

ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH, ATHY

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Parish Office/Shop Tel: 059 86 38391. Opening hours: Tues.-Fri.: 9.30 am - 1.30 pm & Sat: 10.30 am - 1.30 pm.
Parish Secretary also available by phone: Tue - Fri from 2 pm - 4 pm. Parish email: athyparishrc@eircom.net

Parish website: www.stmichaelsathy.net

Sun 20th January 2013
2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

World Sunday for Migrants and Refugees

Pope Benedict XVI in his letter writes: The Second Vatican Council, in *Gaudium et Spes*, recalled that "the Church goes forward together with humanity"; therefore "the joys and the hopes, the grief and anguish of the people of our time, especially of those who are poor or afflicted, are the joys and hopes, grief and anguish of the followers of Christ as well. Indeed, nothing genuinely human fails to raise an echo in their hearts". Blessed John Paul II echoed these words when he stated that the human person is "the primary route that the Church must travel in fulfilling her mission... the way traced out by Christ himself". In the footsteps of my predecessors, I sought to emphasize in my Encyclical *Caritas in Veritate* that "the whole Church, in all her being and acting – when she proclaims, when she celebrates, when she performs works of charity – is engaged in promoting integral human development". I was thinking also of the millions of men and women who, for various reasons, have known the experience of migration. Migration is in fact "a striking phenomenon because of the sheer numbers of people involved, the social, economic, political, cultural and religious problems it raises, and the dramatic challenges it poses to nations, for "every migrant is a human person who, as such, possesses fundamental, inalienable rights that must be respected in every circumstance"

Dear brothers and sisters who yourselves are migrants, may this World Day help you renew your trust and hope in the Lord! Rejoice, for the Lord is near, and with him you will be able to overcome obstacles and difficulties, treasuring the experiences of openness and acceptance that many people offer you. For life is like a voyage on the sea of history, often dark and stormy, a voyage in which we watch for the stars that indicate the route. The true stars of our life are the people who have lived good lives. They are lights of hope. Certainly, Jesus Christ is the true light, the sun that has risen above all the shadows of history. But to reach

him we also need lights close by – people who shine with his light and so guide us along our way.

Income: Parish Dev: €1,906; Share: €982. Many thanks.

THE LITURGICAL READINGS:

Psalms: The psalms are different from the other readings from the Bible. They were written as poems or songs. There are 150 psalms altogether. Sometimes the psalm is sung. Between each verse there is a response which we are all invited to say. The psalm allows us to reflect on the Old Testament reading we have just heard.
Second Reading: This reading always comes from the part of the Bible called the New Testament. The reading is taken from the books that are found directly after the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

First Communion: A *Do This in Memory* Mass will be held next weekend at the 10am (BH) and 10.30am.

Confirmation: This weekend at the Sat 7pm and Sun 10am (BH) Mass, we will pray with the young people preparing for this sacrament.

Catholic Schools Week begins Sunday 27th January.

Enrolment for Churchtown School:

Parents who wish to enrol their children for Junior Infants next Sept 2013 may do so by calling to the Office during the week of 4th - 8th Feb. Please come from 10am-2pm and bring child's State Birth cert, baptismal cert and his/her P. P. S. Number.

Athy Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes

takes place from 1st to 6th July residing at Hotel Padoue. Cost €699. Details from Maureen Ryan 05986 31987. (Maureen thanks everybody who supported to the recent coffee morning which raised €1300 for granddaughter Ciara's mission trip to Calcutta.)

Eucharistic Adoration group meets Fri 25th at 4pm in the parish office.

Mercy Associates meet Monday 21st Jan in Cuan Mhuire at 8pm.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity continues til Fri 25th.

Clonfert: A day of healing and prayer will be held on Sat 26th Jan with a bus leaving Athy at 8am. Phone Eileen

05986 25215/25902 to book a seat.

Alpha Course: A meeting takes place in the Church of Ireland parish centre on Thursday 24th at 8pm to discuss a follow-up programme.

MASS SCHEDULE

Recently Deceased: Bridie Ryan, Gouleyduff, Baby John Murphy, David Neill, Ashville

Saturday 7pm

Month's Mind: Marie Caroline Costello, Michael Noonan

Anniversaries: Margaret & Joseph Delaney, Michael Doogue, Patrick & Teresa Delaney, Bridget Fitzgerald, Tom & Clare Broughall, Margaret Kelly, Michael Costello, Theresa Shaughnessy, Kathleen Carolan, Michael & Stasia McLoughlin, Agnes McLoughlin, Francis, Joe & Josephine Maloney, Johnny Loughman, Joe & Bridie Byrne, Briggie Byrne & Des Moylan.

Sunday

8.30 am: Mary Foley (9th Anniv.)

10 am Barrowhouse:

James, Josephine & Agnes O'Meara

10.30 am Share Mass

Recently Deceased: Val Mackey, Elizabeth Kavanagh, David Neill, Ted Brennan, Betty Muckerman nee May, Martin Conroy, Neddie Delahunt.

Anniversaries: Sarah Doyle, Bridget & Joseph Byrne, Bridget & Des Moylan, Peter Byrne, Billy Delahunt, Anne McKibbin, Fabian Dunne, Thomas Whelan, Joe Dooley, Lila Peters, Patrick Kelly, Chrissie Maher, Rosanna Brennan, William Brennan, Sarah Brennan, Rosaleen Kelly, Kathleen Carolan, Kathleen Lynch, Harry Foley, Tommy Donnolly, Joe & Bridie Byrne, Briggie Byrne, Des Moylan, Peter Byrne.

12 Noon:

Mon 9.15am:

Maureen & Denise Kerr

Tue 9.15am:

John McEvoy (3rd Anniversary)

Wed 9.15am: Lily McEntee

Thu 9.15am: Safe Journey

Friday 9.15am: Bill Holligan (8th Anniversary) & Andy O'Keefe