

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



Today's gospel scene brings us to the shores of Lake Gennesaret. Gennesaret is one of four names for the large lake located five hundred feet below sea level in the Galilee region of central Israel. The lake remains part of the economic and recreational life of the Holy Land.



Jesus lived near the lake and today we picture how he got into a boat to speak to the people perhaps using the natural amplification of the water to carry his voice. By the lake he calls his first disciples. We are asked today to respond to the call to follow and to become 'fishers'.

Mass Times and Intentions

5th Sunday Year C

Saturday 5th Anniversaries Occurring Mass	7pm	George Collins, Milltown (Months Mind) Jozef Grayson Manus O'Byrne Anne & Steve Keane Gerry & Sheila Ryan Jack & Eileen Scally
Sunday 6th	9am	Finbar Daly
Donaghmore	10am	Sean & Peggy Barker
	11am	Donal O'Loingsigh, The Hawthorns(1st Anniversary) Martin Moore
	12.30pm	Seán Battersby
Monday 7th	10am	Tom Hollywood
Tuesday 8th	10am	Terry Walsh
Wednesday 9th	10am	Pro Populo
Thursday 10th	10am	Fitzgerald Family
Friday 11th	10am	Paul Meleady and Olive & Noel Sutton
Saturday 12th Anniversaries Occurring Mass	7pm	Gerald O'Neill Lee Moore Tony, Kevin & Eilish Bartley PJ Walsh
Sunday 13th	9am	Paul Donnelly, Killekland (Months Mind)
Donaghmore	10am	Bill Henry, Fieldstown, (!st Anniversary)
	11am	John Scanlon, Deerpark (Months Mind)
	12.30pm	Declan O'Donaghue

Getting Ready for Confirmation

Confirmation in Ashbourne is now five weeks away. The children are busy learning about the sacrament and the Holy Spirit. Bishop Tom is due to begin confirmation this week in the diocese and is with our faith community, God willing, on March 12. Just like in recent covid years the confirmation ceremony will be a stand-alone ceremony and the candidate, sponsor and two other people are allowed to attend. There will be a ceremony at 11am and one at 3pm with each seat being used in our church to accommodate the 'confirmandi'. Candidates and families are asked to follow all of the guidelines around keeping the ceremony prayerful and staying safe in church buildings and grounds.



CONFIRMATION NAME

We welcome children in our parish to the third of the four preparatory masses for confirmation taking place today. In preparation for this mass the 'confirmandi' have completed projects on the saint whose name they are taking on confirmation day. As part of the mass today after the gospel the children will stand and hold aloft their confirmation name card which their sponsor will present to Bishop Tom. Fr. Michael and Fr. Ciarán visited the children at school during the week and saw first-hand the work the children have done on their saint's names. Well done to the children, parents and teachers work done so far.

Holy Water Available Again

Holy water, the great sacramental linked to our baptism, is allowed again to be placed in fonts at this time. It is no longer considered a risk for someone to bless themselves in this way as they enter their church. Holy Water is also available in the metal container at the sacristy door next to the cemetery in Ashbourne Church grounds. Parishioners are welcome to take holy water from this container whenever the church grounds are open. Holy Water is a reminder of our baptism and the call to new life in Christ.



'Come, Holy Spirit' Prayer

'Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your spirit and they shall be created.
And you shall renew the face of the earth.'

Ashbourne Church Choir



We are very glad to welcome back Ashbourne Church Choir to the 11am mass today. The choir sang for Christmas Eve after a long absence due to covid. It is hoped that the choir will initially sing every fortnight at the 11am mass. Like everything, with covid, it has not been easy keeping people together. Some members have decided to retire or go different ways and the parish is grateful to them for their enormous contribution down the years. A choir is always renewing itself and if any old members want to come back or somebody wants to join now or in the future you will be made very welcome. The only thing needed alongside the confidence to sing is a willingness to make the Monday evening practises in Ashbourne church. Giovanna and Ephrem direct the choir on behalf of the parish and we wish all involved well.

