

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday August 26th 2018

WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES 21st-26th August 2018

VISIT OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS 25th & 26th August 2018

MASS INTENTIONS for the week ahead:

Sat Vigil: Barbara Smith, John & Mairead Tyrell.

Sun 11.30am: John Ward, Joseph & Josephine & Eugene O'Reilly.

Mon 11am: Funeral Mass for Michael Maher

Tues 7.30pm: Owen & Kitty Murtagh and granddaughter Laura.

Sun 9am: Christopher & Mary Duignan

Sun 11.30am: Philomena Lynch M.M.

WEEKDAY MASSES: Mon 8am, Tues 7.30pm. No Mass Wed, Thurs, Fri and Sat am.

MINISTERS OF THE WORD for next weekends' Masses are: Vigil (Sept 1st) Teresa Doherty 11.30am (Sept 2nd) Bernie Sherrock.

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST for next weekends' Masses are: Vigil (Sept 1st) Mary Holland, Elizabeth Gough, Paul Doherty & Clive Doherty 11.30am (Sept 2nd) Catherine Mc Elhinney, Tony Barry & Tom Sheridan.

COLLECTIONS: Athboy €985, Rathmore €205, Rathcairn €95. Many thanks.

ADORATION OF BLESSED

SACRAMENT: on Friday commencing at 9am and continuing throughout the day until late.

FEASTDAYS in the week ahead:

Mon Aug 27th – St Monica

Tues Aug 28th – St Augustine

Wed Aug 29th – Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist.

Thurs Aug 30th – St Fiacre

Fri Aug 30th – St Aidan of Lindisfarne

Sat Sept 1st – Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation.

REST IN PEACE: Your prayers are requested for Christina Smith, Beechgrove, Patricia Gallagher, Frayne, Teresa Sweeney, Dublin & Athboy, Mandy Mohan, Dublin (sister of Fr. Mark Mohan) and Michael Maher, Meadowlands whose funeral takes place on Monday in Athboy.

THANKS: We thank Fr Niku very sincerely for being with us in recent weeks, for his presence with us to pray with us and for us, and to celebrate Mass and the sacraments. We wish him well as he returns to Romania in the week ahead.

NEW PARISH PRIEST: Bishop Smith has appointed Fr Padraig McMahon as our new parish priest to succeed Fr O'Connor. Fr McMahon is currently administrator in the Cathedral in Mullingar where he has served for the past ten years. He is a native of Kingscourt and has served in the parishes of Navan, Clara and Rosemount.

BAPTISMAL MEETING: The next baptismal meeting for parents who wish to have their babies baptised takes place on Monday September 3rd. Please enrol in advance to the Parochial House.

MASS & PRESENTATION TO FR. O'CONNOR: The committee wish to thank everybody who has contributed to the collection for Fr. O'Connor. If there are, any other parishioners who would like to contribute please your envelope to any of the churches or the Parochial House as soon as possible. Donations can also be lodged directly into account 8246 in the Credit Union. All are invited to a Mass on Friday September 7th at 7.30pm in St. James' Church, followed by presentation and light refreshments in the Darnley Lodge Hotel. Our sincere thanks.

ATHBOY CHURCH CHOIR: Choir practise has resumed in preparation for their trip to Lourdes in September. Wednesdays at 7.45pm.

THE CEMETERY – An Update: The work in the cemetery is completed. Thank you for your very kind generosity in supporting our fundraising events. Envelopes for "Sponsor a Metre of Tarmac" are still available and the total figure so far raised is €5,910. The Golf Classic raised €5,435. Donations can also be made on our website.

CHY 4 FORMS: If you have received a Chy 4 form recently we would appreciate if you could return it as soon as possible. The Revenue Commissioners offer a tax rebate to charities for donations over €250 per year from any individual.

NEW BISHOP: Parishioners are asked to keep Bishop-elect Tom Deenihan in your prayers as he prepares for his ordination as Bishop of Meath on Sunday 2 September. A Holy Hour and guided prayer for the new Bishop and for the Diocese of Meath will take place in the Cathedral in Mullingar on Friday 31 August from 7.30pm until 8.30pm, led by Bishop Smith. During the liturgy, the new Bishop's crozier, mitre and ring will be blessed. All are welcome to join us for this prayer.

O'GROWNEY N.S. will re-open on Monday 3rd September.

ROSARY ON THE COAST FOR LIFE & FAITH: Following the passing of the referendum removing the protection for unborn babies in Ireland we ask you to come and please pray the Rosary on the Coasts of Ireland on Oct 7th 2018 for the protection of unborn babies and for the strengthening of the Catholic Faith. Sign up for a location at www.coastalrosaryireland.ie.

GIVE BLOOD on Tuesday 28th August from 4.30pm-8pm in the Darnley Lodge Hotel.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS URGENTLY NEEDED: The Irish Cancer Society operates a free volunteer driver service for referred patients attending the following hospitals for chemotherapy treatment - Mater hospitals, St. James', Tallaght and St. Vincent's. We are looking for drivers with free weekday availability, who have a car available to them and can commit to driving a minimum of two (week) days a month. For an application form please call Laura on 01 2310594.

Love is something to live and learn. Perfect families do not exist: This must not discourage us, quite the opposite. Love is something we learn; love is something we live; love grows as it is "forged" by the concrete situation which each particular family experiences. Love is born and constantly develops amid lights and shadows. (Pope Francis, Prayer Vigil, Philadelphia, Sept 26, 2015.)

We may feel bad, sometimes, that our families aren't perfect – or that they aren't a whole lot better: kinder, more obedient, more capable, you name it.

But love is our mission-it's a big deal! Do we really think we're going to spend our whole lives on something we can master so easily?

Would you want to spend your whole life doing something that didn't get more interesting – and more challenging?

Lord, help us not to feel overwhelmed by the difficulties we experience in our families.

Let us recognise our challenges as ways in which you are forging new and better hearts within us.

World Meeting of Families 2018