



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

8th August 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.

We welcome Daniel Purcell, Aodha Morris, Sophia Cahill, Evie Tyson, Tara O'Neill, Aoife Sheridan, Cian Walls and Liam O'Luanaigh into the Christian community.

They were **baptised** recently in a number of ceremonies.

Congratulations to Jason Mallon and Kara Brady who were **married** last week.

Please pray for the **repose of the soul** of Jean Murphy (Liverpool), mother of Andrew Murphy (Milltree) who died recently. May she rest in peace.

The intention of Pope Francis for the month of August

“Let us pray for the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.”

Edith Stein - St Teresa Benedict of the Cross (1891-1942) Feast day 9th August

Edith managed to write little notes that were smuggled out to her Carmelite community from Auschwitz concentration camp. One note read, “A ‘science of the cross’ can be gained only if one is made to feel the Cross in the depths of one’s being.” Making the sign of the cross shows us that our lives are forever guided by the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

St Clare (1193-1253) Feast day 11th August.

Born in Assisi she followed St Francis in a life of poverty and was founder and ruler of the Poor Clares. She led an austere life, abounding in works of piety and charity. She witnessed to holiness and humanity; wisdom and welcome to all. She was canonised two years after her death.

St Maximilian Kolbe (1894- 1941) Feast day 14th August.

Maximilian worked to spread the message of God’s love in Poland and in Japan through the setting up of a printing press. He gave radical expression to God’s love when he offered to take the place of a father who was going to be executed by the Nazis in 1941 in Auschwitz.

8 Aug	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	15 Aug	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7.00pm	Patrick O’Sullivan Kay O’Connell Liam & Maura McLoughlin Jean Murphy	7.00pm	Josh Begley Taylor
9.00am		9.00am	
11.00am	Michael Bradley (Month’s Memory)	11.00am	Mary Roche Roderick O’Neill
12.15pm	Ann Kerrigan	12.15pm	Michael, Peggy, & Pauline Flood Christopher Donnelly Ann & Ray Donnelly Mike Ormond

Monday Maureen Davis
Thursday Seamus Ferguson

Tuesday Tom Bennett

Have you ever felt like giving up? Elijah certainly did. In today's first reading we meet a prophet who has had enough. He is fleeing from trouble and things seem so hopeless after a day's journey that he sits under a bush and begs God to take his life.

Life has a way of getting on top of us, such as when we are grieving a loss, when we are hurt by a friend, when illness strikes, or when we are simply exhausted...

At these times of struggle it is helpful to pause and to refuel for the journey. Elijah was visited by an angel who offered him comfort and respite, giving him the strength he needed to carry on.

In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus again say he is the living bread. Some people have been complaining about his teaching. Surely this is the son of Joseph, they say, demonstrating their lack of understanding of who Jesus really is. Again, he explains that he is the bread of life- more than physical food, more than an ordinary man, he is the living bread and he is God.

In all our struggles, especially when we feel like giving up, Jesus offers us nourishment for the journey. This gift is there for us especially in the Eucharist, offering comfort and strength.

"The Eucharist, altogether it is the fullness of sacramental life, is not a prize for the perfect but a powerful medicine and nourishment for the weak" (Pope Francis)

Covid Guidelines: It is good to remind ourselves of the guidelines that are in place in our church.

Our parish church has three distinct sections (**pods**) - the gallery; the seats on the right side of the main body of the church and the seats on the left side of the main body of the church.

Each pod is allowed to have a maximum of 50 people, once the guidelines are adhered to.

So our church has capacity **for 150** people at any one Mass

The following guidelines are in place and are given so as to help keep everyone safe.

1. You should wear a **face covering** in the church.
2. Please use the **hand sanitizers** that are available in the church porches.
3. It is important to observe **social distancing** at all times – in approaching and leaving the church and in the church building. It is especially important not to congregate outside the church after Mass.
4. Special arrangements for Holy Communion, so that there is no movement between sections (pods)
5. **Holy Communion** should be received in the hand.
6. Parishioners must enter and leave the church by the designate doors.
7. The church will be sanitised and ventilated on a regular basis.

COVID-19 takes toll on Catholic clergy, religious in hard-hit countries.

The coronavirus has taken a heavy toll among Catholic priests and nuns around the world, killing hundreds of them in a handful of the hardest -hit countries alone.

The dead include an Italian parish priest who brought the cinema to his small town in the 1950s; a beloved New York pastor who ministered to teens and the homeless; a nun in India who travelled home to bury her father after he died from COVID-19 only to contract the virus herself.

In India, roughly two priests and nuns were dying every day in April. The rate doubled in May, when the deaths of 129 nuns and 116 priests were recorded.

One religious order in USA, the Felician Sisters, lost 21 nuns at four convents.

The Italians estimate that 292 diocesan priests died of the virus, noting that the toll nearly equalled the 299 new ordinations in Italy for all of 2021.

At least 1,400 priests in Brazil contracted COVID-19 and at least 65 of them plus three bishops died, according to a commission linked to the Brazilian Conference of Bishops.

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](tel:0879097605) or rosemarybrady@fit.ie for more details.