



THE PARISH
OF ATHY

Comprising the Faith Communities
of:
ST MICHAEL'S, ATHY
&
ST MARY'S, BARROWHOUSE



MASS OF THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY 23RD FEBRUARY 2025

PRAYER

O God, you call us to compassion, even towards our enemies. Give us your healing grace that we resist the temptation to vengeance and instead be magnanimous even to our enemies. Amen.



PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

Recently Deceased:

Mary Hickey, Bert Tom Byrne, Grangemelon, Patsy Maginn, who died in Newbridge Mary Gallagher, Ardrew Meadows, Reception Monday at 6pm. Funeral Mass Tuesday at 11am. Burial in St. Michael's New Cemetery

Saturday 6pm

Month's mind: Eamon Owens, Marie Byrne
Birthdays rem: Jimmy Connell, Geraldine Kelly, David Prendergast, Sarah Marsheldean, Carmel Reddy (2nd Anniv)

Anniversaries: Noel Reddy (2nd A) Jim, Alice & Michael Fitzpatrick, Johanna Smyth, Mary Hayden, Sean Fanning, Dora & Patrick O'Donoghue, Angela Kelly (3rd A), Mary Bolger, Elizabeth Vaughan, Noel Reddy (2nd A), Damien Doran O'Reilly, John Cummins (10th A), Walter Clancy, James & Maureen Clancy, Michael Clancy, Vera Connolly, Michael Wall (6th A), James Fleming, Gabriel Okafor, Peggy & Michael Doyle, Declan & Danny Ayres, Dec. members of Ayres family, Stephen Leonard, Dec. members of Leonard family, Paul & Paddy Foley, Gay Coffey, Sean May, George Roche, Mary Roche, Kathleen Kelly, Patrick Gately

CHURCH NOTICES

Weekend Mass times: 6pm, 10.30am & 12 noon & Barrowhouse Sunday at 9 am Weekday Mass times: 9.30 am. Rosary at 9.10 am.

Last weekend collections;

Common: €1,185

Accord: €1,365

P. Dev.: € 999

Thanks to all who contributed

**Ash Wednesday is 5th March 2025
when Lent begins**

READINGS

Year C

First Reading: 1 Samuel 26:2 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

Psalm: Ps. 102: 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Gospel: Luke 6: 27-38

Heavenly Father,

We come before You with hearts full of hope and faith as we lift up Pope Francis in prayer. We ask for Your healing touch to be upon him during this time of illness. Grant him strength, comfort, and the grace to overcome any challenges he faces.

Surround him with Your love and guidance, and may the medical team caring for him be blessed with wisdom and skill. We trust in Your mercy and goodness.

May Your peace be upon him, and may he feel the prayers and support of the faithful around the world. We thank You for his witness of love and compassion, and we pray that he may continue to inspire and lead us. Amen

Sunday 9am Barowhouse: John Murphy (6th A), Michael & Eilish Whelan, Dec. members of Whelan & McDonnell families

Sunday 10.30am: Month's mind: Eamon Owens
Birthdays remembrance: Geraldine Kelly, Winifred Cunningham, Elizabeth Lawler

Anniversaries: John Mulhall, Paddy Mulhall, Mary Owens, James Fleming, Gabriel Okafor, Mick Leahy, Carmel & Jimmy Ryan, Sean May, Vivienne Anderson (13th A) Deceased members of Cunningham & Lawlor Families, Eileen Bolger

Sunday 12 noon:

Month's mind: Eamon Owens, Mona McDonnell
Anniversaries: James Fleming, Peggy & Michael Doyle, Sean May

Monday 9.30am: Eileen Deegan, Deceased members of Mulhall family, Mary Jo Gray nee Mulhall, Mary Meredith Con Ronan (Anniv)

Tues. 9.30 am: Vivienne Anderson, Rita Fenlon,

Birthdays rem: Elizabeth Lawler

Wednes. 9.30 am: John Foley, Deceased members of Foley family, Patrick & Daniel O'Brien

Thur. 9.30 am: Mamie Brady, Mary Berry, Joseph, Margaret & Kevin Murphy, J.J. Leonard

Friday 9.30am: Birthdays remembrance: Deirdre Reynolds Tommy Buckley (2nd A), Special Intention

ACCORD

Accord Carlow Relationship Counselling
at St. Catherine's Community Service Centre Carlow
Phone Mary at 086 4149034 or
email accordcarlow@gmail.com