Blessing of the Sick – Friday Next

February 11th is World Day of Prayer for the Sick. The sacrament of anointing of the sick is available to all those who are sick and not, as was the case in the past, only to those who are close to death. Holy Oil, blessed by the bishop in each diocese at the Chrism Mass, is used for the anointing. Our image shows the three holy oils, Oil of Baptism, Sacred Chrism and Oil of the Sick in Ashbourne Church.



‘We too can be hands, arms and hearts which help God to perform his miracles, so often hidden. We too, whether healthy or sick, can offer up our toil and sufferings like the water which filled the jars at the wedding feast of Cana and was turned into the finest wine.’

Message of Pope Francis for the Day

As part of the 10am daily mass next Friday in Ashbourne Fr. Michael and Fr. Ciarán will give parishioners an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Anointing of the Sick. Prayers that morning will be offered for all those who are sick, infirm or in need of mental, physical or spiritual healing.

Our Lady of Lourdes

The feast day of our Lady of Lourdes is kept every year as the World Day of Prayer for the Sick. The parish statue of our Lady of Lourdes will be placed in front of the altar on that day. ‘To Mary, Mother of Mercy and Health of the Sick, we raise our trusting gaze and our prayer; may her maternal compassion, manifested as she stood beside her dying Son on the Cross, accompany and sustain the faith and the hope of every sick and suffering person on the journey of healing for the wounds of body and spirit.’



Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for us.

Go on a Boat and Eat ‘St. Peter’s Fish’ in 2022

Would you like to go out on a boat on Lake Galilee just like those in the gospel today? A local pilgrimage from Dunshaughlin led by Fr. Sean Henry will head a group tour to the Holy Land on June 1st and a few spaces are still available on the pilgrimage. The cost is €1895 per person sharing (half board). For further information contact Navan Travel (081) 8333990 or checkout their website. Perhaps 2022 is Your Year To Go To The Holy Land.



Ashbourne Parish To Host Synodal Meetings in March

Ashbourne Parish has been asked to host the deanery Lenten meetings of the National Synod. The meetings will be held on the three Tuesday evenings of March 15, 22 and 29. Members of each of the six parishes in our deanery will be invited to the assembly to partake in a time of reflection and discussion. It is a great honour for our parish to host these meetings and please God we will be able to provide amble hospitality and a good space for prayer and reflection. The parishes in our deanery are Ashbourne, Ratoath, Dunboyne, Dunshaughlin, Kilcloon and Curraha. Details on the help needed to provide a good welcome will be published in the coming weeks.

Synodality denotes the particular style that qualifies the life and mission of the Church, expressing her nature as the People of God journeying together and gathering in assembly, summoned by the Lord Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Gospel. (Pope Francis, Preparatory Document)

The logo for the Synod emphasises three words Pope Francis wants us to reflect on ie Communion, Participation and Mission.



These meetings that Ashbourne parish is hosting is part of Pope Francis’ invitation to all in 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 these gatherings as part of a process called a synodal process. To get ready to be part of a global conversation you can 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, Preparatory Document)

Donaghmore Meeting



Fr. Michael and Fr. Ciarán will meet with parishioners of the Donaghmore faith community on Wednesday evening, February 16. All are welcome to the gathering in the church at 7pm as the priests of the parish with parishioners look at ways of improving and strengthening ourselves in the coming months.

Diocesan Cess Collection

We thank all those who contributed towards the second collection at masses last Sunday. A total of €1075 was collected. This money goes towards the diocesan cess which was paid on Thursday by our parish. By your contribution you support the church’s welfare towards families in need, immigrants in Ireland and prison chaplaincy abroad.

Weekly collection figures from last weekend
Plate €1075.00
Shrines €1000.00
Development Fund €1155 00

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



We pray for those who have died recently

Tom Harris, Dublin Road

Helen Dunleavy, Finglas

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE