

# THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

Sunday 31st December 2023

WISHING ALL OUR PARISHIONERS EVERY BLESSING AND HAPPINESS IN THE NEW YEAR.

## ATHBOY PARISH

Parochial House

Tel: 046 9432184

Website: [www.athboyparish.ie](http://www.athboyparish.ie)

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### MASS TIMES this week:

**Sunday:** 9am Rathmore  
10.15am Rathcairn  
11.30am Athboy

**Monday** 10am

**Tuesday** 7.30pm

**Wed, Thursday & Friday** 9.30am

**Saturday:** 10am & **Vigil** 6.15pm

### MASS INTENTIONS this week:

**Saturday Vigil 6.15pm:**

Thomas & Eileen Maguire,  
Rita O'Dwyer & Naoise McManus

**Sunday morning:**

**9am:** Brendan Smith

**10.15am:** Bairbre Uí Dhonnchadha

**11.30am:** Tom Mullen Snr  
Johnny Clarke

**Tue 7.30pm** Michael Carroll  
Peter & Mary Lynch

**Wed 5pm:** Baby Christy McDonagh

**Fri 9.30am:** List of the Dead

**Sat 10am:** Lillie Ennis  
Della Kelly

**Next Saturday Vigil 6.15pm:**

Ann Ennis

Rose 'Dodie' Smith

Annie Jane, Jim & Seamus Kelly

**Next Sunday**

**9am:** Brian & Teresa Smith

**11.30am:** John Carolan

**Baptisms:** may be booked by contacting the Parochial House.

### Offertory Collection

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December

Athboy €860

Rathmore €130 Thank

Rathcairn €175 You!

RIP

**Rosaleen Cullen**

Castlelawns

**Mary Mosely, née Doran**

Died in England



**Feast of the Holy Family:** The Church asks us to remember this family in a special manner on the first Sunday after Christmas, the Feast of the Holy Family. Mary and Joseph cooperated with God's plan for the world. They were invited and they said 'yes' to playing their part in the birth and rearing of Jesus, the Son of God. We often think of Jesus as divine and a wondrous miracle worker. This is true, but it is important to remember that he was also human – a baby and then a boy. Like other children, he had to learn to walk, to sleep through the night, to share his toys, to say his prayers, to make up his mind and to forgive others. He learned these things, and more besides, from Mary and Joseph. We celebrate and honour the Holy Family because they give us an example of how to respond to God's love and how to share that love with one another. **Grow in Love**

## The Epiphany of the Lord, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January, Holyday of Obligation.



*On this feast Jesus is revealed as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the World. We celebrate the adoration of Jesus by the Wise Men (Magi) from the East who represent the pagan religions of neighbouring territories.*

**Mass on Saturday at 10am.**

**Christmas Offerings:** thank you for your generous support.

**Irish Catholic:** available weekly in Athboy Church, €3

**Next Bingo:** in aid of parish funds on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January at 3pm.



**Pilgrimage to Lourdes:** Fr Pdraig will lead a small group pilgrimage to Our Lady's Shrine, Lourdes, departing 28<sup>th</sup> April - 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024. Booking and further details 046 9432184.

**Tax Reclaim Forms:** thank you to everyone who has returned their form. If you receive a form and are eligible, we would be grateful if you could sign and return it to the Parochial House. Please note, there is no cost involved.



“The eyes and the hearts of Christians throughout the world turn to Bethlehem; in these days, it is a place of sorrow and silence, yet it was there that the long-awaited message was first proclaimed: “To you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord” (Lk 2:11). Those words spoken by the angel in the heavens above Bethlehem are also spoken to us. We are full of hope and trust as we realize that the Lord has been born for us; that the eternal Word of the Father, the infinite God, has made his home among us. He became flesh; he came “to dwell among us” (Jn 1:14). This is the good news that changed the course of history!” **Pope Francis**