



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

21st August 2022

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 7.00pm.

The Sunday Mass at 12.15pm will resume on Sunday 4th September

Please **pray for the repose of the souls** of Eileen Shevlin (late of Porterstown Lane) and Declan Brennan (Ashbourne) brother of Seamus, Barbara and Martina who died during the week. May they rest in peace.

Meath Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2022. The pilgrimage will be led by Bishop Deenihan from 12-17 September. All pilgrims will be accommodated in Hotels. All pilgrims should be able to make the pilgrimage independently or with the assistance of someone accompanying them and taking responsibility for their care. Pilgrimage fare from €759 includes flights, 5 nights full board, travel insurance, government and shrine taxes. Booking with Joe Walsh Tours 01-2410800

Medjugorje: Ex Dublin to Dubrovnik, September 14th for 7 nights, half board staying in P I M K House, 5 minutes from the church. Cost €765.00. Contact Joan Ashbrook 087 7987682

Cleaners required for Ratoath National School - Senior & Juniors:
Monday – Friday 3pm -6pm Call Mary on 087 6183656

The next chapter in the life of the Church in Ireland will be different to the last – the Catholic Church may find itself increasingly marginalised in public debate, but we must remain: a Church that is outward looking, confident and prophetic in the dialogue and encounter between faith and culture; a Church that proclaims with conviction the Good News of salvation in Christ; a Church which chooses life, and which cares for the beauty and wonder of God's creation while always pointing beyond this world an enkindling a longing for eternal life; a Church which brings to our troubled world and its many lonely and wounded people, the message that "Christ is alive", "Christ is our hope".
We must become, as many have said, a Church which serves, a Church which is more about mission than maintenance, more about movements than monuments.

from a homily by Archbishop Eamonn Martin on 23rd July last

21 Aug	Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time	28 Aug	Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
7.00pm	Peggy, Michael & Pauline Flood Catherine & Patrick Cowley Kay O'Connell	7.00pm	Jacqueline Mannering John & Kathleen Staunton Conor Fogarty
9.00am	Neil Igoe	9.00am	
11.00am	Maureen & Frank Mason Paddy & Linda O'Connor Maria O'Connor-Howard & the deceased members of the Campbell family Margaret Cahill	11.00am	Mary Carey Val Murrihy
12.15pm	No Mass	12.15pm	No Mass

Monday Special Intention
Thursday Birthday Remembrance

Wednesday Special Intention

The Irish Bishops' statement of welcome on the completion of the National Synthesis

We are pleased to publish the National Synthesis document prepared by the Steering Committee of lay faithful, religious, priests and bishops which was appointed by our Conference to lead us along the synodal journey.

The Process

Since October 2021, tens of thousands of Catholics across Ireland have been engaging in prayerful listening and reflection on the theme chosen by Pope Francis: “*For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission.*” In June 2022 there was a unique and wonderful National Synodal gathering in Athlone which was followed by a moving ritual in the sixth century ancient monastic site of Clonmacnoise. In a prayerful atmosphere, we heard feedback from the hundreds of conversations that had taken place across Ireland, and from the many submissions that had been collected. Despite the constraints of COVID-19, the process that we have been following in these past months represents a modest but significant first step in developing a synodal style of consultation about the future of the Church in Ireland and around the world.

The Synthesis Document

The National Synthesis document points to many challenges for the handing on of the faith in this country, including a need for inner healing and hope, especially among those who have suffered abuse by Church personnel and in Church institutions. It acknowledges and reflects on the impact in recent decades of a major decline in the practice of the faith, and in vocations to priesthood and religious life. There are calls for greater transparency, participation in decision-making and accountability within our parish and diocesan church structures. The importance of a renewed connection with the energy and gifts of young people is emphasised. So too is the need for fresh models of responsibility and leadership which will especially recognise and facilitate the role of women, as well as men. Our listening process has identified the need to be more inclusive in outreach, reaching out to those who have left the Church behind and in some cases feel excluded, forgotten or ignored. In an era of transformation, like Peter we have heard a call to “put out into deep water”.

In publishing the National Synthesis document, the Irish Bishops' Conference invites the whole People of God in this country to study its findings carefully and prayerfully. It is important that, in all our deliberations, we journey together in *communion*, because as John the Evangelist underlined so much, it is the beauty of Christian communion that attracts people. It is our missionary communion that speaks most eloquently to our sisters and brothers today of the hope that comes from encounter with Christ and the joy of the Gospel. We recognise we need a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit. As Pope Francis has written, “*What is under discussion at Synodal gatherings are not traditional truths of Christian doctrine. The Synod is concerned mainly with how teaching can be lived and applied in the changing contexts of our time... What characterises a Synodal path is the role of the Holy Spirit*”

The Continuing Synodal Pathway in Ireland

The Church in Ireland is committed to the ongoing Synodal Pathway which we announced in March 2021. This will entail a further phase of much deeper listening and a more widespread reaching out. Perhaps the greatest learning will emerge as we reflect on what these tentative first steps along a Synodal Pathway have taught us about *who* we are as the Catholic Church in Ireland, and *why* we are this way. It is in this deeper reflection that we will prayerfully discern what the Holy Spirit is revealing to us about the kind of pastoral conversion and new evangelisation necessary to nurture new life and growth in the Church.

Conclusion

We are most grateful to our the Synodal Steering Committee and Task Group and to all who participated in the Synodal Process at parish, diocesan and national levels. We commend our National Synthesis document to the next phase of the synodal journey of the universal Church as it moves towards the meeting of the Synod of Bishops in Rome in October 2023.