

PARISH OF HOLY TRINITY, RATOATH, DIOCESE OF MEATH, 2024 AD

☎ 01-8256207 •✉ ratoathparish@gmail.com •🌐 www.ratoathparish.ie • Eircode A85 VX46

Vigil – 7.00pm;

Sunday – 9.00am, 11.00am, 12.15pm (*July & August – no 12.15pm Mass*)

Holy Days – 11.00am

Weekdays – Monday to Friday at 9.45am

Confessions: Before Vigil Mass

Baptisms: on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month at 4.30pm

Parish Priest: Rev Michael Cahill ~ **Assistant Priest:** Rev Gerry Stuart

Parochial House Eircode: A85 CK73

Parish Office: 10.00am – 1.00pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Direct bank transfer – Your donation can be transferred to:

Account Name: Ratoath Church Account No. 1

IBAN: IE33BOFI90318910247285 / **BIC:** BOFIE2D



8 TH DECEMBER – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT		15 TH DECEMBER – GAUDETE OR ‘REJOICING’ SUNDAY	
Saturday 7.00pm	Sergei Buga; Marie and Bernie Wallace; Frank & Anna O’Reilly, Christy & Patsy Smyth, and Frank & Irene Regan	Saturday 7.00pm	Brian White, 1 st Annivesary Liam & Maura Mc Loughlin
Sunday 9.00am	Christy & Kathleen, Martin & Moira Edwards; Ilsa Weiland	Sunday 9.00am	Maura Kelly
11.00am	Ben and Vonnie Cullen	11.00am	Tom Mc Goldrick & Brigid & Joseph Gallagher
12.15pm	Myles O’Dwyer, 2 nd Anniversary; Angela Walsh; Sean Eiffe, 23 rd Anniversary	12.15pm	Frank Goodman, 4 th Anniversary

Weekday Mass Intentions – Mon: Sean Craig 5th Anniversary; **Tues:** Margaret Ward

Rest in Peace: We commend to God the soul of **Fr Frank Mac Namara**, Parish Priest of Ratoath, 1984 – 1998, who died peacefully in the wonderful care of the nurses and staff at Cluain Lir Care Centre, Mullingar. Fr Mac Namara served on the staff of St Finian’s College, Mullingar, and in the parishes of Ratoath and Tullamore. Reposing at Shaws Funeral Home, Bishopsgate St., Mullingar on Sunday, 8th December, from 5pm to 7pm, with removal thereafter to the Cathedral of Christ the King, arriving at 7.30pm. Requiem Mass at the Cathedral on Monday at 11am. Burial in his native Clara in the Monastery Cemetery.

May he who ministered faithfully and joyfully to God’s holy people now behold the face of God in heaven.

‘Eternal rest grant unto him O, Lord and may perpetual light shine upon him’.

Monday 9th December - Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass at 9.45am. As the Feast is transferred from 8th December, it is not a holyday of obligation

****Christmas Mass times** - Christmas Eve: 5pm, 7pm, 9pm. Christmas Day: 9am, 11am, 12.15pm. Plan ahead!

Stage 2 of Confirmation preparation this weekend at 7pm, 11am and 12.15pm Masses.

Advent – for a trial period, the bulletin will be an A3 **missalette** with Readings, responses etc pre-printed on one side and the usual parish newsletter on the other side. Feedback and views welcome!

SVP - Society of St Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas church gate collection at all masses nationwide this weekend. Your continued support is greatly appreciated for those in greatest need in our community.

The **‘listening event’** organised by the Parish Pastoral Assembly took place at the church on Wednesday. Thanks to those who participated. A report will issue in due course from the PPA.

Sign of Peace: responding to enquiries and the wishes of some parishioners, the sign of peace has resumed from last weekend with the invitation that *'by word or gesture we offer to the person next to us the sign of peace'*. Please understand if not everyone is comfortable with shaking hands!

Parish Secretary is a role that has evolved considerably in recent years from that of receptionist to an indispensable administrative position in a modern parish office setting. In particular it leaves the priest free of many unnecessary desk duties in order to focus on pastoral care and engaging with people and their needs. The role of secretary involves being the 'welcoming face' of the parish, taking calls, replying to emails, keeping the parish diary and mass bookings, and also considerable IT skills such as online banking, Surf accounts, Word and Excel, spreadsheets, and managing the parish data base.

The enhanced position will be re-advertised in the new year on a 4 day basis from 9.30am – 1pm. For the convenience of parishioners (and that of the PP!) this is a position that needs to be filled by the right, skilled person as soon as possible in a parish as active and busy as ours.

Parish Offerings Envelopes have now been distributed in most areas. The help of the usual kind area volunteers was greatly appreciated. The remaining envelopes can still be collected from the Pastoral Centre. This is a huge task undertaken every year and vital to the ongoing support of the mission, needs and running costs of every area and aspect of parish life.

There is also the option of contributing by Standing Order, occasional or one-off donations and the Offertory collection at Mass. We will consider next year whether it would also be useful to provide a swipe card option as is done in many churches!

Donations for the period ending 1st December: White Envelopes-€1,717.90; Blue Envelopes - €340.00

Ratoath Choir Charity Christmas Concert, this Wednesday, 11th December, 7.30pm in our parish church. Adults €10, kids €5. Cash only, at the door. Proceeds to **Ratoath Cardiac First Responders**.

The **Children's Choir** rehearses for Christmas every Monday at the Parish Pastoral Centre at 7pm.

Santa's Grotto - Ratoath GAA club: Sensory Santa on Saturday 7th December, 1pm – 6pm .

Sensory Santa is tailored for children with additional needs and their families.

Also **Sunday 8th December**. All welcome! Every child receives a goodie bag & a photo with Santa. Parents enjoy mulled wine, tea/coffee, mince pies. **No charge** but as the event is a fundraiser **donations in lieu for the LauraLynn Foundation**. All welcome - come along & enjoy the fun!!!

Advent Retreat for Young Adults (18-40 yrs) Dalgan Park, 13th-15th December. Theme: **'I have come that you may have life, and have it to the full'** Jn10:10 Prayerful preparation for Christmas! Cost: €160 (full board, own room). Students : a donation. Contact: Sr Úna 090 648166 or Michael 086 2453 youthretreats@gmail.com

Medjugorje Pilgrimages 2025: 14th May, 7 days. Cost €845. €50 discount for booking/deposit before 1st Feb! Also, 2nd Oct. Cost €855, early booking €50 discount before 1st Feb. Contact Joan Ashbrook on 087 7987682

Compassionate & dedicated Care Assistant sought to support a young adult in Ratoath for late evening shifts 4-6 nights a week, with a possibility of additional hours (to a max of 30 hrs a week). Most shifts typically mornings/lunchtime, with a pressing need for short evening shifts. Manual handling training provided if necessary. *Hours:Flexible, from a minimum of 5 to 35 hrs per week. Wages negotiable. Email personalcare357@gmail.com*

Meath Archaeological & Historical Society lecture, Sun, 8th December, 3pm, in St Mary's Cof I, Navan. Dr Mike O'Neill, architectural historian, digital archivist and author of *An Architectural History of the Church of Ireland* (2023) will speak about the architectural legacy of the Church of Ireland.

Bulletin: – relevant news items of parish and local interest are always welcome for inclusion in the bulletin, subject to space available and editorial discretion and deadlines!

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