



Holy Trinity Church, Ratoath

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

2nd August 2020

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 10.00pm. All are welcome.

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

Mass on **Sunday 2nd August** at 11.00am will be streamed. The link is <https://youtu.be/gWOywyZZd-s>

Mass on **Sunday 9th August** at 11.00am will be streamed. The link is <https://youtu.be/VUAQcLIgzWU>

Eucharistic Adoration has resumed on Wednesdays from 10.00am to 10.00pm

Please **pray for the repose of the soul** of Josh Begley-Taylor (Rathfarnham, nephew of Jane Gillen (Fairyhouse Lodge) and of Rosland Taylor (The Old Mill) who died during the week.

May he rest in peace.

Meath Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock on Sunday 9th August, this year will be a virtual pilgrimage.

Two priests from the diocese will attend the Shrine in Knock for the Rosary at 2.30pm and Mass at 3.00pm. These events can be followed online on the Knock Shrine website. www.knockshrine.ie.

Youth 2000 Summer E-Festival 14th -16th August. Register free on www.youth2000.ie.

This year the content will be online, with as much as possible live-streamed and interactive.

A new pilgrimage on Lough Derg's lakeshore. *Walk and Pray* in the Lough Derg tradition on 16, 18, 22, 26 & 30 August. At times in the 1600s and 1700s when Station Island was closed by the Penal Laws, pilgrims undertook a form of pilgrimage on the lough shore. Walk in their footsteps.

Contact 0 (0353) 71 9861518 or info@loughderg.org for details. Numbers are limited.

Advance booking essential.

Baptisms have resumed. Baptisms will be held at different times on Saturday 15th & 22nd August.

Those who wish to have their child baptised in the month of August should contact the parish office and we will explain the protocols that are in place.

Job Vacancy – School Wardens Ratoath and Slane. Salary Scale €13.89 -€15.77 per hour (EL 08/19)

Application Form & Information Booklet are available on www.meath.ie/CountyCouncil/JobVacancies/

The closing date for submission of applications is Wednesday 5th August 2020 at 5.00pm.

Meath County Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

We wish to acknowledge and thank parishioners who have sent in the **blue and white envelopes** to the parish office. We appreciate your generosity and support at this difficult time.

2 Aug	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9 Aug	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7.00pm	Jimmy Ralph Joe Fernandes	7.00pm	Liam McLoughlin
9.00am	Conor Fogarty	9.00am	
11.00am	Molly & Frank Maher	11.00am	Margaret & Tom McMullan
12.15pm	Dee Fairbrother (Month's Memory) Jackie O'Sullivan	12.15pm	Ann Kerrigan Maureen Davis

Monday Deirdre Fairbrother

Tuesday Margaret Hynes

Wednesday Deirdre Fairbrother

Thursday Aileen Kavanagh

Friday Mass for all those on the Parish List of the Dead

Reflection on the Sunday Gospel.

Have you ever felt like you have nothing left to give? We all have time when we feel as though we do not have “enough” to offer, whether it is time, money, energy or even love. When work is busy we cannot have enough time for family. When we are physically or emotionally exhausted at the end of a long day, we might not have the energy to pray with our children or visit a friend. In the face of suffering in our society and around the world, we often feel helpless – whatever small amount of time or money we can give will never be enough.

But where we see “not enough”, God sees potential. What we see as a small contribution is not small to God, if it all we have to give and it is given with love. “All we have with us is five loaves and two fish” say the disciples to Jesus – a tiny offering when faced with a giant task. But Jesus takes what they have, blesses it and uses it to give sustenance to thousands. In the face of human limitations, God can do plenty.

We are told at the start of today’s reading that Jesus “took pity” on the large crowd that followed him. They have been out all day and are hungry, not to mention tired. They are so engrossed in listening to Jesus that time slipped away. They are running on empty and I am sure they would be dismayed if, as the disciples suggest, they had to hike to the nearest village to buy food. Jesus understands their exhaustion and hunger, their limitations and their “not enough”. What they have to give is inadequate but he can do more with it than they could ever have imagined. We too are limited in what we have to offer. But whatever we can give – to our family and friends and to those in need – God sees and blesses and multiplies.

from Intercom

“Give something, however small, to one in need. For it is not small to the one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could”.

St Gregory of Nazianzus

Words of Pope Francis at the Angelus last Sunday.

Dear brothers and sisters, good day!

I will look at the first two parables in today’s gospel reading in which the Kingdom of Heaven is compared to two different “precious” items, namely, the hidden treasure in the field and the pearl of great value. The reaction of the one who finds the pearl or the treasure is practically the same: the man and the merchant sell everything to buy what is now most dear to them.

With these two similes, Jesus proposes to involve us in the building of the Kingdom of Heaven, presenting an essential characteristic of Christian life, of the life of the Kingdom of heaven: those who fully pledge themselves to the Kingdom are those who are willing to stake everything, who are courageous. Indeed, both the man and the merchant in these two parables sell everything they have, thus renouncing their material security.

In our times, as we are all aware, some people’s lives can end up mediocre and dull because they probably do not go in search of real treasure: they are content with attractive but fleeting things, whose bright lights prove illusory as they give way to darkness.

Instead the light of the Kingdom is not like fireworks, it is light: fireworks last only an instant, whereas the light of the Kingdom accompanies all our life.

The Kingdom of Heaven is the opposite of the superfluous things that the world offers, the opposite of a dull life: it is a treasure that renews life every day and leads it to extend towards wider horizons.

Indeed, those who have found this treasure have a creative and inquisitive heart, which does not repeat but rather invents, tracing and setting out on new paths which lead us to love God, to love others, and to truly love ourselves. The sign of those who walk this path of the Kingdom is creativity, always trying to do more. And creativity is what takes life and gives life, and gives, and gives, and gives... It always looks for many other ways to give life.

Jesus, Who is the hidden treasure and the pearl of great value, cannot but inspire joy, all the joy of the world: the joy of discovering a meaning in life, the joy of committing oneself to the adventure of holiness.