

Welcome! Fáilte! Benvenuti! Bine ati venit! Karibu! Witajici! Vitame Vas! Bienvenidos! Soo Dhawow! Dobro pozhalovat! Mubuhay! Bemvindo! Enkwan dehnal Khush ammaadiio! Istren hozzoti!

**WELCOME TO**  
**Mary Immaculate, Refuge of Sinners, Rathmines**  
**Sunday 29 March 2026 Palm Sunday**  
*Parish Office Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 10am - 1pm*  
**Address: 52 Lower Rathmines Road, Dublin 6**  
**Telephone: 01 497 1531 Email: secretary@rathminesparish.com**  
*Please visit the parish website: www.rathminesparish.ie*  
**www.facebook.com/rathminesparish Webcam: www.rathminesparish.ie**



**CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS RATHMINES**  
 youthministry  
 @rathminesparish.com  
 Instagram  
 @yarathmines  
**NEXT MEETING**  
 Thurs 23 April  
 7pm  
**PHILOSOFORUM**  
 All are welcome

**Parish Priest**  
 Fr Andrew O'Sullivan  
 Tel. 01 497 1531 / 497

**Parish Secretary**  
 Mary Ryan  
 Fri

**Parish Office**  
 Mon/Tues/Thurs/

**The Diocesan Child**  
 contacted confi

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Rathmines Parish Pastoral Council is a faith-based group whose purpose is to lead and serve in the spirit of the Gospel, warmly welcoming and connecting with parishioners and the wider community.

**Parish Pastoral Council Members**

Fr Andrew O'Sullivan PP, Geraldine McSweeney, Angel Agito, Sr Sofia Cho, Mary McGaughan, Bridget Murphy, Ann Dolan, Joe Costello, Jackie Brennan, Angela Meta and Andrew Moran.

**Our Easter Card with Timetable and Dues Envelopes** are now available for collection at the back of the church. The Easter Dues are an important part of the priest's stipend and your generosity continues to be greatly appreciated.

**OUR PARISH PARTNERSHIP**

Rathmines	Rathgar	Beechwood	Harold's Cross	Mount
-----------	---------	-----------	----------------	-------

**SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK 2026**

**MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK 30<sup>th</sup> MARCH**  
 Penitential Service 7.30pm (*Mary Immaculate Refuge of Sinners Rathmines*)

**HOLY THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> APRIL**  
 Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm  
 Followed by Adoration at the Altar of Repose until 9.30pm

**GOOD FRIDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL**  
 Solemn Celebration of The Passion of the Lord 3pm  
 Stations of the Cross 7.30pm

**HOLY SATURDAY 4<sup>th</sup> APRIL**  
 Confessions 10am - 10.30am (*Church of the Three Patrons Rathgar*)  
 Solemn Easter Vigil Mass of the Resurrection 9pm (*Church of the Three Patrons Rathgar*)

**EASTER SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> APRIL**  
 Mass of the Resurrection 11am (Please note no evening Mass)

**EASTER MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> APRIL**  
 10am Mass (*Church of the Three Patrons Rathgar*)

**An Offertory Collection** will be taken up on **Holy Thursday** at the Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.30pm and on **Good Friday** at the Solemn Celebration of The

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA**  
**18<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> SEPT 2026**  
 €995pps  
 7 Nights 4\*Hotel Steyler  
 Breakfast & Dinner incl  
**Please contact Rathgar Parish Office**  
 E [parishoffice](mailto:parishoffice)

Rathmines Parish hosts a weekly **Youth Led Holy Hour with Music, Prayer and time for reflection** every **Tues evening from 7.30pm to 8.30pm** in the church. All are

**CATHOLIC FORMATION IN ROME 2026 - 2027**  
**Pontifical Irish College**

Are you aged **18-30** seeking to **deepen your faith**, explore the **Catholic tradition** and **live in community** in the heart of Rome?  
**JOIN US!**

- Academic Year of Intentional Discipleship
- Accredited Theology Courses
- Intentional Community Life
- Spiritual Accompaniment
- Cultural Excursions

**PLACES ARE LIMITED** Get in touch today!  
**APPLICATIONS CLOSE 30 April 2026**

E [eoin.mccormack@irishcollege.org](mailto:eoin.mccormack@irishcollege.org)  
[www.irishcollege.org](http://www.irishcollege.org) @pontificalirishcollege  
 Please see our poster at the back of the church

**PRAYER FOR STRENGTH**

Every day I need you Lord,  
 but this day especially,  
 I need some extra strength  
 to face whatever is to come.  
 This day more than any other day  
 I need to feel you near me .....  
 to fortify my courage  
 and to overcome my fear.  
 By myself,  
 I cannot meet the challenge of the hour ...  
 How much frail human creatures  
 need a Higher Power sustaining them  
 in all that life may bring.  
 And so, dear Lord, hold my trembling hand ...  
 Be with me Lord this day,  
 to know your guiding hand at work in all,  
 to know your Blessed Presence ever near. Amen.

