



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

☎ 01-8256207 | ✉ ratoathparish@gmail.com | 💻 www.ratoathparish.ie

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

24th January 2021

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 souls** of Bonnie O'Neill (Glascarn) and Barbara Dyer (The Village Green) who died during the week. May they rest in peace.

The **Parish Office** will remain closed in these weeks. You may email or phone the office to book Masses, organise certs etc. Messages etc can be left in the letter box at the office.

Fr Gerry and Fr Yohanna will be available at all times for those who wish to see a priest.

Standing Orders for December €3,415.58

We are most grateful to all our parishioners who have left in envelopes and donations to the parish office at this time and we thank you for your continued support and generosity.

The Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you are already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit myself to be separated from you.

In **Level 5 restrictions** public worship will not take place. The 11.00am Mass on Sundays will be streamed. The link can be found on the parish website www.ratoathparish.ie.

The week morning Masses (Monday to Friday) at 9.45am will also be streamed.

On the weekdays, the church will remain closed until after the morning Mass and will be open at approximately 10.15am for private prayer during the day.

At level 5, baptisms may not take place. Up to 10 mourners are permitted at funerals.

The Pope's Intentions for January

"May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all."

24 Jan	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	31 Jan	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
11.00am	Michael, Mary, Brian & John Brazil Anthony Lawlor & the deceased members of the family Dorothea Mates Caroline Hynes Christy Crowley Esme & Bernard Browne Ted & Peg Gannon Jemmy Boyle Noel, Eileen & Gerry Walshe Tom & Peggy McMullen/	11.00am	Catherine Williams Michael, Mary & John Flinter Joe Merriman Martin Kerrigan Mary Cox

Monday

Florence O'Neill & the souls in purgatory

Tuesday

Hugh Muldoon & the deceased members of the family

Wednesday

Michael, Elizabeth & John Mulvany; Christy & Patsh Smith; Ann & Frank O'Reilly; & Frank & Bobo Regan

Thursday

Mary Corcoran (Month's Memory) & Pud, Molly & Bill O'Neill

Friday

Mary & Liam Corcoran

Prayer during the Coronavirus

Crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen our faith in this time of darkness, fear and gloom.
May we know that you are with us. Protect us from coronavirus.
Lay your healing hand over those stricken by the virus.
Keep safe all who work in the care of the sick.
May your light direct those who are searching for an antidote to the virus.
May our society be enriched as neighbours grow on kindness and care for one another. Amen

Prayer in time of need

When evil darkens our world, give us light.
When despair numbs our souls, give us hope.
When we stumble and fall, lift us up.
When doubt assails us, give us faith.
When nothing seems sure, give us trust.
When ideals fade, give us vision.
When we lose our way, be our guide,
that we may find serenity in your presence and purpose in doing your will. (John D Rayner)

“Our humanity, our community response, our faith and our dedication has served as a beacon for many during the darkness and difficulty of the last few months. Let us keep this beacon burning brightly to make sure no one is left alone as we forge a new normal in our lives”. (Brian Williams)

Composer *Bernard Sexton* wrote a piece in dedication to all who died from Covid 19 and their families. The text of the refrain a very powerful with a scripture message that could give us all strength at this difficult time.

“God will wipe away all tears, God will bring you home,
To the place he has prepared for you, you shall never be alone.
Storms may gather, evening fall, daylight turn to shade,
And when your earthly work is done, do not fear, be not afraid”

Reflection on the Sunday Gospel

from Intercom

More than 50 years ago, in his famous speech “I have a dream”, Martin Luther King talked about “the fierce urgency of now”. He urged people to take positive action and to march forward together to address inequality and injustice, and his energy and conviction brought about massive change.

That sense of “fierce urgency” seems to grab Jesus and the disciples in today’s gospel. In the opening chapters of St Marks’s gospel everything happens “at once” or immediately. There is a sense of hurry; the time has come, the kingdom of God is near and Jesus needs helpers to work alongside him. Simon, Andrew, James and John are certainly ready, s ready that they are prepared to leave their livelihoods, and even families, to attend to the urgent business of spreading the Good News.

Jesus asks the same of us, his modern day disciples: “Follow me”. We are summoned too. We are challenged to set aside our worldly concerns, to see the world in a new way, and to begin a new adventure with Jesus. For every person in our world who is suffering or oppressed or in need, there is a “fierce urgency of now”. The work of the kingdom is too immediate to wait.

“There is no time to engage in the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizer drug of gradualism.
Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God’s children.....” (Martin Luther King Jr)

Wednesday is the **Feast of St Angela Merici** (1474-1540)

Angela was prophetic and far seeing. She met obstacles, yet founded the Ursuline Sisters.
They were the first teaching order of women approved by the church.

Her words are still an inspiration for us today: “Be faithful to that which God has called you”. “Christ is our only treasure”. “Beware of trying to accomplish anything by force”.