



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

24th September 2023

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 7.00pm
New adorers always welcome.

We welcome Tess Ryan, Aoibhin Geraghty and Quinn Osbourne into the Christian community. They were **baptised** recently.

Next weekend we welcome the boys and girls in Sixth Class who **are preparing for Confirmation** in February next to our Masses. At these Masses they will present their enrolment and commitment forms indicating their desire to be confirmed and to undertake spiritual preparation for Confirmation. We ask you to keep them in your prayers in the coming months

Parish Pastoral Assembly. The first meeting of the new Parish Pastoral Assembly took place in the Parish Pastoral Centre on Wednesday 20th September. This first meeting was a training session with Fr Derek Darby who guided the new assembly on what a parish pastoral assembly is and how to be an effective group in “pastoral action”. The first formal meeting of the assembly will be in the Parish Pastoral Centre at 7.30pm on Wednesday 25th October

Meath Diocesan Spirituality Afternoon for Pioneers from 2.00pm to 5.00pm on Sunday 1st October in the Franciscan Abbey, Multyfarnham, Co Westmeath

Day retreat for Young Adults (18-40yrs) on Saturday 30th September from 10.00am to 5.30pm in Dalgan Park, Navan. Cost: €20 (lunch and snacks provided). Helpful talks, Mass, Confession, Adoration, spiritual guidance if desired. Walks through woodland. Contact : Sr Úna 090 648166 or email: youthretreats@gmail.com

Introduction to the bible on Kells webcam beginning on Monday 2nd October. Fr. John Byrne will continue his introduction to the Bible. This year he will introduce the St. John's Gospel on Mondays at 12 noon. Each session will last 25 minutes (approx). You can access the talks as you would the Mass each day on www.kellsparish.ie (If you cannot access the talks on the webcam, you are welcome to come to Kells Church to attend in person). The sessions will be recorded. For queries, you may contact Fr. John on email: jplovebyrne@gmail.com

24 Sept	Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	1 Oct	Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7.00pm	Cathal Daly	7.00pm	Breda Canning Robert Brunton
9.00am		9.00am	Tom & May Cline
11.00am	John & Nora Looney P J Roche Jack & Kathy Nulty Thomas & Maria Nulty	11.00am	Alice Eiffe (Month's Memory) Michael & May Carey Johnny Carey Lil O'Sullivan
12.15pm	Michael Gleeson Patrick McDermott Patrick Doody Alice Burke	12.15pm	Ciaran Briody (Month's Memory) Vincent Donnelly Sean McGrath

Monday Special Intentions
Wednesday Frank McDonald

Tuesday Special Intention

Alpha Course Explore the meaning of life yourself or invite someone you know. Enjoy the free meal, video and chat with like-minded people. Starting 7.15pm Monday 25th September in the Pastoral Centre, Dunshaughlin. Email alphadunshaughlin@gmail.com to register.

The Chosen is a video series on the life of Jesus. It gives a fresh look at the Gospels for those who have been reading the stories for years or for those who are just curious about who Jesus is and was. Course starts on Thursday 5th October at 8 pm in the Pastoral Centre, Dunshaughlin. Email faithformation@dcparrish.ie to register.

SMA Novena 2023. In honour of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus (Patroness of the Missions). Saturday 23rd September to Sunday 1st October. Daily Mass & Novena Prayers at 10.00am and 7.30pm in SMA Chapel Dromantine. All Welcome. Also, via webcam (www.sma.ie). African Missions, Dromantine, Newry, BT34 1RH

Conversational English Class Volunteers. Could you give a couple of hours a week to helping migrants practise their English and feel welcome in our community? Would you consider being a voluntary tutor for a conversational English class that Cultúr Migrant Centre has already established in Ratoath village? Classes will be on Wednesday evenings in 'The Venue'. Resources and support will be provided. No teaching experience is required, just a willingness to engage with others in a friendly way. If you are interested, please contact Noel at 0872587658 or email outreach@cultur.ie

Excerpt from the message of Pope Francis for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees 24th September 2023

The migratory flows of our times are the expression of a complex and varied phenomenon that, to be properly understood, requires a careful analysis of every aspect of its different stages, from departure to arrival, including the possibility of return.

“An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said: ‘Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him’. The flight of the Holy Family into Egypt was not the result of a free decision, nor were many of the migrations that marked the history of the people of Israel. The decision to migrate should always be free, yet in many cases, even in our day, it is not. Conflicts, natural disasters, or more simply the impossibility of living a dignified and prosperous life in one’s native land is forcing millions of persons to leave.

“They took their livestock and the goods that they had acquired in the land of Canaan, and they came into Egypt, Jacob and all his offspring with him”. A grave famine forced Jacob and his entire family to seek refuge in Egypt, where his son Joseph ensured their survival. Persecutions, wars, atmospheric phenomena and dire poverty are among the most visible causes of forced migrations today. Migrants flee because of poverty, fear or desperation.

Eliminating these causes and thus putting an end to forced migration calls for shared commitment on the part of all, in accordance with the responsibilities of each.

This commitment begins with asking what we can do, but also what we need to stop doing. We need to make every effort to halt the arms race, economic colonialism, the plundering of other people’s resources and the devastation of our common home.

“All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need” (Acts 2:44-45).

The ideal of the first Christian community seems so distant from today’s reality! To make migration a choice that is truly free, efforts must be made to ensure to everyone an equal share in the common good, respect for his or her fundamental rights, and access to an integral human development. Only in this way will we be able to offer to each person the possibility of a dignified and fulfilling life, whether individually or within families.