



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

18th October 2020

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 10.00pm. Suspended.

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 Gerry Crehan (Porterstown Lane), Bridie Poole (Navan), mother of Grace Malone (Steeplechase Green), Joan Monahan, mother of Fiona Monahan (Fairycastle Lodge) and Leo Boland (Sligo), uncle of Marian Greer Murphy (Wilkinstown) who died during the week. May they rest in peace.

In **level three** of the Government road map, all Masses are suspended except for funerals and weddings, where only 25 people are permitted to attend. Baptisms are also cancelled. The church will remain open during the day for private prayer and we do encourage parishioners to call in to pray. It is good to keep up the rhythm of our prayer in these days of anxiety and worry for so many. The 11.00am Sunday Mass will be streamed and the link can be found on the parish website www.ratoathparish.ie

Mass Intentions: During level 3 of the government framework for living with Covid 19, the intentions that were scheduled for the Masses on Sunday 18th and 25th October will now be offered at the 11.00am streamed Mass, unless advised otherwise by families.

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

This Sunday 18th October is World Mission Sunday and the annual appeal to support the life-giving work of missionaries is usually held today. Mass will be broadcast this Sunday at 11.00am on 18th October from RTÉ studios, Dublin, on LW 252 and RTÉ Radio One Extra.

The celebrant will be Archbishop Jude Thaddeus Okolo, Apostolic Nuncio to Ireland.

In Ireland, World Mission Sunday is coordinated by World Missions Ireland, the Irish Church's official charity for overseas missions which supports the 40% of the Universal Church that is too new, young or poor to support itself. WMI is part of a network of 120 offices under the coordination of the Pontifical Mission Societies in Rome. This year WMI launches a special appeal as the Covid-19 pandemic has been devastating for those in the developing world. The pandemic is also threatening the work of missionaries worldwide. As there will be no public Masses on this Mission Sunday, if you wish to make a donation, you can do so on www.wmi.ie.

18 Oct	Mission Sunday	25 Oct	Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
11.00am	Jim Landy (Month's Memory) and Jimmy Landy (his son) Lizzy & John Madden Joe & Masie McCormack Terry O'Sullivan (Month's Memory) Imelda Everard Joseph & Mary White Deirdre Corcoran Ryszard Pardela (Months Memory) Declan Sweeney	11.00am	Greg Campbell Anthony & Mary O'Boyle Michael Maher Mary & John Sheerin

The following Masses will be said by Fr Gerry in private for the following intentions
 Tuesday Freda Nolan & Lucille Fahy
 Wednesday Matilda & Tim Burns & the deceased members of the O'Sullivan & Burns families

This year, the month of November, in which we traditionally **remember the dead** and pray for the bereaved, will be particularly poignant. We are especially mindful in 2020 of those grieving families, who, because of restrictions, have been unable to experience the customary spiritual and community supports which are so much part of our Irish tradition.

List of the Dead sheets are available at the back of the church. Completed lists can be left into the parish office, preferably before 2nd November, the Feast of All Souls.

Pope Francis' third encyclical letter *Fratelli Tutti* on human fraternity and social friendship

Pope Francis' third encyclical letter *Fratelli Tutti* (*All brothers and sisters*), a call to solidarity for all of humanity to live in fraternity and social friendship, was published by the Holy Father on Sunday 4th October, the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi. The full text of *Fratelli Tutti*, as well as accompanying multimedia resources, is available on www.catholicbishops.ie.

The Irish bishops welcomed the new encyclical and reflected on its provocative message, in particular that love, which is at the heart of the Gospel – reaches out to all of our 'brothers and sisters' who share our common humanity, especially the vulnerable. Bishops agreed that it was significant that Pope Francis wrote this encyclical during a global pandemic, reminding us not only of our connectedness around the world, but also of our fragility, our shared vulnerability and common need for compassion and love and for the hope that faith in God can bring.

Fratelli Tutti speaks directly to the responsibility of faith and civic leaders in our society, and bishops encouraged everyone to read this important encyclical letter so as to benefit from its guidance at this time.

A message in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic from the Irish Bishops "Do not lose heart"

Since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic the people of Ireland have endured testing times with courage, resilience, and compassion. Individuals and communities have made great sacrifices for the protection of life, health and the Common Good.

Like many others, the Church has endeavoured to support the people of Ireland, north and south, in the face of considerable uncertainty and disruption. We owe a great debt of gratitude to our priests and to the many volunteers whose continued dedication has ensured that our churches have remained very safe places to gather for Mass and the Sacraments. We have also been blessed in the commitment of our school communities who have been supporting our young people in very demanding circumstances, including assisting with their preparation for the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

Now that more restrictive measures are being put in place, we encourage people to persevere and not to lose heart. Faith and prayer, in the home and in church can be a huge support in difficult times. While we fully support the guidance of the public health authorities, we will continue to engage constructively in the coming days with the civil authorities to ensure that our people have continued access to the support of Mass and the Sacraments and essential spiritual nourishment for these challenging times.

The communal celebration of Mass and the Sacraments – even with restricted numbers - is at the very heart of what it means for us to be a Christian community. These are not simply 'gatherings' of people, but profound expressions of who we are as a Church. For parishes, and individual Catholics, the loss of these spiritual supports can be a source of great anxiety, and fear, and can have a detrimental impact on their overall health and well-being.

FREE Five Week Basic iPhone, iPad, Tablet and Smartphone class commencing in Meath shortly. Numbers will be limited to make it possible to practice social distancing and adhere to guidelines. Please call Angela at Meath Partnership on 046 9280790 to book a place.