Mass Intentions

Week of: 8th March — 14th March 2025

Saturday: 8th March
11.00am: No Intention
Vigil Mass for Sunday
6.45pm: No Intention
Sunday
8.30am: Thomas Millar (A)
9.30am: No Intention
11.30am: Michael Holland (M.M.) and his wife Betty Holland (21st A)
Mary Redmond (B.Rem)
Tom Moran (2nd A)
Dermot Neill (10th A)
Ita Dunne (2nd A)
Norrie Byrne (A)
Shay Kennedy (2nd A)
William Fitzsimons (6th A)
Monday 10am: No Intention
Tuesday 10am: No Intention
Wednesday: 10am: Marian & James O'Connor (A)
Thursday 10am: Funeral
Friday 10am: No Intention
(1st A) First Anniversary
(M/M) Months Mind
(R.D.) Recently Deceased
(B. Rem) Birthday Remembrance
(I) Illness

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Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina continues and is held every Thursday at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. At Lectio we look at life through the lens of the Gospel and how God speaks to each individual through the message of the Gospel. We listen, share, meditate and pray to enable us live more fully the Gospel message. All are welcome.

Service of Light for Confirmation 2025

All Confirmation candidates and parents are required to attend the Church on Tuesday, March 11th at 7:30 PM for the Service of Light. All Candidates from both schools are expected to be in attendance.

Confirmation candidates are also to bring their Baptism Candles on the night to use in the Service.

The Service of Light is a significant ritual that symbolizes the passing of the responsibility of faith from parent to child.

We look forward to celebrating this special event with you.

Altar Servers needed

We are recruiting new Altar Servers for the Parish. If your child has made their 1st Holy Communion and would like to become an Altar Server please leave your details in the Sacristy and a member of the Parish Team will be in touch.

Trócaire Special Collection for Lent 2025

For the last number of years we have supported Paul Healy and Trócaire with the work they are doing in Somalia.

Paul's letter below speaks for itself and as a Parish we have decided that this will be our Lenten project for this year. We ask all parishioners to support this special collection as best they can and the special Trócaire donation envelopes are available at the back of the Church.

Dear Fr Martin, Fr. Michael & parishioners of Rathfarnham,

Greetings from Somalia. I hope all is well at home and that this Lenten season brings blessings to everyone in the parish.

Unfortunately, the humanitarian outlook in Somalia for the coming months is dire. We are facing a second consecutive failed rainy season, and many families are already suffering from malnutrition. Water sources have dried up, forcing people to leave rural areas in search of water, shelter, medical care, and food. The situation is particularly devastating for young children.

Although the crisis in 2022–2023 was severe, we managed to avert the worst of the famine thanks to donor funding. ***Rathfarnham Parish played a crucial role during that time by providing lifesaving medical equipment. This year, however, the situation is even more alarming.***

With the US Government withdrawing its financial support and funding cuts across the board, we are bracing for an even deeper crisis. Just last month, USAID cut funding for a health facility operated by Trócaire in Burdhubo—the only health post available to the community. This facility provides essential services, including basic emergency obstetric and newborn care (BEMONC) and daily outpatient treatment for common illnesses. No other organization in the region has the capacity to sustain it, and without urgent support, all services will cease by the end of April.

I am praying that Rathfarnham Parish can support this health centre during Lent. Our priority is to ensure the availability of a nurse, a midwife, and a lab technician for the rest of the year. Their presence will be critical in ensuring safe deliveries, protecting mothers, and treating common but life-threatening illnesses such as malaria, pneumonia, and cholera.

I cannot thank you enough, Fr. Martin, Fr. Michael and all the wonderful parishioners of Rathfarnham, for your unwavering commitment to the most vulnerable and forgotten people. Your kindness and generosity continue to bring hope where it is needed most.

Kind regards for now and I look forward to seeing you in the summer at some stage.

Paul Healy, Somalia Country Director. Trócaire, Somalia

Trócaire
TOGETHER FOR A JUST WORLD

The Annunciation Times

Church of the Annunciation, Rathfarnham

www.rathfarnhamparish.ie

First Sunday of Lent, Cycle C March 9th 2025

Contact details:

Rathfarnham is one of six parishes in partnership together; the parishes are Ballyroan, Churchtown, Ballyboden, Knocklyon and Marley Grange.

Parish team:

Moderator: V. Rev. Martin Canon Cosgrove
St. Mary's Presbytery, Willbrook Rd.
Phone: 01- 495 4554. **Email:** mfc7534@gmail.com

Co P.P. V. Rev. Michael Coady,
St. Mary's Presbytery, Willbrook Rd.
Phone: 01- 4932390 **Email:** clovis78@eircom.net

Deacon: Rev. Frank Browne c/o Parish Office
Sacramental Coordinator: Carol McCabe c/o Parish Office
Email: sacraments@rathfarnhamparish.com
Sacristan: Paul Moreland
Sacristy: Phone 01- 493 8385

Parish Secretary: Jason Monahan

Parish Office:
Parish Pastoral Centre,
Willbrook Road, Rathfarnham (The Old Court House)
Monday – Friday 10 a.m. to 2pm
Phone:01- 495 8695
Parish Website: www.rathfarnhamparish.ie
Email: parishoffice@rathfarnhamparish.com
Twitter: @RathfarnhamP

Chairperson Parish Pastoral Council:
Mary Cunneen, c/o Parish Office

Registered Charity Number: 20016166

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil 6:45pm

Sunday Morning: 8.30am (Irish Mass), 9.30am & 11.30am

Working Holy Days: Morning: 10:00am

Evening: 7:30pm Vigil: 7:30pm.

Weekdays: Monday to Friday 10:00am

Saturdays & Bank Holidays: 11:00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation: On Saturdays after 11am Mass & before the 6.45pm Mass

Baptisms: 1st and 3rd Saturday of the Month.

NOW TAKING BAPTISM BOOKINGS FOR JUNE 2025 ONWARDS

Gospel Reflection:

In each of the three Synoptic Gospels, after his baptism, Jesus is reported to have spent forty days in the desert, fasting and praying. In Luke and in Matthew, the devil presents three temptations to Jesus. The devil tempts Jesus to use his power to appease his hunger, he offers Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if Jesus will worship him, and he tempts Jesus to put God's promise of protection to the test. In each case, Jesus resists, citing words from Scripture to rebuke the devil's temptation.

Each temptation that Jesus faces offers insight into the spirituality we hope to develop as we keep the forty days of the Season of Lent. We can trust God to provide for our material needs. We worship God because God alone has dominion over us and our world. We can trust God to be faithful to his promises. Jesus' rejection of the devil's temptations shows that he will not put God to the test. Grounding himself on the Word and authority of Scripture, Jesus rebukes the devil by his confidence in God's protection and faithfulness.

This Gospel highlights for us one of the central themes of the Season of Lent. We are dependent upon God for all that we have and all that we are. Anything that leads us to reject this dependency or to distrust its sufficiency, is a temptation from the devil.

Luke ends his report of Jesus' temptation in the desert by noting that the devil departs for a time. The implication is that the devil will return. Jesus knows that he will be tempted again in the Garden of Gethsemane. The depth of Jesus' trust in God is shown most fully when Jesus rejects the temptation to turn away from the task God has given to him. Jesus' final rebuke of the devil is his sacrifice on the Cross.

Jesus' responses to the temptations of the devil teach us how we can respond to temptation. As we start our journey through Lent, this Sunday's Gospel calls us to adopt the same confidence that Jesus had in the face of temptation: God's word alone will suffice, God's promise of protection can be trusted, and God alone is God.

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