

RATHOWEN

St Mary's Church, Rathowen

Fourth Sun of Lent

Sun March 14th, 10am Morning Mass

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RATHOWEN/STREETE WEEKDAY ADORATION

Tues, Mar 16th

Boherquill – Adoration 10 – 10.30am

Thurs, Mar 18th

Rathowen – Adoration 10 – 10.30am

Fri, Mar 19th

Boherquill – Adoration 7 – 8pm

Extra ordinary minister for Mar –

Reader for Mar –

Counters for Mar –

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun Mar 14th, at 10am

Daniel & Mary Jane McNamara, Angela, Alfred & Donie

Sun morning Mass at 10am live streamed on Rathowen Community Development Facebook page

St Patrick's Day

This Wed we celebrate St Patrick's Day, Mass at 10am from Rathowen will live-streamed from Community Development Facebook page

Pope Francis focuses on the three theological virtues in his Lenten message for 2021, inviting the faithful to "renew our faith, draw from the living waters of hope, and receive with open hearts the love of God."

3. *Love, following in the footsteps of Christ, in concern and compassion for all, is the highest expression of our faith and hope.*

Love rejoices in seeing others grow. Hence it suffers when others are anguished, lonely, sick, homeless, despised or in need. Love is a leap of the heart; it brings us out of ourselves and creates bonds of sharing and communion. "Social love makes it possible to advance towards a civilization of love, to which all of us can feel called. With its impulse to universality, love is capable of building a new world. No mere sentiment, it is the best means of discovering effective paths of development for everyone" (*Fratelli Tutti*, 183).

Love is a gift that gives meaning to our lives. It enables us to view those in need as members of our own family, as friends, brothers or sisters. A small amount, if given with love, never ends, but becomes a source of life and happiness. Such was the case with the jar of meal and jug of oil of the widow of Zarephath, who offered a cake of bread to the prophet Elijah (cf. *1 Kings* 17:7-16); it was also the case with the loaves blessed, broken and given by Jesus to the disciples to distribute to the crowd (cf. *Mk* 6:30-44).

www.rathowennarish.ie

STREETE

St Mary's Church, Boherquill

Fourth Sun of Lent

Sat March 13th, Vigil Mass

www.streeteparish.ie

Extra ordinary minister for –

Reader for –

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat Mar 13th

Helen Gaynor

St Patrick's Day

This Wed we celebrate St Patrick's Day, Mass at 10am from Rathowen will live-streamed from Community Development Facebook page

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Pope Francis focuses on the three theological virtues in his Lenten message for 2021 (Continued)

Such is the case too with our almsgiving, whether small or large, when offered with joy and simplicity. *To experience Lent with love* means caring for those who suffer or feel abandoned and fearful because of the Covid-19 pandemic. In these days of deep uncertainty about the future, let us keep in mind the Lord's word to his Servant, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you" (*Is* 43:1). In our charity, may we speak words of reassurance and help others to realize that God loves them as sons and daughters. "Only a gaze transformed by charity can enable the dignity of others to be recognized and, as a consequence, the poor to be acknowledged and valued in their dignity, respected in their identity and culture, and thus truly integrated into society" (*Fratelli Tutti*, 187). Dear brothers and sisters, every moment of our lives is a time for believing, hoping and loving. The call to experience Lent as a journey of conversion, prayer and sharing of our goods, helps us – as communities and as individuals – to revive the faith that comes from the living Christ, the hope inspired by the breath of the Holy Spirit and the love flowing from the merciful heart of the Father. May Mary, Mother of the Saviour, ever faithful at the foot of the cross and in the heart of the Church, sustain us with her loving presence. May the blessing of the risen Lord accompany all of us on our journey towards the light of Easter.

**Trocaire – support the work of Trocaire this Lent
KEEP SAFE & LOOK AFTER EACH OTHER
Fr Nigel Charles 087 7009433/043 6685847**

The Catechism of the Catholic Church

Perseverance in faith

162 Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to man. We can lose this priceless gift, as St. Paul indicated to St. Timothy: "Wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting conscience, certain persons have made shipwreck of their faith."⁴⁴ To live, grow and persevere in the faith until the end we must nourish it with the word of God; we must beg the Lord to increase our faith;⁴⁵ it must be "working through charity," abounding in hope, and rooted in the faith of the Church.⁴⁶