**HOMILY**

*The reading of the Passion* is from the Gospel of Matthew. The imagery is simple and brutal. It is that of a human being taunted and tortured by other human beings, that of a great suffering which human beings choose to inflict on others.  
*But this time* the victim of human cruelty was so much more than human. Christ was the Son of God. The creator of all that is good in human nature freely took on himself all that is evil in that nature. And that is the mystery. *Christ* did not have to suffer. He chose to. He was not overpowered by human cruelty, rather he submitted himself to it. On the cross, he was not simply victim, he was priest as well. *Christ* could have chosen any other course. But he chose that course, and he had done so centuries before the time of Calvary. It is as though the crucifixion were really only one in a series of events that had been set in motion at the very beginning. The first time that God had looked at humankind, and chose what he saw, not simply as more of his creatures, but as his people, the people with whom he would remain no matter what, it was as though the crucifixion had already begun. And had He chosen otherwise, had He chosen not to be the priest-victim, not to endure the worst that his creatures could do to him, then He would have still been God, but we would not have been his people.  
*Well, why?* What is there about the bond, the relationship between God and humanity that can twist the patience and faithfulness of Christ into a sentence of death.  
*And again,* Matthew's answer is simple and direct. It is sin. Christ's faithfulness led to Calvary, because he was alone in that faithfulness. The evil of sin, then is seen not only in the torture that Christ endured, but in the fact that he endured it alone. It is the abandonment of Christ, the faithlessness of even those who professed to follow him, those followers who simply became 'the crowd', that is, the true revelation of the sin of humankind.  
*Lent will,* again, come to an end for us this week. I hope that this season has been for each of us truly a season of penance, of self-examination, of confronting heartlessness, the dullness of our lives. Sin, once it is recognised and reflected, has lost its power over us. We are not at all slaves to our past, to our habits, to our weakness. We are God's people, and we have a share in everything that is his. And just as surely as we have again and again and again taken part in his crucifixion, so shall we always, as often as we choose to do so, take part in his rising again.

Please join us for **Tea & Coffee this and every Sunday after 11am Mass** in the Parish Centre. All are welcome. You may also like to join us after **10am Mass every Thursday morning.**

This Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March is **Palm Sunday** and marks the beginning of Holy Week.

**ECUMENICAL WAY OF THE CROSS**  
**Good Friday 3 April 2026**  
**12pm - 2pm**  
 Starting in front of St Finian's Lutheran Church  
 24 Adelaide Road, D02 XP21  
*Organised by:*  
 Holy Trinity COI Rathmines  
 Mary Immaculate Refuge of Sinners Rathmines  
 St Finian's Lutheran Church, Adelaide Rd  
 Methodist Centenary Church, Leeson Park  
 Christchurch Rathgar, Presbyterian Church  
**All are welcome**

**MASS TIMES RATHMINES CHURCH**  
 Saturday 6pm (Vigil)  
 Sunday 11am, 6pm (Folk)  
 Tues/Thurs/Fri 10am  
*Preceded by Morning Prayer - 9.45am*  
 Confessions Sat 5.30pm or by appt

**MASS TIMES RATHGAR CHURCH**  
 Saturday 10am  
 Sunday 9.30am, 12.15pm  
 Mon/Weds 10am Tues/Thurs 6pm  
 Eucharistic Adoration  
 Mon/Weds/Sat 10.30am - 11.30am  
 Monday to Saturday 6pm - 7pm

**Sunday 22 March 2026 Share Collection €385 First Collection**

**Coeliac Hosts** are available at any Mass in Rathmines Church for people with a Coeliac condition. If you wish to receive a Coeliac host, please present for Communion in the centre aisle at the end of the Communion queue and inform the Priest in order to avoid cross-contamination.

**RCN (Registered Charity Number) 20016166**