



# Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

7<sup>th</sup> April 2024

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

## Ratoath Parish Pastoral Assembly

The Parish Pastoral Assembly was convened in September 2023 following an invitation to submit an expression of interest to Fr. Gerry.

The group that has come together includes women and men across all ages from the parish, who have an interest in questioning, fostering, developing and celebrating their own faith, and encouraging and enabling others to do the same.

Since September the group has participated in a training event facilitated by Fr. Derek Darby and continues to meet every six weeks.

The group will be formally commissioned at the 11am Mass on this Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April.

The work of the group will include drafting a pastoral /faith development work-plan for the parish, collaborating with other parish assemblies in the diocese, and ensuring that Ratoath parish continues to be a welcoming community for all people of faith and none who wish to, at any level, respond to the invitation of Jesus to "Come and see".

We will continue to update you on developments through the newsletter and on the parish website.

David Creed (Chairperson)

**Youth Meet & Prayer Gathering** (+18 years) will take place in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Ashbourne at 7:30pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April. This is an opportunity for young adults to join together for adoration, prayer, reflection & discussion assisted with the support and guidance of priests from the diocese and the Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal. Share the invite and bring a friend or two. Contact Fr. Mark English for more info: [duleekparish@gmail.com](mailto:duleekparish@gmail.com).

7 April	Second Sunday of Easter	14 April	Third Sunday of Easter
7.00pm	Gary Carolan (Month's Memory) Melissa Hogan-Cleary (Month's Memory) Bill Eiffe Edward Gannon	7.00pm	Mick Lagan
9.00am	Sean & Bridget Slattery Una & Cyril Brennan	9.00am	
11.00am	Raymond Murphy Jack Brady Bernadette Walsh	11.00am	
12.15pm	Eilish Sullivan Julia Cassidy Brian Whelan Gerard McCann Con, Ellen, Mary & baby Laoise Buckley Paddy Moore Edward & Ray McAndrew Gerry Monahan	12.15pm	Paul Doran Noel Eiffe

Tuesday  
Wednesday

Jimmy & Kathleen Cusack  
Katie & Kevin Darby

**Divine Mercy Sunday** at Sts Patrick and Seachnalls Church, Dunshaughlin on 7<sup>th</sup> April. Commencing at 2.30pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; Reading from the Diary of St Faustina, Blessing of the Divine Image, Chaplet of the Divine Mercy at 3pm. Mass will follow the Stations of the Cross.

**Apostolate of Eucharistic Adoration National Pilgrimage 2024** at Knock Shrine on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April. See the church notice board for further details.

**Pope Francis tweet:** “Jesus was risen not only for Himself but for all of us”.

### **The Pope’s Intention for April**

*For the role of Women:* We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognised in every culture and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

**White Envelope Collection** (Development Fund) €2,480.95 and **Blue Envelope** €6,275.45

Many thanks for your continued support and generosity.

**Trocaire Boxes** can be returned from now onwards. Your contribution can be placed in the box beside the Baptismal Font. Please do not leave Trocaire boxes at the back of the church. Many thanks for your support to this year's Lenten campaign, which will make a real difference to the lives of so many who struggling with poverty, injustice, war and climate change.

**SeniorLine:** SeniorLine is Ireland's national telephone service for older people open every day of the year 10am-10pm, Freephone 1800 80 45 91. Callers may feel isolated, alone, wish to discuss a problem in confidence, or for company during their day. SeniorLine's older volunteers are trained to listen, to support, to discuss options and to refer caller to other helpful services if necessary. So don't be alone if sharing a problem would help.

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### **From the Address of Pope Francis at the “Urbi et Orbi”on Easter Sunday**

Today throughout the world there resounds the message proclaimed two thousand years ago from Jerusalem: “Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified, has been raised!” (Mk 16:6).

The Church relives the amazement of the women who went to the tomb at dawn on the first day of the week. The tomb of Jesus had been sealed with a great stone. Today too, great stones, heavy stones, block the hopes of humanity: the stone of war, the stone of humanitarian crises, the stone of human rights violations, the stone of human trafficking, and other stones as well. Like the women disciples of Jesus, we ask one another: “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” (cf. Mk 16:3).

This is the amazing discovery of that Easter morning: the stone, the immense stone, was rolled away. The astonishment of the women is our astonishment as well: the tomb of Jesus is open and it is empty! From this, everything begins anew! A new path leads through that empty tomb: the path that none of us, but God alone, could open: the path of life in the midst of death, the path of peace in the midst of war, the path of reconciliation in the midst of hatred, the path of fraternity in the midst of hostility.

Brothers and sisters, Jesus Christ is risen! He alone has the power to roll away the stones that block the path to life. He, the living One, is himself that path. He is the Way: the way that leads to life, the way of peace, reconciliation and fraternity. He opens that path, humanly impossible, because he alone takes away the sin of the world and forgives us our sins. For without God's forgiveness, that stone cannot be removed. Without the forgiveness of sins, there is no overcoming the barriers of prejudice, mutual recrimination, the presumption that we are always right and others wrong. Only the risen Christ, by granting us the forgiveness of our sins, opens the way for a renewed world.