



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

18th July 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 Charlie Sheridan, Luke Lombard, Kai Saunders Morrissey, Lucy Lane & Ella Robinson into the Christian community. They were **baptised** recently in two separate ceremonies.

Regarding baptisms, Bishop Deenihan said in his recent statement that “the celebration of baptism will proceed in this diocese subject to the pastoral judgment of the local clergy, minimum numbers and public health precautions”.

Reek Pilgrimage on Croagh Patrick to be four days per week in July

The annual Reek Sunday Pilgrimage on Croagh Patrick, will be going ahead this year albeit in a much extended format from Wednesday to Saturday, 1- 31 July.

For this year only, the Reek Pilgrimage is to be extended to four days per week for the month of July.

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, the Sacrament of Confession/Reconciliation will be available on the summit at 11:00am; Mass to be celebrated at 12:00pm

Saturday's Mass will be celebrated at 10:00am; Confessions at 11:00am.

The Masses will be limited to the numbers permitted for outdoor gatherings at that particular time, which currently apply to 200 people from 5 July.

The Reek Pilgrimage normally takes place on the last Sunday in July, however the indulgence for the pilgrimage extends throughout the Summer months up to the end of September.

This is the first time in the history of the pilgrimage that such an extended pilgrimage programme is offered in order to facilitate those wishing to fulfil the obligations of the pilgrimage on the mountain.

Details of how to fulfil the spiritual requirements of the pilgrimage are available on

www.westportparish.ie and on signage in the carpark at the start of the ascent.

Pilgrims are asked to plan their trip to Croagh Patrick as early as possible and keep in mind that mid-week is traditionally a quieter time to climb.

Streaming of Masses: We continue to stream the 11.00am Mass on Sundays.

18 July	Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	25 July	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7.00pm	Sylvia Nolan Tommy Carberry	7.00pm	Mary & Joseph Elliott Patsy, Rita & Agnes McCabe
9.00am	Patrick O'Leary (Month's Memory) Beenie Reilly Joe & Mary Fox	9.00am	Peg, Nan & Harry Everard
11.00am	Sinead Freeman (Month's Memory) Desmond Kelly Deborah Cleary Marie Clarke	11.00am	Gail Geoghegan
12.15pm	John Purcell (Month's Memory) Sarah Browne Noeleen Crowley	12.15pm	

Monday Special Intention
Wednesday Special Intention
Friday Thomas & Linda Reynolds

Tuesday John Long
Thursday Frank & Monica Allum

Next Sunday 25th July is the First World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly

Pope Francis has reminded us to value the many gifts of our grandparents and elderly and, in recognition of their role, the Holy Father has now instituted an annual World Day into the Church calendar to be celebrated on the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saint Joachim and Saint Anne, parents of Mary and grandparents of Jesus. It will be celebrated for the first time this year on Sunday 25th July.

A new dedicated World Day offers a welcome focus by the Church on grandparents and elders, a cohort of people who have particularly suffered during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Many older people succumbed to the virus, while others had to cocoon for several months unable to see their grandchildren and families.

The theme chosen for this inaugural year is 'I am with you always', highlighting that promise of closeness that generations share with each other. Not only are our young people called to be present in the lives of older people, but so too grandparents and elders have a mission to encourage young people on their faith journey.

Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

Take a Break

from Intercom

We all need a break sometimes. I remember once reading a selection of entries for a Mothers' Day competition, in which people were asked why their mother deserved to win a prize.

They all had themes in common – she never does anything for herself; she always thinking of other people; I can't remember the last time she took a break.

In today's Gospel, the disciples need a break. They have returned from their mission, eager to catch up with Jesus, but there is so much happening that they barely have time to eat. Jesus sees their need, and invites them to take a boat with him to a quiet place and rest for a while. But there is no time for rest, as the crowds have followed them on foot.

Jesus is moved by them because they are "like sheep without a shepherd".

He is the Good Shepherd who always cares for his flock, and he responds with compassion and love.

No doubt the disciples are drafted in to help: it turns out it is not break time!

We can imagine their exhaustion. We all feel tired or overwhelmed from time to time, from work or family pressures or simply trying to balance everything. Postponing our own needs to care for others is familiar to every parent or caregiver. We don't know if the disciples got a rest at that point, but we know that Jesus valued time apart as he later sends the disciples off in the boat again while he goes away by himself to pray. In the chaos of life, even when there are demands on our time and energy, it is important to take some time to reflect and to pray.

The Diocese of Meath has a **Safeguarding Children Policy**; you may access this on www.meathsafeguarding.ie

You can listen to the weekly faith podcast, **Faithcast** on www.catholicnews.ie

Covid-19 Support Line for Older People: ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19.

Professional staff is available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary.

The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024

Affordable Live-in Homecare provides live-in carers for the elderly in your area. If you are looking for a live-in carer for your relative, please call Eileen or Tom today on 087 9916791 or 087 7440729.

Our website is www.alhomecare.ie

Tweet from Pope Francis

I thank all those who have been close to me in prayer and affection during my hospital stay. Let us not forget to pray for the sick and for those who assist them.