



THE PARISH OF ATHY

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



MASS OF THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 14TH JANUARY 2024

Prayer

Shake us up, Lord, and help us to see ourselves as we truly are, often settling for less, for the moderately good and the reasonably faithful. Give us a longing for more, for all you have in store for us, and on the way bless us with exhilaration that we may be joyful bearers of your Good News. Amen.



PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

Recently Deceased:

Emma Carbery, Coney Drive.
Anthony Lynch, Clonmullion Retirement Village
Donal Chambers, Kingsgrove
Mary O'Rourke nee O'Neill, Geraldine Rd.
Maura Walsh nee Ryan, Butlars Lane & formerly Ballagh, Monasterevan. Funeral Mass Monday at 11am Burial in St. Michael's New Cemetery.

Saturday 6pm -

Month's mind: Paddy Kelly, Gerry Freer

Anniversaries:

Margaret Kavanagh, Daniel Patrick Kavanagh, Mary 'Polly' Murphy, Patrick Mahon, Eileen Goulding, Elizabeth Kenny, Mary Doran, Dec. mem. of O'Toole Family, Dec. mem. of Kenny family, Patrick 'Paddy' Kelly, Nanny Murphy, Jimmy Connolly (35th A), Tony Kirwan, Anthony, Mary & Thomas Kirwan, David Neill, Pat Tynan, Sean Redmond, Anna Hoban, John Bannon, Elizabeth Bannon, Jody Bannon, Josie Dooley, Michael Callaghan, Eileen Digan, James & Mary Clandillon, William Carton

9 am Sunday Barrowhouse: Michael Fitzgerald (7th A), Agnes & James O'Meara, Marie & Joseph O'Meara, Daniel & Mary O'Connor, Terry Taylor

10.30 am: Anniversaries:

Jack Redmond, Agnes Bergin, Ellen & Joe Bergin, Ann & David Bach, Margaret & Joseph Delaney, Kathleen & Michael Bradley, Michael & Andrew Doogue, Margaret Hogan, Bridget & Joseph Byrne, Peter Byrne, Bridget & Des Moylan, Maggie Kelly (12th A), Tony Kirwan, Anthony, Mary & Thomas Kirwan, Bridget Hayden, Pat Tynan, Sean Redmond, Ann & Maurice McKibbin, Paddy Dunne, William Carton, James & Mary Clandillon

12 noon:

Recently Deceased: Monsignor Terence Moore, America
Birthday remembrance: Lily Quinn

Anniversaries:

Martin McDonald, Pamela O'Donovan (3rd A), Michael Wall, Jimmy Connolly (35th A), Tony Kirwan, Anthony, Mary & Thomas Kirwan, Joe & Bridie Dwyer, Elizabeth & Tony Moran, Lily Cleary, Marie Bridgette, James Hickey, James & Mary Clandillon, William Carton

Monday 9.30 am:

Pat Teahan, Nancy Fitzgerald, Special Intention, Paddy Dunne, William Carton

Tues. 9.30 am:

Maisie Scully, Joanne Delahun

Wednes. 9.30 am:

Betty Corcoran, Patrick Maher, Freddie Farrell

Thur. 9.30 am:

Friday 9.30 am:

Shelly Kelly (2nd A)

CHURCH NOTICES

Weekend Mass times: 6pm, 10.30am & 12 noon & Barrowhouse Sunday at 9 am

Weekday Mass times: 9.30 am

Due to work on heating 9am Rosary before Mass will **not** take place yet

Christian Unity Week commences today.

Christmas Dues: Thanks to those who have already contributed. If you have not done so but would like to, it is not too late. Dues Envelopes can be placed in collection bags at any Mass or handed into Parish Office during opening hours.

Last Weekend Collections:

P. Dev.: € 648

Common: €1,020

Share: € 645

Thanks to all who contribute

CATHOLIC

SCHOOLS WEEK

2024

21-27th January

See notice boards

MESSENGERS 2024

Reminder to those who have not yet paid their Messenger magazine subscription.

€24 that it is due.

January and February edition are now available at the Parish office.

READINGS

1st Reading: 1Samuel 3:3-10.19

Psalm: (Ps. 39)

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20

Gospel: John 1:35-42

St. Ignatian Spiritual Exercises for Men

Led by Fr Stephen Kennedy, IVE, Fri Feb 2nd to Mon Feb 5th (bank holiday) in De La Salle retreat centre, Castletown, Laois, R32N6D8. Cost €200 - includes all meals and en-suite single rooms. Call Sr. Constance 089 - 2152307 or c.puertadelaauroral@gmail.com

Saint of the Week

Our Children's Newsletter is available on our Parish Website in the Children's Corner along with a new feature of our Saint of the Week.

Tap and Go Contactless Donation



First Collection (Common Fund Priest Collection)
and the Second Collection (Share Fund)

&

Tap & Go for Parish Donations

You may be aware as you come through the doors of the church there are two devices.

One tap and Go for donations to the Archdiocese and the second for donations to Athy parish.

Thank you for your continued generosity.

