

Year of Faith: Invitation to celebrate

The Eucharistic Adoration Association invites you to Knock, on Sat. 20th April 2013 to a day of:

Workshops, Adoration, Talks, Prayer, Rosary, Eucharistic Procession, Blessing of the Sick, Children's / Young People's Activities, Children's Adoration Workshop, together with Mass celebrated by Archbishop Brown, Papal Nuncio.



CHURCH OF OUR LADY, MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE

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THE DEEP END • COMING UP NEXT

We are living in a time of great transition for our Church. At the time of writing this, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger had just shocked the world by announcing his decision to resign as Pope, and by the time you read this, it is likely that a new Pope will have been chosen.

The day of the announcement, TV news channels clamoured to put together footage of his pontificate and speculate as to what it all meant, and who his successor might be. Within hours, online news sites had produced detailed analyses of his papal legacy. The news was so immediate; yet no one knew how events would unfold.

I think of this fascination with the papacy as I read today's First Reading, where the sick were laid on beds in the streets in the hope that 'the shadow of Peter' might fall across them. I reflect on the vision of St. John in our Second Reading, where he is instructed to record 'present happenings and things that are still to come'. And I wonder, as I read today's Gospel, how the Spirit is working in our Church at this critical time in its history.

In this Year of Faith, we are called to reflect on the mystery of our encounter with the Risen Christ. As the Church journeys, we are each on our own faith journey too. Are we like the disciples hiding in fear? Are we full of joy at an encounter with the Lord, or are we, like Thomas, wracked with doubt? Whatever happens and whatever is to come, it is important that we continue to engage with our faith, to reflect and to journey together.

Triona Doherty, Athlone e-mail: trionad@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Vigil	6.00 pm	Lily White (M. Mind); Brendan Rush (M. Mind); Charles Jackson (Anniv.)
Sun.	8.30 am	Pro Populo
	10.00 am	Gillian O'Connor (Anniv.)
	11.30 am	Margaret O'Sullivan (Anniv.)
Mon.	10.00am	Rose & Joe Monaghan; Betty & Jim Green (Anniv.)
Tues.	10.00am	Ann & James McGlue; Bridget & Harry Millard (Anniv.)
Wed	10.00am	Agnes McKenny (Anniv.)
Thur	10.00am	Patrick & Mary Scully (Anniv.)
Fri.	10.00am	Kay Mathews (Rec. dec'd.)
Sat.	9.40am	Morning Prayer of the Church
	10.00am	Tommy Byrne (Anniv.)

Today's 2nd Reading

Pope Benedict XVI said that the Book of Revelation should not be read as a frightening warning, but as an encouraging vision of Christ's victory over evil.

He noted that Revelation had come to be mistakenly identified with the idea of an "imminent catastrophe", about to befall the world. Instead, he said, the text offers a clear expression of how the Christian faith makes ultimate sense of history.

GETTING MARRIED SOON?

"Week-End Away" in preparation for marriage. Get away from it all. Have a Pre-Marriage course with a difference, with the focus on your relationship. Contact: Esker, Athenry, at (091) 844549 for more details, or log on to www.redemptoristsesker.ie or search for "Esker Couples" on Facebook.

Celebrating EASTER

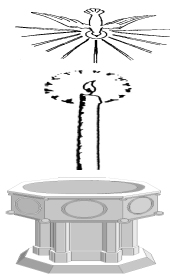
Why not celebrate this season of EASTER by spending some regular time with the Blessed Sacrament.

Having Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on each Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday is a wonderful blessing for our parish.

The Lord is waiting to shower each of us with even more blessings - all we need to do is spend time with Him. Please visit Him - He is waiting!

NEXT BAPTISM PREPARATION MEETING

- in the Sacristy, at 8pm, on Tuesday, 30th April, for Baptisms on Saturday, 4th May 2013.



✠ Please remember in your prayers: Lettie Fitzpatrick - and all who died recently. May they rest forever in the peace of the Risen Christ. ✠

READINGS - Next Sunday

Acts 5:27-32, 40-41
Ps. 29;
Apoc.:11-14;
Jn. 21:1-19.3:56



Church Gate Collection at all Masses, this Sunday, in aid of: RAHENY TIDY TOWNS