



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

25th October 2020

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 10.00pm. Suspended.

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

Please **pray for the repose of the souls** of Irene O'Leary (Foxbrook) and Dick Donnelly (St Oliver's Park) who died during the week. May they rest in peace.

Annual Mass of Remembrance for all those who have died in the past 12 months – Sunday 1st November

This year, the month of November, in which we traditionally **remember the dead** and pray for the bereaved, will be particularly poignant.

We are especially mindful in 2020 of those grieving families, who, because of restrictions, have been unable to experience the customary spiritual and community supports which are so much part of our Irish tradition.

On Sunday 1st November at the 11.00am Mass, the beginning of the Month of the Holy Souls, we will celebrate our Annual Mass for all those who have died, remembering in a special way all those who have died since our last Remembrance Sunday in 2019.

We have sent a letter to families who were bereaved this year to let them know about this Mass. While we realise that bereaved families cannot be physically present for this Mass, we hope that families can link into our streamed Mass. The link will be found on the parish website www.ratoathparish.ie.

We hope that this Mass will offer consolation and hope to families who have had to bury loved one in very difficult circumstance and to assure them that they are in our prayers.

List of the Dead sheets are available at the back of the church. Completed lists can be left into the parish office, preferably before 2nd November, the Feast of All Souls. The church in its pilgrim members, from the very earliest days of the Christian religion has honoured with great respect the memory of the dead. And belief in the resurrection from the dead is centre to our faith.

“It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins”

25 Oct	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	1 Nov	All Saints Remembrance Sunday
11.00am	Greg Campbell Anthony John & Mary O'Boyle Michael Maher Mary & John Sheerin Anne Alford	11.00am	John McCarthy Sean Glynn Jim Simpson Breege McIntyre & the deceased members of the family Aggie & Anthony Donohoe Kathleen & Jim McGuire Alice, Jack, John, Bill & Dick Mannering Seamus Ennis

The following
Wednesday
Friday

Masses will be said by Fr Gerry in private for the following intentions
Tom & Ciss Hynes & the deceased members of the family
Des Crofton

Gospel Reflection

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul ...and your neighbour as yourself”.

Love is the greatest commandment and this is a radical statement. We cannot separate love of God from love of neighbour; they are like two sides of a coin; they only work together.

If we do not treat others with compassion, then how can we say we love God?

Jesus often spoke about approaching the altar whilst holding a grudge against someone and continuously challenged those who were hypocrites.

Those critical of social justice movements in the church often say that we should not be involved in “social work”. But this is exactly what we must do because this is how we love God, by loving our neighbour who is suffering, who is oppressed, who is in pain.

We can love God and love people, there does not have to be a dichotomy.

There is a beautiful practice in India of using the mystical phrase “Namaste” in greetings, which means “the Divine in me greets the Divine in you”. Usually this is accompanied by a deep bow towards the person. How wonderful it would be to really see God present in each other and, more importantly, in those that society would rather cast aside. In this way we true to the greatest commandment.

from Intercom

All Masses are suspended except for funerals and weddings, where only 25 people are permitted to attend. Baptisms are also cancelled. The church will remain open during the day for private prayer and we do encourage parishioners to call in to pray.

It is good to keep up the rhythm of our prayer in these days of anxiety and worry for so many.

The 11.00am Sunday Mass will be streamed and the link can be found on the parish website

www.ratoathparish.ie

Mass Intentions: During level 5 of the government framework for living with Covid 19, the intentions that were scheduled for the next number of Sundays will now be offered at the 11.00am streamed Mass, unless advised otherwise by families.

There is an **online donation facility** on the Parish Website – www.ratoathparish.ie

Pope Francis, in *Fratelli Tutti*, presents the example of the Good Samaritan and urges us to draw close to the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters throughout the world. We are conscious that the pandemic has seriously impacted the livelihoods of many Irish families. The plight of poor and homeless people and the needs of our elderly and vulnerable have been thrown into stark relief.

The pandemic has also heightened our consciousness of suffering further afield.

The pandemic is a global phenomenon. It has impacted most severely on people around the world who are already seriously disadvantaged in terms of poverty and lack of access to healthcare.

Although we are faced with difficult challenges in our own lives and our own land, let us not forget the need for solidarity with all our brothers and sisters who are suffering throughout the world.

The courage, compassion and generosity of Irish people during the pandemic – especially that of our health workers, carers, priests and others working in essential services – has been uplifting and inspiring.

In this mission month of October, if you are in a position, please support Trócaire, Saint Vincent de Paul Society, our missionaries and other charities who are reaching out to the poorest and most in need – both at home and in the furthest corners of the world.

Let us not ‘pass by on the other side’, but, in the example of Christ, open our hearts and reach out our hands in response to their great need.