

Rathdowney Parish Newsletter
23rd / 24th May 2020
The Ascension of the Lord
Parish Office: 0505-46282.
Email: rathdowney@ossory.ie
Fr. Martin Delaney 086 2444594

Saturday 8.30 pm

Edward Lowry, Cappalinnan

Thomas O'Brien,

Sunday 11 am

Kieran Phelan, Donaghmore 10th Anniversary

Bridie Daly, High Street

Jack & Nellie Williams, Grogan

Masses During the Week

Mon to Friday: 10 am Mass

Every Day: Rosary at 5.30pm

Friday 9pm: Vigil for Pentecost

Masses Next Weekend

Saturday 8.30pm

Bill Gorman, Errill

Sunday 11 am:

Billy & Ciss Bowe, Moore Street

Anniversaries:

Mary Cahill, School Road, Errill

Bridie Grogan, School Road, Errill

Cemetery Masses 2020

It is very unlikely that we will be able to have Cemetery Masses in the traditional way this summer. However, we plan to broadcast masses from the cemeteries in the coming weeks. Currently we are working on how to do this in the most appropriate and creative way possible. The first Mass will be from **Bealady Cemetery on Friday 5th of June at 7pm**. The Mass will be accessible on our Parish Website(www.rathdowneyparish.ie) and NOT on the webcam. The Mass from the Local Cemetery in Rathdowney will be broadcast on Friday 12th of June and from Errill Cemetery on Friday 19th of June at 7pm I encourage families who would normally travel to be together to gather around the grave of a loved one, to plan tuning in to the masses on each evening.

New facility for paying Parish and Priest Contributions

Many charities and Church communities have seen a dramatic drop off in their contributions during these months of *Covid-19* related restrictions. It seems unlikely that we will be able to have regular public celebrations of Mass for some months and even then, the restrictions posed by social distancing will limit the number of people in our churches to about 25% of their capacity. I want to express again my gratitude to so many of our parishioners who have continued to contribute to both our weekly parish collection and the Lenten and Easter Offerings which go to pay my salary. This week we have installed on our website (www.rathdowneyparish.ie) a facility which will allow parishioners to pay their parish and priest related contributions directly without using cash or envelopes. The process is very secure, straightforward, and hopefully simple to use. It allows you to pay a once off amount or a weekly/monthly contribution indicating which collection you are contributing to. For those holding parish envelopes it is important that you include the number of your envelope when making a payment. This allows us to issue you with a receipt and record your contribution for the Charity Cash Back scheme.

From time to time I am asked by people from outside the parish, or parishioners who have not received envelopes, about contributing to the parish. This facility will allow anyone who wishes to make a contribution to do so in a simple and safe manner. When booking an anniversary or months mind mass or indeed any other situation which involves a payment or contribution you can now use the donate button on the website.

I really hope you will consider using this new facility and if you have any questions about how it works feel free to call me or the Parish Office. The Office is not officially opened during this time, but Darina or Maureen are there for a period of time on most weekdays. Thank you for all your support of the parish and me personally during these most challenging days for everyone.

Fr. Martin

Vigil for Pentecost

During the month of May we have had an hour of prayer each Friday evening at 9pm. The final one of these will take place next Friday 29th of May. As we approach the Feast of Pentecost the Friday prayer will take the form of an All Night Vigil from 9pm to 9am on Saturday. While the Vigil will be broadcast on the webcam I'm inviting parishioners to attend in the church throughout the night. In keeping with the restrictions around social distancing this will be limited to four people each hour meaning a total of 48 people. I'm also asking those interested to reserve a place in advance by contacting me or the Parish Office in the coming week. The places are offered on a first come first served basis and please do not come to the church unless you have reserved a slot. I'm sorry to be so prescriptive about this but I'm afraid it may be part of the new normal when it comes to gathering together even in

Trocaire Boxes

Anyone who wishes to, can leave their Trocaire Boxes into the Parish Office and we will arrange to have the money donated directly to Trocaire.

Weekly Concert

Soprano Veronica Dunne from Abbeyleix will entertain us this week at our concert on Tuesday at 1 pm available on the website www.rathdowneyparish.ie
Or
www.parishwebsites.ie/rathdowney