

Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st/2nd March 2025

Mass times during this Week (Note Ash Wednesday times)

Saggart: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11am. **Rathcoole:** Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10am. **Newcastle:** Monday, Wednesday & Friday 10am.

Recently deceased: Paul Mulvaney, Paddy Kelly.

Ash Wednesday – A day of Fast & Abstinence

Mass with distribution of Ashes will take place in Newcastle 10am, Rathcoole 10am & Saggart at 11am. We encourage you to make this a special start to the season of Lent.

Trocaire boxes are available at all entrances to the church. This contains plenty of information on this year's Lenten appeal.

Eucharistic Adoration: This weekend a speaker from the diocesan Eucharistic adoration committee will speak at all Masses promoting adoration in our parishes. An appeal will be made for volunteers to spend an hour per week before the blessed sacrament.

Newcastle Cemetery: AGM of the friends of Newcastle Cemetery takes place on Monday 3rd March in the Den in the grounds of Newcastle church. All are welcome.

Day of prayer for survivors & victims of abuse

This year's Worldwide Day of Prayer for Survivors and Victims of Sexual Abuse will take place on March 7th, the first Friday of Lent. The Day of Prayer is an initiative of Pope Francis and was first marked in Irish dioceses in 2017. Blessed candles will be lit in parishes across the country as a reminder to the faithful of the need for atonement and to symbolise repentance; light in the darkness and hope. The lighting of the 'Candle of Atonement', and the following prayer, are based on the very moving Penitential Rite composed and prayed by Pope Francis at the final Mass of the 9th World Meeting of Families on August 26, 2018, at Phoenix Park, Dublin, when the Holy Father implored the Lord's mercy for the crimes of abuse and asked for forgiveness.

Diocesan Pastoral Council - Update

We are coming very close to the formation of the Dublin Diocesan Pastoral Council. The five Pastoral Areas have now completed the Fourth Level of Discernment. From the names that were put forward by the Deaneries in December, through the First, Second and Third levels of Discernment these were brought to 45 candidates. In the Fourth Level of Discernment this was brought down to 25 candidates. Out of these candidates, nine will be chosen through a Final Discernment.

Towards the end of March the nine candidates will be appointed to the Diocesan Pastoral Council and in Eastertime they will be commissioned in St Mary's Pro-Cathedral.

Alongside the discernment process for the lay members of the Diocesan Council, the Permanent Deacons and Female Religious have been engaged in a process to choose their candidates.

Novena of Grace, Tallaght

The Novena of Grace in honour of St Francis Xavier will be held in St Dominic's Church, Tallaght, from Tuesday, March 4th, to Wednesday, March 12th. Director of the Novena is Fr John Harris OP. Novena Masses on weekdays including Saturday are at 10am and on Sunday a healing Mass will take place at 3pm. All are welcome.

Lord, forgive us our many sins.
We grieve and repent with all our hearts for having offended you, for our great failings and neglect of the young and vulnerable. We place all of those who have been hurt by the Church in any way into your loving hands and under the protection of Our Blessed Mother. Lord, bring peace to their broken lives and show us all the way out of darkness and into the light of your Word. May we as the people of God be more fully human, more fully Christ-like and more fully your people, that we may see the errors of the past and go forward with renewed hope and faith in Christ and in our Church. Amen.