



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



## TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY 17TH AUGUST 2025

### PRAYER

Faithful God, stay with us on the journey towards Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Amen.



### 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.

**Summer Dues,** Please support your priests, sick priests, and those in poorer parishes. Dues envelopes can be placed in collection bags or handed into parish office during office hours.

Last Weekend Collections

**P. Dev.:** €729 **Common:** €1,060 **Share** €830

*Thanks to all who contributed*

### O.N.E.

St Michael's branch, Athy annual Mass will take place here in St. Michaels Church at 12 noon  
Sunday 24th August.  
The Newbridge Gospel choir will be present.  
A wreath laying ceremony will be held in the Marian Shrine Grotto after Mass.  
All are welcome.

### A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

As part of the Jubilee of Hope, the partnership of parishes of Athy, Narraghmore, Moone and Castledermot are having a Pilgrimage of Hope on Saturday September 20th incorporating the 8 churches across the four parishes.

More details to follow.

### READINGS Year C

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

**Psalms:** Ps.39: 2-4.18

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 12:1-4

**Gospel:** Luke 12: 49-53

### PRAYERS FOR THE DEAD

#### Recently Deceased:

*Ita Conway, Cois Bhearu*

*Pat Delaney, Suncroft*

*Margaret O'Toole, Mansfield*

*Michael Costello, Pairc Bhríde*

#### Sat. 6pm Vigil

**Month's mind:** Maurice Cahill

**Birthday Remembrance:** Brigid Luttrell

**Anniversaries & Remembrance:**

James O'Neill, Mary O'Neill (1st A), Mary Mulhall nee Brohoon, Dec. members of Brohoon & Mulhall families, Betty Goulding, Nora Mary Gallagher, Mary Shiel James Sheil, Kathleen Shiel, Serge Pacos, John Ludlow, Michael O'Shea, Richard Cullen (8th A), Harry & Mary Foley, Kathleen & Willie Lynch, Pat Leggett, Patrick Maher, Jim May, Alice Thornton, Madge Daley, Catherine Buckley nee Curtis (20<sup>th</sup> A)

**Sunday 9am Barrowhouse:** Joan Howe

**Sunday 10.30am: Month's mind:**

**Birthday remembrance:** Ann Molloy & Anniv.

**Anniversaries & Remembrance:**

James O'Neill, Mary O'Neill (1st A), Jane Reynolds nee Kavanagh, Jim May, Catherine Buckley nee Curtis (20<sup>th</sup> A) Christopher, Mary & Chris Maher, Paddy Maher, Paddy McCarthy, Agnes McCarthy, Jim, Mary & Thomas McCarthy, Pat & Mary McCarthy, Tommy & Joyce Maher, Dom & Billy Maher, Carol Maher, Kathleen & Joyce Maher

**Sunday 12 noon:**

**Anniversaries & Remembrance:** James O'Neill, Mary O'Neill (1st A), Nora Mary Gallagher, Jim May, Catherine Buckley nee Curtis (20<sup>th</sup> A)

**Monday 9.30 am:** Christopher & Mary Cleary, Betty O'Mara Hester May, Claire Fitzgerald nee Tierney (6th A), Karolina Lutczyk, Karolina & Pawel Rzepecki

**Tues. 9.30 am:**

Special Intention, Donor's Intention, Patrick McDonnell (Anniv)

**Wednes. 9.30 am:**

**Birthday remembrance:** Jer O'Sullivan

**Anniv:** Abbey George, John Hamilton,

**Thur 9.30am:** John & Maureen Murphy, Anne 'Nancy' Davis, nee Mulhall formerly Larkfield. Funeral in England today

**Friday 9.30am:**

### CEMETERY MASS

Fr Vincent Dempsey  
will celebrate Mass in  
**Fontstown Cemetery**  
on

Sunday 24th August 2025 at 3pm.

**Child Care seat safety from Road Safety Authority's upcoming 'Check it Fits' Service which will be visiting Kildare:**

Tesco Maynooth, Dublin Rd, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	10.00am - 5.30pm	Tuesday 19 August 2025
SuperValu Celbridge, St Wolstan's SC Dublin Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	10.00am - 5.30pm	Wednesday 20 August 2025

There will be no Holy Hour in the month of August.  
Adoration resumption on Tuesday, 9th September.

**Preparing for Marriage? Weekend residential courses available. 21-23 November 2025.**  
Details: [www.grasta.org](http://www.grasta.org) or at [info@grasta.org](mailto:info@grasta.org)

**ROSARY & PRAYERS**  
at Our Lady of Fatima Grotto, Kilkenny Rd  
every Sun at 7.30 pm.

All welcome

#### CATECHETICAL CORNER – POOR UZZAH

I feel sorry for poor Uzzah! Uzzah was one of the sons of Abinadab, in whose house was the Ark of the Covenant (*see 2 Sam. 6*). As the Ark was being transported to Jerusalem it began to shift on the cart on which it was travelling. Uzzah reached out to steady it, to prevent it from falling. But because the Ark was so sacred, and because he dared touch it, GOD struck Uzzah dead on the spot. It is in this account that we begin to see the teaching of perpetual virginity of Mary. Not as much of stretch as it might first appear. How? Because Mary is the Ark of the 'new' Covenant. In herself she bore the Bread of Life, the High Priest, the fulfilment of the old covenant/testament and the beginning of the new – (*See Hebrews 9:4*).

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says this: *'What the Catholic faith believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Christ, and what it teaches about Mary illumines in turn its faith in Christ.'* (CCC #487). In other words, the Church holds that Mary was ever virgin because she bore GOD in her womb. Thus, making her sacred. And her sacredness speaks to the divinity of the One whom she bore.

There is an old Jewish custom of life long consecration to GOD - see Numbers 6:1-21. When the angel Gabriel spoke to Mary and she replied: *'How can this be since I do not know man?'* (Lk. 1:34) Mary was saying "I am consecrated to GOD". It was for this reason, her consecration to GOD, that Joseph respected Mary's virginity. That he not only respected it; he also defended and honoured it. In his document, REDEMPTORIS CUSTOS – GUARDIAN OF THE REDEEMER - (*August 15 1989*), St Pope John Paul II said: *'Joseph obeyed the explicit command of the angel and took Mary into his home, while respecting the fact that she belonged exclusively to God.'* (#20). He goes on to say: *"Virginity or celibacy for the sake of the Kingdom of God [even within marriage] not only does not contradict the dignity of marriage but presupposes and confirms it. Marriage and virginity are two ways of expressing and living the one mystery of the Covenant of God with his people."... the Covenant which is a communion of love between God and human beings....God, by giving Joseph to the Virgin, did not give him to her only as a companion for life [but as] a witness of her virginity and protector of her honour..."* (#20) While the Catechism states clearly that Mary was and remained a perpetual Virgin – see CCC no's. 496-501.

In John 19:26-27, Jesus says to Mary: *'Woman behold your son... this is your mother...'* If Mary had other children why would Jesus say that? Why would John take Mary into his home? To do so would have been a violation of Jewish law and custom, not to mention a great insult to His brothers, had HE had any. In the week when we honour Mary's Glorious Assumption into Heaven, we honour too her perpetual virginity and the GOD-man whom she bore, while not forgetting poor Uzzah!

#### PARISH OFFICE OPEN;

**Monday** 2pm-4pm  
**Tue & Wednes** 9.30-1.30 & 2-4pm  
**Thur** 9.30am-1.30 pm & **Friday** 9.30am-1.30 pm  
**Saturday:** 10.30am-12.30am  
**Phone:** 059 86 38391  
**Email:** [athyparishrc@eircom.net](mailto:athyparishrc@eircom.net)

#### ACCORD

Accord Carlow Relationship Counselling  
at St. Catherine's Community Service Centre Carlow  
Phone Mary at 086 4149034 or  
**email** [accordcarlow@gmail.com](mailto:accordcarlow@gmail.com)



#### Share & Common Mass collections donate

The Archdiocese of Dublin have a  
"Tap and Go" contactless donation method to enable people to donate directly to the  
**First Collection (Common Fund Priest Collection)**  
and the **Second Collection (Share Fund)**  
Card machines are in place in the Church for this purpose,  
one at the back one at the side.  
You can use your Debit/Credit Card or indeed your mobile phone if you it payments enabled on your phone.

**There is also a Tap & Go machine in church to donate to Parish**

Children Liturgy Sheets  
available at doors of church



**Athy Parish website** [www.parihofathy.ie](http://www.parihofathy.ie)  
**Parish Radio** 107.9 fm

#### Pilgrimage to Fatima

Pilgrimage to Fatima - an escorted group pilgrimage with excursion to Eucharistic miracle of Santarém. The pilgrimage is 4 nights, flying from Dublin 10th - 14th of September 2025

Cost €799pps. Single room supplement €200.

Spiritual Director: Fr. Francis McCarthy

For further information please contact Lily O'Mara on 0863190742.

#### PARISH TEAM

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