

ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Priests of the Parish

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Parish Secretary Mary Mullen
Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
9.00am to 12.30pm



27th Sunday B

6 October 2024

Let the
Little
Children
come to
me.



'I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' (Mark 10: 11)

Mass Times and Intentions Ashbourne and Donaghmore Churches

Saturday 5th October <i>Shared Mass Intentions</i>	7pm	Carol Seery (1st Anniversary); Jimmy Molloy; John Murphy; Grace O'Malley; Tony Malone
Sunday 6th	9am	People of the Parish
Donaghmore	10am	Mon Skelly, The Ward (1st Anniversary) and Mick & Bernie Boland
Hospitality in the Parish Centre. All Welcome.	11 am	William Anderson
	12.30pm	Catherine & Paul Martin
Monday 7th	10am	James Monaghan
Tuesday 8th	10am	People of the Parish
Wednesday 9th	10am	Patrick Walsh (Snr.)
Thursday 10th	10am	People of the Parish
Friday 11th	10am	Baby Holly Kane
Saturday 12th Shared Mass Intentions	7pm	Terry O'Brien; Mary Keogh; William (Bill) Birmingham; James & Alice Dervan; Patrick Lillicrap
Sunday 13th	9am	People of the Parish
Donaghmore	10am	People of the Parish
Hospitality in the Parish Centre. All Welcome.	11 am	People of the Parish
	12.30pm	Mary Matthews, Baltrasna (Months Mind)

First 'Do This In Memory' Mass



This Sunday is the first of six 'Do This In Memory' Mass Weekends in our parish. 'Do This In Memory' is the name given to the parish 1st Communion preparatory program that encourages the home, school and parish to work together in a positive way to pass on faith. We welcome the families preparing for the sacrament in May 2025. This year, thanks to the efforts of the Parish Pastoral Assembly, parents are getting more involved in the 'Do This In Memory' Masses. For this first Mass of the program the children have been learning about blessing themselves at the beginning and end of Mass. They also are learning from their parents how to cross their hands when coming up at communion time to ask the priest or Eucharistic Minister for a blessing.

LMFM Radio Mass

The vigil Mass this Saturday evening is being recorded to be broadcast on LMFM on Sunday morning. Ashbourne Parish webcam facility allows the radio station to do this and we are happy to give permission for this to happen, and to transmit our celebration across the counties of Meath and Louth.



Altar Servers Training Begins

The first practice for our new Altar Servers takes place on Tuesday afternoon next at 3.15pm in Ashbourne Church. The second practise will take place on Saturday morning at 12 noon in the church. Parents are asked to have their child present for one of these training hours. Next Sunday the Altar Servers will begin serving at the 7pm, 11am and 12.30pm Masses. We thank the children who are beginning this ministry in our parish. We hope you enjoy the experience.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Thursdays 10.30am to 8pm

Confessions Saturday 5 to 6pm - Ashbourne Church

October—The Month of Mission



During this month of October we reflect in a new way on the mission that all Christians have of building God's kingdom. Mission Sunday falls this year on Sunday October 20th. Pope Francis has chosen the theme 'Go and invite everyone to the banquet'. Mission, he says, 'is a tireless going out to all men and women, to invite them to encounter God'.

Parish Pastoral Assembly

A meeting of the Parish Pastoral Assembly took place on Wednesday evening last. Members of the Parish Pastoral Assembly continue to reflect on how best to support parents preparing their children for 1st Holy Communion. A new child friendly board has been erected in Ashbourne Church for children taking part in the 'Do This In Memory' preparatory program. We thank the parents of children for 1st Communion from St. Mary's School who helped decorate this month's 'Sacred Space'. Members of the PPA also created the first monthly parental e-newsletter to support 1st Communion parents. Discussion also took place around the launch of the new parish website in December, and the group began reflection on how to reach out to young Catholics in our parish.



Donaghmore Pastoral Meeting

A meeting of our priests with the people of the faith community of Donaghmore will take place in the church meeting room on Wednesday evening next at 7pm. Five times a year our priests meet in Donaghmore to look at issues to do with the spiritual, liturgical and pastoral needs of the area. We are grateful to all those in Donaghmore who give time and service to their community.



Booking of Masses 2025

The parish will begin taking mass intentions for 2025 on the second week of November. At that stage the parish will have received its new liturgical calendar. As usual the 11am Sunday Mass and every second 12.30pm will be reserved for those booking a Month's Mind Mass or 1st Anniversary. The 'Shared Mass Intention' celebration will once again be the 7pm weekly Saturday Vigil Mass for the Sunday. All public Masses in our Parish that are named are for loved ones who have died.



Irish Cancer Society

The Irish Cancer Society are looking for volunteer drivers to bring cancer patients in Ashbourne to their hospital appointments. If you think that you can help email volunteer@irishcancer.ie.



Do You Love to Sing?

If so, Ashbourne Choral Ensemble would love to hear from you. Singers drawn from the choir lend their gifts to our 11am Sunday Mass on alternate Sundays and sing for all the high points of the Church year at Christmas, Easter, Pentecost etc. Members also support local charitable causes. Our parish is very fortunate to have such a great choir and are grateful to Giovanna and Ephrem for their dedication. For more information email ashbournesinging@gmail.com or speak to Ephrem, our organist, after the 11am Mass any Sunday morning.



Confirmation Meeting

The priests of the parish will meet with all parents putting their child forward for confirmation on Tuesday evening at 7pm in Ashbourne Church. Kay Churm will speak at the gathering. At this meeting our parish will formally begin its preparation for this sacrament. Our parish preparatory program is called 'Confirming Our Children'. There will be four special Masses in our parish in the coming months linked to a four part journey of preparation for the candidates being enrolled. Confirmation takes place on Saturday 01 March 2025.



Confirmation Registration Concludes on October 15th

Thank you to all parents who have registered their children for the parish confirmation programme. Request Forms have been emailed to Catholic parents through our three Catholic Schools and are available from our Parish Office. Parents should discuss with their child what is involved in receiving the sacrament. Proof of baptism is needed for children baptised our parish.



After School Class Registration is Concluded

The registration for the parish after school sacramental classes is concluded. The after school classes are for children attending state schools during the regular school day and they take place on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons in the Parish Centre. We wish the children all the very best as they learn about Jesus. We thank the parents, teachers and priests for the work they do in running the after school program.



First Communion Dates 2025

In recent weeks our parish announced the dates for First Holy Communion next year. On Saturday May 10th the families of St. Mary's School will receive the sacrament. The following Saturday is dedicated to the families of Gaelscoil na Cille and the After School Program. On Saturday May 24th the Catholic families of St. Declan's receive the sacrament.



Preventing Crime in Ashbourne

A Crime Prevention Talk will take place today at 12.30pm in the Ashbourne House Hotel. The talk is aimed at keeping older people safe and is organised by Cllr. Helen Meyer.



Thank You To Those who Contribute

Gratitude is expressed to all those who contribute, collect and count monies donated to our parish. Last Sunday's collection total amounts were as follows: Offertory Collection: €1365; Envelope/Parish Development Fund: €790; Shrines: €805.



Praying For The Deceased

We pray for Catherine O Connell, Broadmeadow Green whose funeral Mass took place in Ashbourne Church on Friday morning. Catherine was a frequent visitor to our Church and loved the sacraments. We extend sympathy to her loyal husband Joe on her death. May she and all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen. *Suaimhneas Sioraí.*

