



**Pope Francis' monthly prayer intention this February is for the terminally ill and their families.**

During this month the Church observes the liturgical memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes, 11 February, on which the World Day of the Sick takes place.

Pope Francis explains that “when some people talk about terminal illnesses, there are two words they often confuse: **incurable and un-'carable.'** But they are not the same.”

He cites his predecessor Pope St. John Paul II, in saying, **"Cure if it is possible; always take care."**

Pope Francis explains clearly that even when little chance for a cure exists, **“every sick person has the right to medical, psychological, spiritual and human assistance.”**

“Healing," he acknowledges, "is not always possible, but we can always care for the sick person, caress them.”

Reflecting on **the importance of palliative care**, Pope Francis reaffirms that such care “guarantees the patient not only medical attention," but also "human assistance and closeness.”

Meanwhile, when speaking about **the role of the family**, he underscores that those suffering “should not be left alone in these difficult moments.”

Pope Francis concludes by asking for **prayers and a commitment from everyone** so that **“the terminally ill and their families always receive the necessary medical and human care and assistance.”**

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**Prayer to St. Brigid**

*Brigid, you were a woman of peace.*

*You brought harmony where there was conflict.*

*You brought light to the darkness.*

*You brought hope to the downcast.*

*May the mantle of your peace cover those who are troubled and anxious.*

*And may peace be firmly rooted in our hearts and in our world.*

*Inspire us to act justly and to reverence all God has made.*

*Brigid, you were a voice for the wounded and the weary.*

*Strengthen what is weak within us.*

*Calm us into a quietness that heals and listens.*

*May we grow each day into greater wholeness in mind, body and spirit.*

*Amen.*

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**Rathmichael Historical Society**



Colmán Ó Clabaigh will present ‘Sanctuary in Medieval Ireland’ at 8 p.m. on Wednesday February 7<sup>th</sup> in St. Anne's National School, Stonebridge Road, Shankill, Co. Dublin. All welcome - admission is €5 for non-members.

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**6-Week Lent Course On Spiritual Conversion**

Would you like to take part in something new this Lent? Bayside Alpha are running a free 6-week Zoom course called *Metanoia*. Metanoia means a transformation of the heart, a spiritual conversion. The videos contain half hour episodes shot in locations throughout the Holy Land and there is an opportunity to meet other people, to share your journey and listen to other people’s journeys.

The course starts on Tuesday the 13th of February 2024 at 7.30pm and features Franciscan Friar, Fr Dave Pivonka, and other speakers. If you would like to take part please email Paul at [alphabayside@gmail.com](mailto:alphabayside@gmail.com)

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**Young Adult Retreat To Glendalough**

Our Young Adult Group is holding a retreat for Lent to Glendalough on 24th February 2024, if you are between the ages of 18-40 and would like to join, please contact Eoin on [eoin@rathminesparish.com](mailto:eoin@rathminesparish.com) (Limited places available)

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**Medjugorje Irish Centre Pilgrimages April to October 2024**

7 Nights Apartment B&B from €273 per person sharing. Airport transfer available on request.

Contact us for details and book the dates that suit you. Tel. 01 4434510 or website [www.med-irishcentre.com](http://www.med-irishcentre.com)

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**Church Repairs Fundraiser  
Raffle Tickets on Sale after Mass**



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**Parish office will be closed from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February until Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February**

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