ST. PATRICK'S DAY STOCK

St Patrick's Day cards, badges, emblems, prayers and rosaries now in stock in Parish Office

Mothers Prayers' Annual Weekend

St Johns Rest, Knock Shrine
7-9 th March
Marie 087 6184110
ireland@mothersprayers.org

Vocations Information

<https://dublindiocese.ie/vocations>

Please pray for more Vocations to the priesthood

ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT
in
Crookstown Church on Tuesday evening
7pm-8pm
All are welcome



Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock-Saturday, 26th April 2025



the Cross, tour of the Knock Museum; and prayerful preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

3PM
Pilgrimage Mass celebrated by Archbishop Farrell with the Sacrament of the Sick



For more information, email knockpilgrimage@dublindiocese.ie

Athy Parish website www.parishofathy.ie
Parish Radio 107.9 fm

LIFT YOUR VOICE !!

Have you ever thought about joining a choir ?? We sing at 6p.m. Mass two Saturdays a month. Our practice takes place on Tuesday nights at 8p.m. in the Gallery of the Church (Just for an hour). If interested contact Vincent - 087 1202934 - or Mary - 087 993173 or simply come along any Tuesday night.



"... You will find rest for your soul..."

Mt. 11:29

HOLY HOUR

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, ATHY
EVERY TUESDAY AT 2PM

(INCLUDING ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, HOLY ROSARY, TIME FOR QUIET PRAYER AND THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET)

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

"Pray constantly; and for all things give thanks; this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus."
1 Thess. 5:17-18

Athy Social Prescribing

Connect with your community

Contact: Sarah 086 0651635, sarah@countykildarelp.ie
or drop into Slaintecare Healthy Community Hub at Mount Hawkins, Athy. (See notice Board)
Free to adults over 18

PARISH OFFICE

Monday: 2.15 pm-4pm
(Closed Holy Days & Bank Holidays)
Tue & Wednes 9.30-1.30 & 2-4pm
Thur 9.30am-1.30 pm
Saturday: 10.30am-12.30am
Phone: 059 86 38391

PARISH TEAM

Fr. Liam Rigney P.P. Parochial Hs., 1 Stanhope Pl. Athy, Co. Kildare. R14 CH 90. Ph: 087 2607377 liam.rigney@dublindiocese.ie
Fr. Tim Hannon C.C. Ph: 059 8630704,
Fr. Francis McCarthy C.C. Ph: 087 6978143.
Canon Frank McEvoy, 4 Stanhope Pl
Pastoral Workers: Conor McCann, Ph: 086 7905654 conor.mccann@dublindiocese.ie
Natasha Geoghegan Ph: 087 6730300



CATECHETICAL CORNER – "I HOPE..."

Pope Francis has given a Catechesis on the virtue of Hope. How appropriate as we are in the Jubilee Year with the theme: 'PILGRIMS OF HOPE'.

Our Holy Father began his teaching by giving us a definition of hope, taken from the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1817). These words confirm that hope is the answer offered to our heart, when the absolute question arises in us: "What will become of me? What is the purpose of the journey? What is the destiny of the world?".

His Holiness continued by reminding us that if we see no point to life, if we have no purpose, in other words, if Hope is lacking, then all other virtues are at risk of crumbling. We become focussed on self, with no regard for others. The Holy Father went on, quoting the late Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical 'In Hope we are saved', : "Only when the future is certain as a positive reality does it become possible to live the present as well", (Encyclical Letter *Spe salvi*, 2, 2).

This Hope is not based on anything that we may have done or may do in the future, is not based on our actions or our own merits. Rather "it is because Christ died and rose again and gave us his Spirit." (*Spe salvi*, 1). St Paul put it another way: "If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all men most to be pitied" (1 Cor 15:17-19). If Christ is not raised from the dead, then we are, literally, lost. The Holy Father said: "if you believe in the Resurrection of Christ, then you know with certainty that no defeat and no death is forever."

To give in to disillusionment, to become impatient, is to sin against Hope. "The world today is in great need of this Christian virtue! The world needs hope, just as it greatly needs patience, a virtue that journeys hand-in-hand with hope."

The Holy Father concluded his catechesis by saying this: "Brothers and sisters, let us go ahead and ask for the grace to have hope, hope with patience. Always towards that definitive encounter; always thinking that the Lord is near us, that death will never ever be victorious. Let us go ahead and ask the Lord to give us this great virtue of hope, accompanied by patience."

Consider this: If you have time over the next few days, take some time to pray with and reflect on Psalm 40 and Psalm 91.