

Welcome! Failed! Benvenuti! Bine ati venit! Karibu! Witajcie! Vitame Vas! Bienvenidos! Soo Dhawow! Dobro pozhalovat! Mubuhay! Bemvindo! Enkwan dehnal! Khush ammaadiio! Isten hozort!

WELCOME TO

Mary Immaculate, Refuge of Sinners, Rathmines

Sunday 19 July 2026 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Office Opening Hours: Mon - Fri 10am - 1pm

Address: 52 Lower Rathmines Road, Dublin 6

Telephone: 01 497 1531 Email: secretary@rathminesparish.ie

Please visit the parish website: www.rathminesparish.ie

www.facebook.com/rathminesparish Webcam: www.rathminesparish.ie



HOMILY

In the Gospel this weekend Christ speaks to one of the most perplexing mysteries of human living, the mystery of evil. All of us base our sense of the purposefulness of life on the fundamental moral assumption that the good are rewarded, the evil ones punished.

And so, when we look around us and see that so many times, in the imagery of the Gospel, the weeds seem to be doing better than the wheat, that can be a very threatening thing.

Today's Gospel is the answer to the mystery of evil, even if not yet a very satisfying one. The mystery of the tension between good and evil in our world, how the two can exist side by side in a divinely created world, like the wheat and the weeds in the Gospel, is really in essence the mystery of creation. The tension between good and evil is not yet resolved because, simply enough, creation is not yet finished. It is not really true to say that God has created a good world. It is much truer to say that God is creating a good world, that right now the process of creation is going on.

The moral challenge of Christianity is to learn to live lovingly in a world that is right now very often illogical, unjust, even evil, not only because of what it is now, but because of what it is meant to, and will, become.

And this Gospel passage, as well as any number of others, is pretty insistent on the fact that it is God who is the author of this final justice. He will perfect what he has begun.

So, it is not up to us to combat evil or to punish sinners. We are just not very good at that, really. Every time Christianity has set out to actively fight evil, it has made a horrible mess of things.

From the suffocating moral censorship of puritanism to the carnage of the Crusades and the Inquisition to the bitter hatred of the Counter-Reformation, all of our best efforts at actively eliminating evil in the world have proven to be more of an obstacle than an aid to God's creative process.

Ours is an unfinished world, a world that is still being made. Since the moment God first said, “Let there be light”, he has never stopped saying it. The process of creation goes on, and it sweeps us with it. If we struggle against that sweep, if we set our own designs in place of God's, the outcome will inevitably be tragic.

No one of us, no whole society of us, has more creative power than God. But if we co-operate with the sweep of creation, if we simply be as God has meant us to be, it will be a joy, and the final justice of God will be well begun in us. Fr Andrew

Irish Province of Carmelites invites you to **Come and See** - for men aged 20-40yrs who are discerning a vocation. E: carmelitemoate@gmail.com or see poster in church.

MASS TIMES RATHMINES CHURCH
Saturday 6pm (Vigil)
Sunday 11am
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
Eucharistic Adoration
Mon/Weds/Sat 10.30am - 11.30am
Monday to Saturday 6pm - 7pm

SUMMER DUES Envelopes are available at the back of the church. Your support towards your priests is indispensable and deeply appreciated as

PATHWAYS INTO PASTORAL MINISTRY
24 September 2026 to 13 May 2027 Thursday evenings 7.15pm to 9.15pm

DCU St Patrick's Campus
Mater Dei Centre for Catholic Education, Drumcondra Rd Upper, Dublin 9

This course is aimed at adults of all ages looking to explore and grow their faith through inputs, small group sharing and retreats.
For info, please visit: www.dublindiocese.ie/missionministry/adult-faith

Our usual **Tea & Coffee after 11am Mass on Sundays** is suspended for the months of July & August. We look forward to seeing you all again in

Sunday 12 July 2026 Share Collection €230 First Collection €441

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS RATHMINES
youthministry
@rathminesparish.com
Instagram
[@yarathmines](https://www.instagram.com/yarathmines)
All young adults aged 18-40 are

Man and Woman, He Created Them

The Priory Institute one week on-line Summer School is reflective, informative and interactive and will run from 10 August. The course includes four recorded presentations and one online zoom discussion and is very flexible as it is delivered entirely online. Find out more and register visit:

HAKUNA SUMMER SCHEDULE JULY & AUG

The Hakuna group, which holds its Holy Hour thanks to the hospitality of Rathmines parish, will host the following dates: **Tues 21 July, and 4 & 18 August.** Each evening will begin with a talk at 7.15pm, followed by Eucharistic Adoration, with the opportunity for Confession, moments of silence and music. In addition, on **Friday 14 August**, we will hold a **social gathering in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm.** Everyone is warmly invited to come along, meet others, and help build our parish community. We look forward to welcoming you!

Coeliac Help

If you wish to receive a

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

Parish Secretary
Mary Ryan
Fri

Parish Office
Mon/Tues/Thurs/
Fri

The Dioc

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, Eoin McCormack, Roxana Pal, Bridget Murphy, Ann Dolan, Joe Costello, Jackie Brennan, Angela Meta and Andrew Moran.

OUR PARISH PARTNERSHIP

Rathmines Rathgar Beechwood Harold's Cross Mount

SUMMER SCHEDULE 2026 RATHMINES & RATHGAR PARISHES

Please note for July and August there will be **No 6pm Mass on Sunday in Rathmines Church**

For July and August there will be **No 6pm Mass on Tuesday & Thursday in Church of the Three Patrons Rathgar.**

Our weekly **tea & coffee after 11am Sunday Mass** will also be suspended for July and August.

Thank you for your understanding and we wish you all a blessed Summer.

Our Summer Timetable is also available on posters at the back of the church and on our website.

Rathmines and Rathgar Parish Partnership VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - GET INVOLVED

Volunteers are indispensable to the life of our parish partnership. All baptised people are called by God to minister. New volunteers are needed and welcomed to sustain, support and strengthen the many services in our parish community.

You are invited to consider sharing your skills and talents by becoming a part of the parish volunteering community.

There are many areas to choose from:

Baptism Team Minister of the Eucharist
Minister of the Word Funeral Team
Hospitality Team
Collectors Team
Finance Committee Family Mass Team
Altar Servers Young Adults Choir

If you are interested, please complete an

and inform the Priest in order to avoid cross-contamination.

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**