



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

13th December 2020

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 10.00pm.

Holy Hour in the Nursing Home chapel on Monday and Friday evenings at 7.30pm. Suspended.

Please **pray for the repose of the soul** of Mary Coen (Galway) sister of Julia Cassidy (St Oliver's Park) who died during the week. May she rest in peace.

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve

2.00pm 3.30pm 5.00pm 6.30pm 8.00pm 9.30pm

Christmas Day

8.00am 9.30am 11.00am 12.30pm

As you know, in line with the government guidelines and restrictions, we are constrained by the numbers that can attend Mass this Christmas Eve and Day.

Unfortunately **only those with tickets** will be allowed into the church and we are conscious that many people will be disappointed but we are duty bound to adhere to the guidelines for the safety of all concerned. We want to create the safety way for you to join us at Christmas.

The church will be sanitized between all Masses and stewards will be on hand to ensure parishioners sit in their correct section (pod) and observe social distancing.

Most tickets have been allocated at this time but the **remaining tickets** (for the 2.00pm Mass on Christmas Eve and the 8.00am and 12.30pm Masses on Christmas Day) will be given out in the parish office on this Sunday afternoon from 1.30pm to 2.30pm and on Monday from 10.30am to 12.30pm and on Monday evening 6.00pm to 7.30pm and thereafter, on the opening hours of the office, until all are assigned.

13 Dec	Third Sunday of Advent	20 Dec	Fourth Sunday of Advent
7.00pm	Joan & Bob Slattery Thady Murray Maura McLoughlin Holy Souls	7.00pm	Raymond, Tennie & Paddy Brennan & the deceased members of the family John & Margaret Donnelly Ella Smyth
9.00am		9.00am	Jack & Elizabeth Ryan
11.00am	Tom McGoldrick Bridget & Joseph Gallagher	11.00am	Pat Naughton Aubrey & Patrick McAuley & the deceased members of the McAuley & Carty families Charles & Elizabeth Keogh & the deceased members of the family June Barry
12.15pm	Margaret Campbell & the deceased members of the family	12.15pm	The deceased members of the Kinsella & Maher families Christine & Christy Redmond Rita Cusack Martin Kerrigan & Dick Donnelly

Monday

Brid Gormley

Tuesday

Mass offered for all who sympathised with the Cusack and Fairbrother families

Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis has proclaimed a special “Year of St Joseph,” beginning on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception 2020 and extending to the same feast in 2021.

In a new Apostolic Letter entitled [*Patris corde*](#) (With a Father’s Heart), Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Holy Father wrote *Patris corde* against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic, which, he says, has helped us see more clearly the importance of “ordinary” people who, though far from the limelight, exercise patience and offer hope every day. In this, they resemble Saint Joseph, “the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence,” who nonetheless played “an incomparable role in the history of salvation.”

And because of his role at “the crossroads between the Old and New Testament,” St Joseph “has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people”. In him, “Jesus saw the tender love of God,” the one that helps us accept our weakness, because “it is through” and despite “our fears, our frailties, and our weakness” that most divine designs are realized.

Christmas Mass Bouquets are now available from the Parish Office. The stipend for a Mass is €10

Youth 2000 Christmas E-Retreat takes place from 18th to 20th December.

Registration is now free on www.youth2000.ie

Standing Orders for November €3,207.94

Blue Envelopes lodged on 9th December €1,945

Many thanks for your continued support and generosity at this time.

There is an **online donation facility** on the Parish Website – www.ratoathparish.ie

Confessions for Christmas

Confessions will be heard on this Tuesday and Wednesday mornings after the 9.45am Mass and again during the Holy Hour on Friday evening (18th Dec) from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

Frs Gerry & Yohanna are also available outside these times by request.

Let us not forget the season of Advent

What do the four candles on the Advent wreath represent? Hope, faith, joy and peace.

The candle lit this weekend represents Joy.

Guidance when coming to Mass

You should wear a **face covering** in the church.

Please use the **hand sanitizers** that are available in the church porches.

It is important to observe **social distancing** at all times – in approaching and leaving the church and in the church building. It is especially important not to congregate outside the church after Mass.

The guidance is to help keep everyone safe.

Our parish church has three distinct sections (**pods**) - the gallery; the seats on the right side of the main body of the church and the seats on the left side of the main body of the church. The family room is not a section (pod) and will not be used on Christmas Eve or Day.

The gallery can accommodate a maximum of 44 people while the two sections in the body of the church are allowed to have a maximum of 50 people each, once the guidelines are adhered to.

The government guidelines stipulate that the numbers permitted for Funerals and Weddings Masses will remain at 25