



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

3rd March 2024

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 7.00pm.

Please **pray for the repose of the souls** of Joan Acton (Somerville); Gary Carolan (Coill Beag); Terry Clarke (Steeplechase Green) and Maureen McManus (Blacklion, Cavan), mother of Philip McManus (Fairycastle Road) who died during the week. May they rest in peace.

We welcome Thea Gillespie, Elliot McTigue, Kai Molloy, Cora Casey and Ayda Kelly into the Christian community. They were **baptised** recently.

A meeting of the **Parish Pastoral Assembly** will take place on Tuesday 5th March at 7.30pm in the Parish Pastoral Centre.

There will be no 12.15pm Mass on **St Patrick's Day**.

Trócaire's Lenten Campaign for 2024. This year Trócaire's Lenten Campaign focus country is Malawi. We ask you to take home a Trocaire box for Lent to support the going work of Trocaire.

The St Patrick's College Maynooth **Annual Trocaire Lecture** will be held at 7.00pm in Renehan Hall, Maynooth on 5th March. Registration for this free event is free.

Synod feedback invitation. A series of meetings is planned for the coming weeks across the diocese to offer feedback on the Synod which was held in Rome last October and to offer an opportunity for further discernment on the synodal process which will inform the preparations for the Synod in Rome next October. The meeting for our area is in **Ashbourne Parish Hall, Wednesday 13th March at 7.00pm** and will be facilitated by the Meath Diocesan Synodal Team. It would be helpful to have some familiarity with the document issued following the Synod last October called *Towards the 2024 Assembly* available on www.synod.va. All are welcome to attend.

The Meath Alzheimer Café will take place in the Pastoral Centre in Dunshaughlin on Wednesday March 6th from 7pm to 9pm. Guest speaker is Jamie Sherlock, Regional Manager with Sage Advocacy. Her topic is "An Overview of Sage Advocacy". All families/carers and loved ones living with Alzheimer's Disease/Dementia are welcome to attend. Tea, coffee, and scones will be served, along with music and songs. There is no charge for this service. Contact: 087 188 8178.

3 Mar	Third Sunday of Lent	10 Mar	Fourth Sunday of Lent
7.00pm	Brian Johnson	7.00pm	Eileen, Margaret, James & Patrick Woods Dickie Sweeney
9.00am	Patrick & Colette Devenney	9.00am	
11.00am	Kay Gillen	11.00am	Kay & Brendan Menton
12.15pm		12.15pm	Chriss & Dick Donnelly Seamus Ennis & the deceased members of the Ennis family Irene Dunne

Wednesday Special Intention
Thursday John Mulhern; James & Annie O'Brien
Friday Mel McHugo

Reflection of the Gospel for the 3rd Sunday of Lent

True religion

A prophet once said that true religion
Means to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God.

Religion can be a means of praising God or serving self,
of service to others or caring for self.

It can diminish people,
make them guilty always in the sight of God,
and then it misses the first grace of any faith:
that God loves each of us,
a love that dwells within us
as real as the blood in our veins
the muscles in our limbs,
the hair on our head.

Religion can keep the poor more needy,
encouraging an unthinking acceptance of the inequality among people.
And it misses then another grace,
that we are brothers and sisters,
and all we are given is for the service of others.

Jesus was angry in the temple,
because of the greed of the sellers,
who were exploited the poor in the name of religion,
and mocking the house of God.

And God is angry when people are
exploited, used, abused in any way.

God asks us in Jesus
To share his anger when in his name people's dignity is diminished
or love is abused
or the poor are exploited
or when he himself is neglected.

This is true religion
to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God.

(from Communion Reflections by Donal Neary SJ)

Irish Episcopal Conference **Message regarding the Referenda** on March 8th can be found on
www.catholicbishops.ie

In a democracy that guarantees the freedom to vote, it is important that citizens cast their ballot on
March 8th with matters of such importance at stake. As pastors, (the bishops) concerned for the
common good as well as the moral and spiritual well-being of God's People, offer these reflections in
order to help inform the consciences of Christians and others who are concerned to preserve and
foster the dignity and value of family life and motherhood.

Applications are now open at St Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth for postgraduate programmes
in Theological Studies, Healthcare Chaplaincy, Youth Ministry and Liturgy.
More information is available at sppu.ie or by calling 01 708 4778.