

## RATHOWEN

St Mary's Church, Rathowen

### HOLY FAMILY

Sun Dec 30<sup>th</sup>, 11am Morning Mass

[nigelcharles2003@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nigelcharles2003@yahoo.co.uk)

RATHOWEN/STREETE	
Weekday Masses	
<b>Mon Dec 31<sup>st</sup></b>	
Rathowen 7pm	
<b>Tues Jan 1<sup>st</sup></b>	
Boherquill 11am	
<b>Wed Jan 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	
Rathowen 9.30am	
<b>Thurs Jan 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	
Rathowen 9.30am	
<b>Friday, Jan 4<sup>th</sup></b>	
Rathowen 9.30am	

Extra-Ordinary Minister for Jan – Angela Connaughton

Reader for Jan

Jenny Kelly

Mass in Jan

Rathowen – Saturday 8pm

Boherquill – Sunday 11am

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Sun Dec 30<sup>th</sup> at 11am

McGlynn DFM

Sat Jan 5<sup>th</sup> at 8pm

Patricia & Willie Tighe, DFM

Offertory Collection for last weekend was €410 and for Christmas €497. Thank you for your support.

#### The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (Feast)

Take care of your father when he is old. (Sirach 3:12)

Many of us are already living out Sirach's exhortation. In fact, statistics show that in many developed countries, 20 percent of the population is caring for ill, disabled, or aged family members. And they are spending an average of 20 hours per week doing it. We read this passage from Sirach on the feast of the Holy Family because it speaks to all of our families in a surprising way. It tells us that caring for an elderly family member brings unexpected blessings: forgiveness of sins, spiritual treasures, joy, answered prayers, even long life. Yes, it can be a burden at times, but the blessings far outweigh the burden. Taking care of our parents does a lot for us spiritually. We see God's self-giving love growing in us. As we walk with them in their later years, we find that we are also walking closer to the Lord. Our perspective on what are important shifts, and we, too, begin thinking more about our heavenly home.

[www.rathowenparish.ie](http://www.rathowenparish.ie)

## STREETE

St Mary's Church, Boherquill

### HOLY FAMILY

Sat Dec 29<sup>th</sup>, 8pm Vigil Mass

[www.streeteparish.ie](http://www.streeteparish.ie)

Readers – Margaret Baxter (Jan 6<sup>th</sup>)

Extra-Ordinary Ministers – Louise Tieman (Jan 6<sup>th</sup>)

Mass in Jan

Rathowen – Saturday 8pm

Boherquill – Sunday 11am

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Sat Dec 29<sup>th</sup> at 8pm

Fr James Masterson

Sun Jan 6<sup>th</sup> at 11am

Special intention

Offertory Collection for last weekend was €650 and for Christmas €590. Thank you for your support.

STREETE/RATHOWEN	
Weekday Masses	
<b>Mon Dec 31<sup>st</sup></b>	
Rathowen 7pm	
<b>Tues Jan 1<sup>st</sup></b>	
Boherquill 11am	
<b>Wed Jan 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	
Rathowen 9.30am	
<b>Thurs Jan 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	
Rathowen 9.30am	
<b>Friday, Jan 4<sup>th</sup></b>	
Rathowen 9.30am	

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph** (continued)

Blessing might not be the first thing you think of though. The idea of being a caregiver can be scary. Financial concerns, emotional strain, and burnout are real issues. You might struggle to find time to recharge yourself, or have trouble avoiding sibling resentments. But the same study referred to previously also shows that more than 80 percent of caregivers report that the experience is rewarding. They feel satisfaction from giving back to someone who sacrificed for them, they know they're providing quality care, and they feel increased meaning and purpose in life. If you are currently caring for an elderly loved one, take heart! God is pleased by your efforts and is pouring out grace on you. If you are on the receiving end, know that you are a blessing to your loved ones. If you anticipate a time when you will need to do more for your parents, don't worry. Everything you do to honor and care for them will bless you. (The Word Among Us)

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Fr Nigel Charles 087 7009433/043 6685847