



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

☎ 01-8256207 | ✉ ratoathparish@gmail.com | 🌐 www.ratoathparish.ie

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

26th March 2023

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 7.00pm

Please **pray for the repose of the soul** of Thomas Bonnie (Steeplechase Court) and Carmel White (Meadowbank Hill) who died during the week. May they rest in peace.

White Envelope Collection (Development Fund) € 1,554.99 and **blue envelopes** €591.08
Many thanks for your continued support and generosity.

We welcome the boys and girls from Second Class this weekend to their last **“Do This in Memory of Me”** Mass in preparation for their First Communion in May. We welcome their parents who are supporting them on their faith journey this year.

We encourage all to make an effort during **Lent for prayer** by visiting the Blessed Sacrament for a period of time during Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays between 10.00am and 7.00pm in the family room of the church.

The **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed on the Fridays of Lent after the 9.45am Mass

Young Adult Retreat: March 31 - April 2 (Fri eve - Palm Sun afternoon) takes place in Dalgan Park, Navan. 'With waving Palm branches let us adore the Lord as he comes'. A great preparation for the holiest time in the Church Year. Cost: Donation (full board, own room).
Contact: Sr Úna 090 6481666 or email: youthretreats@gmail.com

Reflection on the Gospel

We can all struggle to understand God’s timing. Like Martha and Mary, we wonder why the Lord is not responding to our request for help with greater urgency. Like them, we find ourselves struggling with the Lord’s silence and absence in the face of sickness and death. Yet, Jesus’ delay, painful as it was for Martha and Mar, created a space for something more wonderful to happen than if he had responded immediately to their pleas for help. Jesus’ delay allowed him to show the truly life-giving power of his friendship, not just in regard to all who believe in him, the wider family of his disciples.

Martin Hogan, from You have One Teacher

Dogs in the cemetery.

We appeal to dog owners not to let their dogs roam freely in the cemetery. They should always be kept on a lead and it goes without saying that they should not soil the cemetery grounds.

25 March	Fifth Sunday of Lent	2 April	Palm Sunday
7.00pm	Bill Eiffe Eileen, James, Patrick & Margaret Woods	7.00pm	
9.00am		9.00am	Thomas & Tommy Everard
11.00am	Brendan, Margaret Paul McDermott & the deceased members of the Reilly family	11.00am	Ray Murphy
12.15pm	Noel Martin Dick & Chris Donnelly	12.15pm	Gerard McCann (Months Memory) Brian Whelan Henry Crosbie Con, Ellen, Mary & baby Laoise Buckley

Monday
Wednesday

Oliver Carthy & Special Intention
Bill Mannering

Trocaire 50 years in existence

Support the Lenten Campaign

In 1973, the Irish Bishops set up a relief and development agency which they called Trocaire, the Irish word for mercy or compassion. In its work it tries, with other agencies to tackle the root causes of poverty, injustice and violence around the world. It seeks to raise awareness about these issues and in Lent with its **Lenten Appeal** it asks us to support the on-going work for justice for all.

Over the years it has highlight various counties that were in need of help. Here are just some of them.

In **1976**, Trocaire led a network of 17 European and North American agencies in providing relief to people affected by the war in **Vietnam**.

In **1984**, Trocaire established a major relief programme in **Ethiopia** in response to the famine there.

In **1994**, Trocaire launched a one million pound emergency appeal to fund its emergency response to genocide in **Rwanda**.

In **1997**, in response to the famine in **North Korea**, Trocaire publishes newspaper ads. The Irish public respond with 4 million pounds in donations. It was the largest response of any European country.

In **2004** the **Asian tsunami** appeal resulted in €27 million in donations to Trocaire.

In **2013**, Trocaire began its response to the war in **Syria**.

In **2021**, Trocaire launched its strategy “**Local Power/Global Justice**” which empower people to make decisions about their county at a local level.

This year, 2023 the focus in on Somalia

Somalia is on the brink of famine. The current drought is the longest and most severe in Somalia’s history. With an estimated 8.25 million in need of immediate lifesaving assistance – are things getting worse for the people of Somalia.

Trócaire responds to humanitarian crises in countries affected by natural disaster, pandemics and conflict down the years.

Armed conflicts and natural disasters deprive people of food, clean water, education, health services, sanitation and protection. Devastating natural disasters like droughts and cyclones are increasing due to climate change. Armed conflict has forced millions to flee their homes worldwide.

Thanks to your support, Trócaire provides rapid assistance where most needed. This support saves lives.

Caoimhe de Barra, Trocaire CEO, has said “we are so incredibly grateful for the generous donations we receive from parishes, schools and families in Ireland each year and I would appeal to people across the country to support this vital campaign. The spare change in the Trocaire boxes can really make a lasting difference for many years to come”

The 50th Anniversary Trocaire Prayer

We pray for God’s blessing on the work of Trocaire.

We pray that all people may continue to work together for the respect of our shared human dignity and shared human rights.

We thank God for the partners and generous supporters who have enabled Trocaire to continue their work for over fifty years, empowering communities to work together for a just world.

We pray for peace and may that peace be mine and yours, and with all people experiencing crises in our world. Amen.