

ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Website: ashbourneparish.ie

Priests of the Parish

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Parish Office

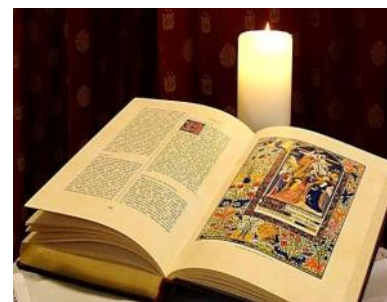
Open Tuesday - Friday

10.30am - 12pm

Parish Secretary Mary Mullen



The Third Sunday of Year C 'Word of God Sunday'



'Christ Jesus is knocking at our door in the words of Sacred Scripture. If we hear his voice and open the doors of our minds and hearts then he will enter our lives and remain ever with us.'

Pope Francis 2020

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 16th January - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 22nd Anniversaries Occurring Mass	7pm	Caroline Lacey, Killegland Rise (Months Mind) Alan Lenahan
Sunday 23rd	9am	Margaret Maher
Donaghmore	10am	P.J. Shanahan
	11am	Pro Populo
	12.30pm	Barry Maguire
Monday 24th	10am	Jim Mullen, Balrath (1st Anniversary) & Maureen Mullen
Tuesday 25th	10am	John, Annie & Jackie Fitzsimons
Wednesday 26th	10am	Christine Foran Moore (1st Anniversary) Séamus Moore
Thursday 27th	10am	Jenny, Jack, John & Jimmy Morgan
Friday 28th	10am	Gerry Hamilton
Saturday 29th Anniversaries Occurring Mass	7pm	Joe Carthy, Milltown Estate (Months Mind) Marian Monks, Brookeville (Months Mind) Paul Kelly, Duleek (1st Anniversary) Mairead Locknane Maud, Bertie & Christy McDermott Anne & Jimmy Gough Mary Sullivan
Sunday 30th	9am	Tess & Charlie Murphy
Donaghmore	10am	Christopher Kavanagh
	11am	Maeve Archbold, Garristown (1st Anniversary)
	12.30pm	Dennis McElliott

Today we begin our systematic reading of the gospel of Luke as part of the Liturgy of the Word. We hear in today's gospel how the people in Jesus' home town are astonished at the claims that Jesus is making. Jesus quotes a text from the prophet Isaiah to say the spirit is upon Him and He brings good news. Every time we come together to hear the bible being read at Mass or open our bibles at home we open our ears to amazing good news.

In January of 2020 Pope Francis asked that all parishes celebrate 'Word of God' Sunday on this 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time each January. In doing so, Pope Francis is asking us to reflect on the importance of the 'Word of God' to Christians. Each Sunday the Bible is read in Christian Churches and we as followers of Jesus are asked to let the word speak to us. This is the good news of our salvation. In order to highlight the Word of God this Sunday two candles are lit each side of the Ambo.

Best Information Before Leaving Earth

'Do This In Memory'

Mass

Today we welcome the children being prepared to receive their First Holy Communion in early May. For today's Mass the boys and girls have been learning about the offertory gifts at



Mass. They have learnt about how Bread and Wine is made and how it was a key part of Jesus' Last Supper. The people's Mass response to the blessing of the Bread and Wine is 'Blessed be God forever'. The children's art for this Mass had them colouring in bunches of grapes and sheaves of wheat. Parents are asked to talk to their children about the making of Bread and Wine and are encouraged to show them varieties of grapes and bread when out shopping. At the end of Mass children receive a gift of a Prayer Card.

Ordinary Time in the Church Year



It is ordinary time in the church year and will remain so until the season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, the second day of March. The gospel or 'good news' read at Sunday Mass is that which St. Luke wrote and is referred to as the third gospel or the gospel of Year C. Green Vestments are worn during ordinary time and the green plants in front of the Altar in Ashbourne remind us that we are all asked to pray that we will grow in our relationship with Jesus.

