



# Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

12<sup>th</sup> June 2022

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

There will be no 12.15pm Mass for the months of July and August.

The Sunday Mass at 12.15pm will resume on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

Congratulations to Sean Conway and Rebecca Smith who were **married** last weekend.

We welcome Ethan O'Mairtin, Hayley Browne, Sophia Reilly-Buga and Frankie Curtis into the Christian community. They were **baptised** recently.

Please **pray for the repose of the soul** of James Toole (Lagore Road) who died during the week. May he rest in peace.

**White Envelopes** (Development Fund) €1,516.20 and **Blue envelopes** €969

**Standing Orders** for May €3,524.38

Many thanks for your continued support and generosity.

This Sunday (Trinity Sunday) is a **blue offering** day.

## Prayer to St Anthony of Padua –Feast Day Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June

O Holy St Anthony gentlest of saints, your love for God and charity for His creatures, made you worthy, when on earth, to possess miraculous powers. Encouraged by this thought, I implore you to obtain for me (*request*).

O gentle and loving St Anthony, whose heart was ever full of human sympathy, whisper my petition into the ears of the sweet infant Jesus, who love to be folded in your arms.

The gratitude of my heart will ever be yours. Amen

12 June	Feast of the Holy Trinity	19 June	Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
7.00pm	Thomas, Kathleen & Martin Madden Bobby, Michael & Annie Walls The deceased members of the Doran Family May Hessman	7.00pm	Mary & James O'Neill
9.00am		9.00am	Patrick O'Riordan
11.00am		11.00am	
12.15pm	John Purcell & the deceased members of the family	12.15pm	Bernard Fisher Peg & Kevin White

Monday      Jamie Foy & Callum Shaw

Tuesday     Alice & Michael Hatch

Wednesday   Pa & Julia Donnelly & the deceased members of the family  
May & Sean Duffy & Sheila & Jerry Sexton

Thursday    Special Intention

Friday        Patrick O'Riordan & Geraldine Ryan

## **Universal Synod 2021-2023**

Following the engagement by so many people across the Diocese, the diocesan synthesis has been completed and will now be submitted to the National Steering Committee. The synthesis can be viewed on [www.dioceseofmeath.ie](http://www.dioceseofmeath.ie) Thanks to all who took part in the synodal conversations during Lent and to all who completed questionnaires and made submissions.

Below is the second extract of the synthesis.

### **Excerpt from the Synodal Synthesis for the Diocese of Meath (part two)**

II. PARTICIPATION: Many respondents voiced positive experiences of participating in various parish groups and ministries. However, there were also many respondents who didn't feel they could participate or speak freely in their parish.

II.i. Faith-Discussion and Church Teaching: Some experience the parish as a service dispenser of spiritual goods much like a shopping centre is for material provisions. In this view parishioners are passive recipients. There is very little opportunity for lay people to engage in parish-based forums that provide the opportunity to freely and without fear ask questions and engage in discussion on topics of Faith or raise issues of concern to the parish. .... A number of respondents raised questions regarding the availability of the Sacraments to divorced spouses in second relationships, calling for clarity on the Church's position on same-sex unions. There were calls for the ordination of women, married clergy, and the word "disordered" to be removed from the Catechism of the Catholic Church in relation to the inclination that gives rise to same-sex attraction.

II.ii. Youth: Very many respondents, as parents and grandparents lamented the inability of our Church to engage young people, particularly teenagers and young adults. Many feel they did their best to pass on the Faith to their children yet see little or no fruit for their efforts. This was highlighted as a huge challenge for the future.

II.iii. Pastoral Councils: There was mixed views on the potential of parish councils to contribute to the renewal of our parishes. Comments varied from, "parish councils are a rubber stamp for the PP, to give the appearance of parishioner participation" to views of a parish council as an effective body, co-responsible for the parish with the priest. Parish councils should be representative of the parish and not just selected by the parish priest. "It is essential that PPC's are directed towards Evangelisation and not just administration".

II.iv. Perceived Clericalism The feedback indicated a strong sense that there is a long way to go to undo the mistakes of the past and move away from a perceived clericalism. The delegates were moved by the testimonies of some respondents who described painful experiences of abuse, betrayal, and exploitation.

On a more positive note, many highlighted the need to build on the religious sense that is expressed by people. More attention needs to be given to the leadings of the Holy Spirit and less on the desire to control every outcome. For example, because the Mass is the centre of the Christian life, we often measure the quality of parish participation by Mass attendance.

But other Church-based events and celebrations such as Cemetery Sunday have enormous appeal, suggesting that the Church could identify what is working and build on that. Other suggestions included the idea of setting up a prayer corner/board in churches where people could ask for prayer and intercede for others by writing their request and attaching it to the board.

Parish leadership could actively identify and approach parishioners who possess obvious gifts and talents that would be of service in the parish; a purely volunteering method often doesn't attract the best suited people.

II.v. The Synodal Process Many respondents expressed disappointment that the synodal deanery meetings were only attended by the committed, but a large number were also grateful for the process and expressly remarked how the meetings represented the first time that their views and experience of Church were canvassed.