

WELCOME TO

Mary Immaculate, Refuge of Sinners, Rathmines

Sunday 10 May 2026 Sixth Sunday of Easter

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



HOMILY

The first readings over these past few weeks have been a passage from the book of Acts. And they have pictured that kind of euphoria, that sense of having made it, having triumphed, that the early church must have felt.

But this Gospel passage today begins to temper that sense of completeness, of having arrived at the end of the journey of faith. St John wrote his Gospel perhaps some sixty years after the time of Christ. And over those years, he must have come to see that that sense of completeness, of triumph, had been just a little misplaced. From all that had happened, it was clear that God had chosen us. Now it must be made clear that we have chosen God.

So, the long, sometimes painful, but always valuable process of reforming oneself from within, of bringing one's mind and heart into accord with the mind of God, is the process to which we are called by the saving power of Christ. But once called we are certainly not abandoned in this process. Rather Christ calls us to become personally involved in the process of our own salvation precisely because he himself is so intimately involved in the process of our salvation.

If it is sometimes easy to say 'No' to the call of faith it is never necessary to do so, no matter how difficult the situation may seem to be. Christ promises to send the Holy Spirit who will be for each of us the spirit of truth, who will urge us from within to follow the way of truth. If we are open to the guidance of the Spirit, our choices will be Christ's own.

And there are two signs that can help us tell whether or not we are following the guidance of the Spirit. The Spirit calls us to the Church. We are invited as a people, and we respond as such. If a choice we make, a way of life we build for ourselves, leads us far, far away from such communion, leads us to be influenced by, interact with fewer and fewer of God's people in worship, in learning, in the sacraments, then it is a bad choice. We are blocking out the movement of the Spirit.

And the Spirit urges us to a wholeness, an integrity, and the real satisfaction that such brings with it. Put more negatively, if we make a mess of our lives, if we are deaf to the call of the Spirit, then something in us hurts. If our lives are marked consistently by a dissatisfaction, a sense that something is wrong here, an emptiness, then that is a fairly good sign that we may be missing the direction in which the Spirit is trying to lead us. It is true that the life of Grace may not always be easy or comfortable or pleasant. But followed honestly and persistently, it will feel

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.**

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

The **LAY MINISTRY APPEAL** which took place last weekend instead of the usual Share collection raised a total of €362. Thank you to all who contributed. If you did not get a chance to do so, leaflets are still available at the back of the church.

Beginning Experience - Separated, Divorced, Widowed Are you coping?
Few people can cope alone with the pain and loneliness following the loss of a life partner. Do you find you need more support than family and friends can provide?

Beginning Experience is a peer support group dedicated to helping those who are navigating life following the loss of a life partner. Structured programmes are run by a team of trained facilitators, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced.
The Dublin Beginning Experience Team is planning:
A Three-Day Coping with Life Alone Programme
Saturdays 6th June, 20th June and 27th June 2026 (Advance Booking Essential)

Sunday 3 May 2026 No Share Collection First Collection €538

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS RATHMINES
youthministry
@rathminesparish.com
Instagram
@yarathmines

NEXT MEETING
Thursday 21 May
7pm

LUMINOUS ROSARY NIGHT
Rosary by candlelight

Rathmines Church

Our sincerest thanks to those who have already returned **Easter Dues** which are an important part of the priest's stipend. Envelopes are available for collection at the back of the Church. We are deeply grateful for your support of Dues always.

St Paul's Books and Gifts, Ireland's leading Catholic publisher and retailer of religious books, gifts, educational materials and parish resources, has opened in 4 **Merchants Quay, Dublin 8.**
Email dublin@stpauls.ie or call 0892793978.

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

Coeliac Help
If you wish to receive a

Parish Priest
Fr Andrew O'Sullivan
Tel: 01 497 1531 / 407

Parish Secretary
Mary Ryan

Parish Office
Mon/Tues/Thurs/
Fri

The Dioc
ont

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, Sr Sofia Cho, Angel Agito, Mary Mcgaughan, Bridget Murphy, Ann Dolan, Joe Costello, Jackie Brennan, Angela Meta and Andrew Moran.

OUR PARISH PARTNERSHIP

Rathmines Rathgar Beechwood Harold's Cross Mount

TALLAGHT CHORAL SOCIETY

Illuminare

Sunday 24th May 2026
7.30pm

Church of St Agnes, Crumlin

Illuminare - E. Hagenberg
Holy Spirit Mass - K.A. Arnesen

Dr Lynsey Callaghan, Conductor
With the Irish Choral Sinfonia
Tickets €25 - tcs2026.eventbrite.ie

To mark the Anniversary of the death of **VENERABLE EDEL QUINN** You are invited to join us on **Friday 15 May at 7pm** Legion of Mary, St Joseph's, 191 Rathgar Road, Dublin 6 D06 WN56 Holy Mass will be celebrated followed by a talk on her life. *All are welcome and refreshments will be available afterwards*

Rathmines & Rathgar Bethany Bereavement Support Service (incl. Milltown & Ranelagh)

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one and feel the need to talk, please think about coming to a Bethany session - we are here to listen actively, and this can help in working through your loss.

Please consider availing of our service which is free, confidential and non-judgmental.

Our **May** listening sessions continue at:

Venue Milltown Parish Centre
Next meeting Thursday 14 May 2026
Time 7.30pm

For further information please phone: Siobhán 087 284 1276 or Marie 086 328 2151
Also available: **Bethany Service Clarendon St** First & Third Tues of the month at 11am

RATHGAR & RATHMINES PARISH PILGRIMAGE

FATIMA

18th to 25th SEPTEMBER 2026
ESCORTED GROUP PILGRIMAGE
(With Marian Pilgrimages)

With guided tour of Aljustrel, Excursion to Eucharistic Miracle of Santarém and Excursion to Balasar

7 Nights from Dublin €995pps
Single Room Supplement €250 (limited availability)

Includes return direct flights Dublin/Lisbon
7 Nights in the 4* Hotel Steyler
Breakfast & Dinner each day
Guided visit of the Sanctuary of Fatima
Daily Mass & Spiritual Activities

Please contact Rathgar Parish Office
E parishoffice@rathgarparish.ie T 01 497 2215
Or **Marian Pilgrimages** T 01 878 8159
E info@marian.ie www.marian.ie

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.

RCN (Registered Charity Number) 20016166