ATHY PARISH OFFICE

Email: athyparishrc@eircom.net

Phone 059 86 38391

Address:

Parish Office, St. Michael's Church, Athy,
Co. Kildare. R14 CA 26

OPEN: Monday: 2.15-4pm

Tuesday & Wednes: 9.30-1.30 pm & 2-4pm

Thur & Fri: 9.30-1.30pm (by phone in the afternoon)

Sat: 10.30am-12.30 only

Office closed Holy Days & Bank Holidays

The shop now accept payment by visa/master card



PARISH TEAM

Fr. Liam Rigney P.P. Parochial Hs.,
1 Stanhope Pl. Athy, Co. Kildare.
R14 CH 90.

Ph: 087 2607377

liam.rigney@dublindioocese.ie

Fr. Tim Hannon C.C. Ph: 059 8630704,

Fr. Francis McCarthy C.C. Ph: 087 6978143.



Pastoral Workers:

Conor McCann, Ph: 086 7905654
conor.mccann@dublindioocese.ie

Athy Parish website
www.parihofathy.ie

Parish Radio
107.9 fm

Athy Mercy Associate Meeting which was to happen Monday, 15th January, has been postponed until Monday, 22nd January, at 7.30 pm.



ENROLMENT IN SCOIL PHADRAIG NAOFA 2024

For Junior infants or ASD classes

From

Friday 12th January - Friday 2nd February

Contact details

059 8634811

ENROLMENT

Scoil Mhichil Naofa

Junior infants boys & girls

Mon. 15th Jan. 9am-Tues. 6th Feb. 3pm

Forms available on website

www.smnathy.ie

ENROLMENT

Kilberry National School
now accepting enrolments for Sept. 2024

Application form on line

www.kilberrys.ie

Contact school office 0598638448

Email kilberry.ias@gmail.com

Closing date for applications 22nd March

ATHY COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

welcome Margaret Brennan in concert
with special guest artists Canadian Duo "

The Goddamsels" in concert on

Thursday, January 18th at 8pm.

A night of compelling storytelling,
stunning instinctive harmonies and some
collaboration numbers featuring both acts.

Athy Arts 087 0576713

or email athyarts@gmail.com

Mount St. Anne's Retreat & Conference Centre,

Killenard, Portarlington, Co. Laois. R32 WN59

Job Vacancies

Chef/Cook

Domestic Assistants

Mount St Anne's is looking for dynamic and experienced people to join our Team at this busy Centre.

For detailed job description, please email

ceo@mountstannes.com.

Closing date for Applications (CV and letter of application):

Tuesday January 30th @ 9am

For information about the Centre visit our

website: www.mountstannes.com

Mount St Anne's is an equal opportunities employer.



Reflection/Meditation on Sunday's Gospel

Presented By Ruah Retreat Team

Join us for free **online** weekly sessions to strengthen our hope and nourish the soul.

Sunday Evenings 6.45p.m. (Online via Zoom)

Further enquiries & bookings to info@ruahrest.com

CATECHETICAL CORNER – DID JESUS TELL US NOT TO PRAY THE ROSARY?

For some, mainly non-Catholics, prayers like the rosary, which involves repetition of the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, and the Gloria, are anti-biblical, because in Matthew 6:7, Jesus said: *"And in praying do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their many words."* But Jesus never said we cannot pray in repetition at all. He said, *"Do not heap up 'empty phrases' as the Gentiles do."*

Historically, the central purpose behind prayer and sacrifice among the pagans was to appease or "take care of" the gods, saying all of the right words in order to "move" the gods to act. This becomes evident when in the very next verses of Matthew 6, Jesus says: *"Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done..."*

Jesus gave us a prayer to recite, and yes, in "repetitious" fashion, but it has nothing to do with "moving God." It has everything to do with God moving us! It is *"thy will be done,"* not *"my will be done."* There are other instances of repetitious prayer in Scripture. Consider Revelation 4:8: *"day and night they never cease to sing, 'Holy, holy, holy..."* Or Psalm 136 which repeats the words *"for his steadfast love endures forever"* twenty-six times in twenty-six verses! Perhaps most importantly, we have Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane; *"...again [Jesus] went away and prayed, saying the same words..."* (Mk.14:39). Our Lord was here praying for hours and saying the same words. Is this "vain repetition?" Surely not.

And neither is the rosary about mindless repetition to ensure God will hear us and give us what we want. That would be "vain repetition." We repeat the prayers of the rosary in order to help keep our focus while we meditate upon the most important mysteries of the Faith. Each decade has a meditation on a different and central mystery in the life of Jesus Christ for our salvation.

Prayers such as the rosary have tremendous spiritual benefit. The prayers and meditations represented are either from Scripture or from the greatest minds and souls who have gone before us, as well as spiritually rich. These prayers can challenge us because of their spiritual depth while they keep us from reducing God to a cosmic vending machine. "Give me, give me, give me..."

Is there a danger of reducing the rosary to mindless recitation? Yes. But this happens in spite of the prayer, not because of it. The rosary, and other prayers, devotions, and meditations of our Catholic tradition actually save us from the "vain repetition" that Jesus warns about in the Gospel.

Adapted from an original article by Tim Staples - October 2022