfailing grace as you now take up your high responsibilities as King. Upon you and all who cherish the memory of your late mother, I invoke an abundance of divine blessings as a pledge of comfort and strength in the Lord.”

## Altar Servers

As the next school year begins, we are looking for new altar servers and we want to welcome back our existing altar servers. The role of the altar server is very important as they give valuable assistance each weekend at our Masses. Becoming an altar server is a good way for children to be involved in the Church. We are now recruiting altar servers from children in 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes.

If parents are willing to give consent, we ask you to come to the sacristy after any Mass at the weekend and pick up a consent form.

11 Sept	Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	18 Sept	Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7.00pm	Patrick Doody Ronan Cahill Charlie Synnott Terry O’Sullivan	7.00pm	Eileen Shevlin (Months Memory) P. J. Moran Kathleen Cusack & deceased members of the family
9.00am	Kathleen Gunn Joe Burke Special Intention	9.00am	
11.00am	Angela Kirwan (Month’s Memory) Paddy & Minnie O’Leary	11.00am	Sean Woods (Months Memory) Liam Woods Thomas & Maria Nulty Kathy & Jack Nulty
12.15pm	Jack Foley Joe Keogh	12.15pm	Michael Gleeson

Monday Special intention

Wednesday Helen Dunleavy (Birthday Remembrance)

Thursday

Special Intention

## Excerpt from the Homily of Pope Francis last Sunday on the occasion of the Beatification of Pope John Paul I

Following Jesus does not mean entering a court or participating in a triumphal procession, nor does it mean receiving life insurance. On the contrary, it also means "carrying the cross" (*Lk 14:27*): like him, to take on one's own burdens and the burdens of others, to make life a gift, not a possession, to spend it imitating the generous and merciful love that he has for us.

These are choices that commit the totality of existence; for this reason Jesus desires that the disciple put nothing before this love, not even the dearest affections and the greatest goods.

But to do this we must look to him more than to ourselves, to learn love, to draw it from the Crucified One. There we see that love that gives itself to the end, without measure and without boundaries. The measure of love is to love without measure.

We ourselves— said Pope Luciani — "are the object of a timeless love on the part of God" (*Angelus*, 10 September 1978). Timeless: it never eclipses our lives, shines on us and illuminates even the darkest nights. And then, looking at the Crucified One, we are called to live up to that love: to purify ourselves from our distorted ideas about God and from our closures, to love him and others, in the Church and in society, even those who do not think like us, even enemies.

To love: even if it costs the cross of sacrifice, silence, incomprehension, loneliness, being hindered and persecuted. To love in this way, even at this price, because — Blessed John Paul I said — if you want to kiss Jesus crucified, "you cannot help but bend over the cross and let yourself be stung by some thorn of the crown, which is on the head of the Lord" (*General Audience*, 27 September 1978).

Love to the end, with all its thorns: not half-done things, accommodations or quiet living. If we do not aim high, if we do not risk, if we are content with a faith in rosewater, we are — Jesus says — like those who want to build a tower but do not calculate well the means to do so; he "lays the foundations" and then "is unable to finish the work" (v. 29). If, for fear of getting lost, we give up giving ourselves, we leave things unfinished: relationships, work, the responsibilities entrusted to us, dreams, even faith. And so we end up living halfway — and how many people live in half, we too often have the temptation to live halfway — without ever taking the decisive step — this means living in half — without taking off, without risking for the good, without really committing ourselves to others. Jesus asks us this: live the Gospel and you will live life, not halfway but to the end. Live the Gospel, live life, without compromise.

Brothers, sisters, the new Blessed lived like this: in the joy of the Gospel, without compromise, loving to the end. He embodied the poverty of the disciple, which is not only to detach oneself from material goods, but above all to overcome the temptation to put one's own self at the center and seek one's own glory. On the contrary, following the example of Jesus, he was a meek and humble shepherd. He considered himself as the dust on which God had deigned to write (cf. A. Luciani/John Paul I, *Opera omnia*, Padua 1988, vol. II, 11). Therefore he said: "The Lord has so much recommended: be humble. Even if you have done great things, say: we are useless servants" (*General Audience*, 6 September 1978).

With a smile, Pope Luciani managed to transmit the goodness of the Lord. A Church with a happy face, a serene face, a smiling face, a Church that never closes its doors, that does not exacerbate hearts, that does not complain and does not harbour resentment, is not angry, is not impatient, does not present itself in a grim way, does not suffer from nostalgia for the past falling into backwards.

Let us pray to this father and brother of ours, let us ask that he obtain for us "the smile of the soul", the transparent one, the one that does not deceive: the smile of the soul. Let us ask, in his words, what he himself used to ask: "Lord, take me as I am, with my defects, with my shortcomings, but make me become as you desire me" (*General Audience*, 13 September 1978). Amen.