Children Can Receive a Blessing at Communion Time



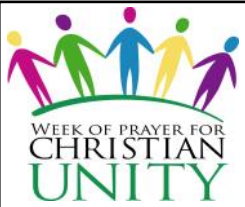
Children who have not yet received Holy Communion are welcome to come forward at communion time to receive a blessing. Parents are asked to encourage their children to cross their arms in front of them when they arrive at the communion station so that the Eucharistic Minister or priest knows to give a blessing.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Thursday 10.30am to 8pm



Confessions Saturday 5pm to 6pm



Christian Unity Week Continues

At Masses today Fr. Michael and Fr. Ciarán will offer prayers for Christian Unity. Each year in the month of January Christians unite to pray and promote greater co-operation between Christians of all denominations. In the past in our country there was much emphasis on difference rather than on similarities and regrettably Christians often did not share and celebrate their common vision. We have all heard stories of the pain caused by these divisions and many of us saw how the Christian religion was used as a label in Northern Ireland to put people against one another. Today thankfully Catholics, Church of Ireland members, Methodists and Presbyterians emphasize unity, understanding of difference and the person of Christ at the heart and centre of every Christian life. 'All believers were one in heart and mind' *Acts 4:32*

Refurbishment of the Presbytery and the Old National School

In the coming fortnight a Planning Application will be submitted to Meath County Council seeking the refurbishment of the Presbytery on the church grounds and works to the Old National School allowing it to become a residence for the Parish Priest. The footprint of both buildings will largely stay the same with proposed works including insulation and electrical upgrade for both buildings. The plans for the Old National School will replace the previous plans submitted in 2019 which proposed to extend the building to become an Education Centre.



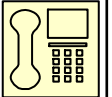
Catholic Schools Week 2022

Catholic Schools Week this year takes place from 30th of January to 4th of February. During this week the Catholic Schools celebrate their ethos and the value system that is enshrined in their characteristic spirit. The theme for 2022 is 'Catholic Schools: Living Life to the Full'. With health restrictions only beginning to be lifted in schools the celebration this year will once again be mainly online and within each classroom. In Ashbourne we have three schools under catholic or parish patronage. They are St. Mary's, St. Declan's and Gaelscoil na Cille. At the 11am Mass next Sunday two pupils a from each school will lead us in the prayer of the faithful.



Contacting the Parish Office

The parish phone number is (01) 8353149. One can ring this number when contacting the parish secretary with any enquiry, to book a Mass or find out parish related information. Outside of Parish Office hours you can leave a message on the phone answering service. If you are contacting the parish outside of office hours in an emergency situation ie when a loved one has died or arranging a funeral please use the Emergency Phone Number which is (086) 7327737. Please do not ring this number if looking to book a Mass or organise a baptism.



Coeliac or Gluten Free Hosts

Parishioners are reminded that a gluten free host is available from the priest at communion time. If you are gluten intolerant please indicate that you wish to receive this host when you come forward for communion. The Pyx with these hosts is contained within the large Ciboria to emphasise the oneness of all God's people around the Eucharist.



The Synodal Pathway in the Diocese of Meath

Pope Francis has asked the Church to engage in a process of self-reflection and evaluation. All the baptised in the parishes of the Diocese of Meath are invited to participate in the synodal process during Lent 2022. Opportunities to engage in the process locally will be announced in the coming weeks. To get ready to be part of a global conversation you are asked to learn about synodality see www.synod.ie or www.dioceseofmeath.ie/news/universal-synod. "Enlightened by the Word of God and united in prayer, we will be able to discern the process to seek God's will and pursue the pathways to which God calls us – towards deeper communion, fuller participation, and greater awareness to fulfilling our mission in the world." *(Pope Francis, Vademecum)*



Managing Parish Finances

A meeting of the Parish Finance Committee will take place on Tuesday evening at 6pm in the Old National School. Members who are unable to attend are asked to contact Mary by close of the Parish Office on Tuesday.

Second Collection at Mass next Sunday

After Holy Communion next Sunday (January 30) there will be a collection towards the parish contribution for the Diocesan Cess. The money collected across parishes in the Diocese of Meath will support the work of our church welfare agencies including Accord Catholic Marriage Care, the National Safeguarding Board, and the Council for Immigrant and Emigrant Support. This is one of six second collections that take place annually in our parish. We thank parishioners for their support and the Stewards who help with the collections in the Church.

Government Announcement on St. Bridget's Day

It is welcome news that the government has announced that the first Monday in February each year from 2023 will be a public holiday. This is to link in with our patron saint, Bridget of Kildare. Many people had lobbied for this great woman to continue to be acknowledged for the role she played as a pioneer in bringing the flame of faith to many parts of our country. There is a strong tradition of children in our parish making St. Bridget's crosses on her feast day.



Weekly collection figures from last weekend
Thank You.

Plate €1360.00

Shrines €895.00

Development Fund €840 00

We thank all those who contribute, collect and count our finances.



We pray for those who have died recently

Clare Coghlan, Kilderry Hall

Paul Donnelly, Killeglan Rise

Noel Connor, Killeglan Court

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE