

# New Memorials

The Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments has approved the request of the Bishops' Conference for the inclusion of the optional memorials of St John XXIII and St John Paul II in the proper calendar for Ireland (Prot. N. 856/13, 17 February 2014).



## ST JOHN XXIII, POPE

**Optional Memorial, 11 October, the anniversary of the beginning of the Second Vatican Council in 1962.**

Angelo Roncalli was elected Pope on 28 October 1958, taking the name John XXIII. He was born in 1881 in Sotto il Monte, a village in the diocese of Bergamo, in the north of Italy and was ordained a priest of that diocese in 1904. After serving in the diocese, teaching in the seminary and working as a military chaplain in the First World War, he was called to Rome in 1921, ordained bishop in 1925 and becoming apostolic delegate in Bulgaria, and later in Turkey and Greece, and nuncio in Paris in 1944. In 1953 he became Cardinal Patriarch of Venice until his election as Pope. He endeared himself as 'Good Pope John' to people in Rome and in the world. Within months he called the Second Vatican Council, which began on 11 October 1962, the date of his memorial on the Calendar. He died 3 June 1963. Remembered as a prayerful, humble and wise pastor, he was beatified in 2000 and canonised on 27 April 2014.

### COLLECT

**Almighty and eternal God  
who in the Pope Saint John the Twenty-  
Third  
gave to the whole world  
the shining example of a good shepherd,  
grant that, through his intercession,  
we may with joy spread abroad the fullness  
of Christian charity.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity  
of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.**



## ST JOHN PAUL II, POPE

**Optional memorial, 22 October, the anniversary of his inauguration as Pope in 1978.**

Karol Wojtyła, taking the name, John Paul II, was Pope for over twenty-six years, from 1978 until his death on 2 April 2005. Born in Wadowice, Poland in 1920, he studied at the seminary in Krakow, was ordained priest in 1946, then studied in Rome. After parish work and university chaplaincy he again undertook further studies in philosophy and theology. He was ordained auxiliary bishop of Krakow in 1958 and later in 1964 Archbishop and in 1967 created a Cardinal. He took part in the Second Vatican Council, making a significant contribution to the drafting of the *Constitution on the Church in the Modern World*. As Bishop of Rome he visited almost all of the Roman parishes and made apostolic journeys to 104 countries, including Ireland, 29 September-2 October 1979. John Paul II was beatified in 2011 and canonised on 27 April 2013, Divine Mercy Sunday. His memorial is observed on the anniversary of the inauguration of his ministry as universal Pastor of the Church on 22 October 1978.

### COLLECT

**O God, who are rich in mercy  
and who willed that the Saint John Paul the  
Second  
should preside as Pope over your universal  
Church,  
grant, we pray, that instructed by his  
teaching,  
we may open our hearts to the saving grace  
of Christ,  
the sole Redeemer of mankind.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity  
of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.**