## ATHBOY PARISH

Parochial House Tel: 046 9432184 Website: www.athboyparish.ie Email: athboyensis@gmail.com

## **MASSES TIMES this week:**

Sunday: 9am Rathmore 10.15am Rathcairn 11.30am Athboy Monday: 8am Tuesday 7.30pm Wed, Thursday & Friday 9.30am Saturday 10am Vigil 6.15pm

**Confessions:** Saturday 5.45pm

**MASS INTENTIONS this week:** Saturday Vigil 6.15pm: Mícheál Corrigan Brendan & Kathleen McKenna & dec family William & Patricia Murtagh Sunday 11.30am Con Kelly

Wed 9.30: Sheila & Mary Conroy Margaret Dunne Thu 9.30: Joseph Thomas

Next Saturday Vigil 6.15pm: Anne Kelly Niall Carberry **Next Sunday** 9am: Martin Doherty MM **11.30am** Henry Kelly

Jerry Renehan Deceased of O'Donnell family

**Baptisms:** contact Parish Office.

Parish Office hours: Thursday & Friday 9am-1pm & 2-4pm.

**Offertory Collection** Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March **Athboy** €1,285 Thank Rathmore €230 You! **Rathcairn** €180 Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March Athboy €520 Rathmore €240 Rathcairn €240

> RIP **Margaret Brady** Connaught Street

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Sunday 23rd March 2025

Confessions and Lent: During Lent, we are invited to repent of our sins and to seek the forgiveness of God. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is an opportunity for us to make a new beginning in our lives of faith and prepares us to renew our Baptismal Promises at Easter. This sacrament brings the forgiveness of God as we recognise our need for his mercy and pardon in our lives.



Confession, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church notes, is so called because the "confession of sins to a priest is an essential element of this sacrament". The Catechism tells us that "it is also called the sacrament of forgiveness, since by the priest's sacramental absolution, God grants us 'pardon and peace'".

It is also called the sacrament of Reconciliation because it reconciles sinners to God and then to each other.

To prepare for Confession we need to spend some moments looking at our lives and asking for the grace of God to see ourselves as we are.

Sin is wilfully rejecting good and choosing evil." When we recognise that we have offended God, who is all deserving of our love, we sense the need to make things right. Like the prodigal son in the Gospel, we long to know again the loving forgiveness of God who patiently waits for each of us. Jesus himself has established this sure and certain way for us to access God's mercy and to know that our sins are forgiven. You have the option to go to confession anonymously, that is, behind a screen or face to face, if you so desire.



**Confessions are available in Athboy Church** every Saturday at 5.45pm.

To prepare for Easter, our Penitential Service will take place after Vigil & 11.30am Masses on 5 & 6<sup>th</sup> April.

**Bingo:** in aid of parish funds today, 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 3pm in St James' Hall.

Eucharistic Adoration: adorers are needed on Fridays in Athboy for the hours between 11am – 2pm.

Adoration, Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy, each Wednesday in Lent in Rathcairn Church, 7.30 - 8.00pm.

Parish Cemeteries: are sacred ground, the burial places of our loved ones. Please do not dump withered flowers, old wreaths or other rubbish in the corners of our cemeteries.

Stations of the Cross: During Lent we are invited to contemplate the Stations of the Cross. Accompany Jesus on his journey to Calvary, focusing on how he suffered for love of us and his interactions with those he met on the way and how he transformed their lives through love.

