

# RATHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

**Week 4:** This Sunday is known as Laetare Sunday and is a Sunday of joy. Lent is half over, and Easter is enticingly near. In today's Gospel, Jesus offers a choice: to have our eyes opened, or to persist, wilfully, in our darkness. We are all stuck in one way or another in this choice. Sometimes it's because of our poor decisions, and sometimes it's just part of living. But regardless of how you are stuck, Jesus is still reaching out to you. So let him put his arms around you today and lift you up. "Jesus, you are with me. I trust in you."

**YOU CAN BE PART OF OUR DAILY AND WEEKEND MASS FROM HOME**

**Join us for daily Mass through our Parish Streaming Service**

## Streamed Mass Schedule



Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup>	7.00pm
Sunday	22 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00am
Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	7.00pm
Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm
Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm
Friday	27 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm
Sunday	29 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am



**How do I access this Mass? On Computer, iPad or Phone**

Google Search MCN MEDIA KERRY Click the image of St Joseph's Church, Rathmore

**Fr. Joe Tarrant (064)7751104 & (086)3978642 is the priest on duty this Sunday for emergency and sick calls**

**PARISH OFFICE - (064) 7761669 or [rathmore@dioceseofkerry.ie](mailto:rathmore@dioceseofkerry.ie)**

**Opening hours: Mon. and Tues. 9.30am to 12.30pm. Wednesday 4pm to 7 pm. CLOSED THURSDAY Friday 11 am to 2pm**

**COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER - (064)7758219 or [communitynewsletter@rathmoreparish.ie](mailto:communitynewsletter@rathmoreparish.ie)**

**IN THESE CHALLENGING AND ISOLATING TIMES FOR ANYONE WHO NEEDS HELP,  
SUPPORT OR EVEN A CHAT –**

**CALL ST. VINCENT DEPAUL RATHMORE BRANCH ON 087 3462332**

### COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

ALONE has launched a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to the outbreak of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open Monday to Friday, 8am-8pm, by calling 0818 222 024. Hours may be extended to meet the demand.

#### Help Slow the Spread of Coronavirus

Do

- Wash your hands properly and often
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough or sneeze
- Put used tissues in a bin and wash your hands
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Avoid contact with people – Keep a distance of 2 metres between you and others

We are all in this together – lets help each other by staying apart

***This is an occasion for all of us – especially in families -to pray more intensely for each other and especially for those who have succumbed to the illness. We should pray also for those in the frontlines – especially doctors, nurses and medical staff and other carers, including clergy – that the Lord will protect them as they place their own wellbeing at risk in the service of all***

#### 4th Sun of Lent: *God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son*

Mon: Pray for loved ones who show us a glimpse of God's love

Tues: Make an effort with someone you find difficult

Wed: Let the News today call you to pray

Thurs: Fast with Jesus

Fri: Take time today to believe in God's love for you

Sat: Show love for someone else today



#### Coronavirus Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ you travelled through the towns and villages curing disease and illness.

At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love. Heal those who are sick with the virus.

May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fears, which prevents nations from working together and neighbours from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

Lord Jesus Christ, healer of all, stay by our side in this time of uncertainty and sorrow.

Be with those who have died from the virus. May they be at rest with you, in your eternal peace.

Be with the families of those who are sick, or have died. As they worry and grieve, defend them from illness and despair. May they know your peace.

Be with the doctors, nurses, researchers and all medical professionals who seek to heal and help those affected; and who put themselves at risk in the process. May they know your protection and peace.

Be with the leaders of all nations. Give them the foresight to act with charity and true concern for the wellbeing of the people they are meant to serve. Give them the wisdom to invest in long-term solutions that will help prepare for, or prevent future outbreaks. May they know your peace, as they work together to achieve it on earth.

Whether we are at home or abroad, surrounded by many people suffering from this illness, or only a few, Lord Jesus Christ, stay with us as we endure and mourn, persist and prepare. In place of anxiety, give us your peace.

Lord Jesus heal us.

## Ongoing Guidelines for the Diocese of Kerry

These guidelines will endure until the Government indicate they are no longer necessary.

- **Regarding Masses (daily and weekend) and other liturgies in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic: no public Masses with a congregation will be celebrated until further notice.**
- **Churches will be open each day for private prayer. In attending church people are asked to follow all guidelines, including hand –washing before coming to church and on return home, keeping their distance from any person they meet, and also minimising their touching of hard surfaces.**
- **Adoration groups have asked for some guidance. Any who wish to spend a period in prayer can do so from any seat in the church with their focus on the tabernacle. Exposition is not to take place as it would draw people to sit in the seats immediately in front of the monstrance and thus increase the risk of the virus being contacted.**

The continuance of **ringing the church bell at 11am on Sunday** morning is recommended. Any who hear it will be reminded that we are never alone, Christ is with us, our strength and guide. At 11am each Sunday it is a call to us all to pause and spend a few minutes with God in prayer, uniting with all in our diocese. Many have remarked that doing this is a positive experience.

Last weekend was a difficult weekend for us all, - the initial adjustment mental and physical to 'social distancing'. Now people are adjusting well and feel more at ease. We realise that we must give full cooperation to our government and the HSE. Also many people have expressed their appreciation of their parish for prayer and for Masses. Many have joined in the Mass on-line or via parish radio.

**Now there is 10.30am daily Mass on the RTE News Now channel.**

People have mentioned that saying **the Rosary (or one decade)** each evening has new meaning for them. A decade is just one Our Father, ten Hail Marys and a Glory be to the Father. It is a simple way of spending two minutes turned to God. **Time each day for prayer can give inner calm amid these very unsettling days.** (*Bishop Ray Browne 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Feast of St Joseph, Protector of families*)