



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

5th September 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 Sean Lane, Margot Colman, Troy Carney, Harry and Sean Meagher into the Christian community. They were **baptised** recently in a number of ceremonies.

Please **pray for the repose of the souls** of John Roche (Glascarn); Michael O'Callaghan (Ballymore) and John Moore, father of Niamh O'Leary (Woodlands), who died during the week.

May they rest in peace.

Lodged on 30th August to the **White envelope** collection (Development Fund) €2,395 and €705 lodged to the **blue envelope** collection. Many thanks for your continued support and generosity. This Sunday is a **blue offering** day.

This weekend **church gate collection** (4th/5th September) is for the **Altar Society** of Ratoath Parish. This collection is used by the altar society for flowers for the altar, linen for the church, cleaning equipment etc and other items in connection with the upkeep of the altar, sanctuary area and sacristy in the church. We ask you to please support this collection.

This year marks the **800th anniversary of the death of St Dominic**, founder of the Dominicans (Order of Preachers).

The following are quotes from St Dominic:

“Arm yourself with prayer rather than a sword; wear humility rather than fine clothes”.

“We must sow the seed not hoard it”

“I am not capable of doing big things, but I want to do everything, even the smallest things, for the glory of God”.

St Dominic, pray for us.

Legion of Mary Centenary: The Legion of Mary was founded in Dublin by Frank Duff on 7th September 1921 and from its humble beginnings this lay apostolic organization has spread all over the world bringing its members and those they come in contact with closer to Jesus through the intercession of Our Blessed Mother.

Ratoath Athletic Club Half Marathon Road Race will be held **11th September**.

Race start time 8.30am. Temporary road disruption 9.15am-10.45am (1 ½ hours)

There will be a Temporary Stop/Go Traffic Management System in place for 1.5KM section of the Fairyhouse Road R155 from Glascarn Lane to the entrance of Fairyhouse Racecourse.

Two free places in the **Schoolhouse Montessori** available for this coming term through to 2022.

Please call/text Andrea@ 085 746 1644 or email: meathmontessori@gmail.com

5 Sept	Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	12 Sept	Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7.00pm	Frances Lyons	7.00pm	Thomas, Kathleen & Martin Madden
9.00am		9.00am	Kathleen Gunn
11.00am	Pauline Everard	11.00am	
12.15pm		12.15pm	James Gorman (Month's Memory) Joseph & Mary White

Tuesday Denis Lane

Friday Charlie Synnott

Easing of Restrictions

The announcement by the Government on Tuesday last on the re-opening of society has some important implications for the church.

1. As and from this Monday (6th September), churches can operate to **50% of capacity** for all ceremonies. So all **Masses, funerals and all other services** can operate at 50% capacity, except in the case of marriages, the limit of which remains at 100 persons until 22nd October.
To repeat the only restrictions for churches from Monday next is 50% capacity and this applies regardless of vaccination status.
2. **Baptisms:** Taking account of the new guidelines and the size of our church and the fact that we can increase the numbers that can be baptised in any one ceremony, each family can bring **up to but not more than 20 people** to the ceremony.
3. **Masks** must continue to be worn.
4. Please continue to use the **hand sanitizers** that are available in the church porches.
5. We will revert to the system pre-Covid for the **distribution of Holy Communion**: that is, parishioners on both sides of the church can approach the altar area from the central aisle at the same time and return to your seat by the aisles near the walls.
6. **Holy Communion** should be received in the hand.
7. Pods and social distancing will no longer apply.
8. All **signs** that have been in place for the past 18 months, restricting access to every second pew will be **removed**, as parishioners will be able to sit in any pew of their choosing. The removal of barriers will allow parishioners to occupy each pew but we would suggest that the capacity of each pew be reduced to half.

We are encouraged by the gradual lifting of the restrictions and welcome the prospect of returning to normal life in the church, while conscious of the danger from the virus which remains very real, knowing that the opening up of society is a complex and challenging task.

Thanks to all our parishioners for their cooperation with the guidelines to date.

Confirmation on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th September

Bishop Deenihan comes to our parish this weekend for the Sacrament of Confirmation and we welcome him most warmly. Over the weekend 219 boys and girls will be confirmed.

We congratulate the boys and girls who are to be confirmed and we wish them every blessing on this special day in their lives.

We thank their parents who have supported them on their faith journey.

We are indebted to the principals; all the teachers and staff for their guidance and help that they provided to the children in their preparation to receive the Sacrament in what was a very difficult year.

Thanks to our organists and cantors for providing the liturgical music for our ceremonies.

We are also grateful for the assistance of servers, Deirdre our sacristan and the stewards who helped to see that the ceremonies were conducted in a safe way.

The floral arrangements for the day were provided by the Parents Association and we thank them for their support for these days.

First Communion on Saturday 11th and Saturday 18th September.

On **Saturday 11th September** the boys and girls of Ratoath Junior National School will receive their First Holy Communion at ceremonies at 10am; 11.30am; 1.00pm and 2.30pm

On **Saturday 18th September** the ceremonies at 10am; 11.30am and 1.00pm will be for Paul's National School and at 2.30pm for Rathbeggan National School.

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