

ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Priests of the Parish

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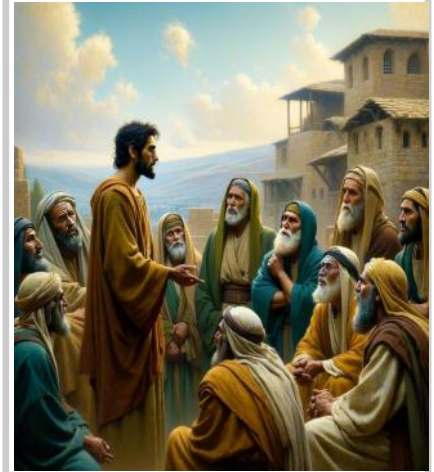
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*Ashbourne is Part of the Meath Diocesan Pastoral
Area of Ratoath, Curraha, Ardcath,
Dunshaughlin and Skyrne*



11th Sunday A

14 June 2026



‘Proclaim that the Kingdom of heaven is close at hand’. (Mt 10:6)

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 13th June	7pm	Andrea Donnelly, The Bailey, (1st Anniversary); James Malone; John and Maggie Beggy; Séan Byrne; Tom Cotter and deceased of Cotter and McDonald Families; Mary and Dan Landers; Aidan McManamy
Sunday 14th	9am	Maria Rybka, Poland (Month’s Mind)
Donaghmore	10am	Finbar O’Mahony, The Rath, (1st Anniversary)
Hospitality in the Parish Centre	11am	Robert Murphy, The Hawthorns, (Month’s Mind)
	12.30pm	Frank Carroll, Castle Crescent, (1st Anniversary)
Monday 15th	10am	Nora Loftus and Lily Simon
Tuesday 16th	10am	Martin Finn
Wednesday 17th	10am	People of the Parish
Thursday 18th	10am	Robet Murphy
Friday 19th	10am	Paddy Redmond
Saturday 13th	7pm	Paul Millar, Brindley Park Road, (Month’s Mind and Burial of Ashes) Paul Cassidy, Bourne View, (1st Anniversary); Peter Fitzpatrick; Jimmy Molloy; Johnny McCabe; Nora Rattigan; Alex Chimbloanda
Sunday 20th	9am	Pat Heneghan, Brindley Park Road, (Month’s Mind)
Donaghmore	10am	Paddy and Phyllis Woods
Hospitality in the Parish Centre	11am	Dave Jordan, Castle Park, (1st Anniversary)
	12.30pm	John Beirne

In today’s gospel Jesus chooses the disciples, ordinary people of goodwill; not any different from ourselves. With the right understanding and training, they blossomed into worthy witnesses of the reign of God, and so become pillars of the Christian faith. Like the disciples, and despite our many personal limitations, we too are called to spread the Good News that God’s Kingdom is here.

Pope Leo XIV’s First Encyclical



Pope Leo XIV’s first encyclical, ‘Magnifica Humanitas’, on safeguarding the human person in this time of Artificial Intelligence has just been released. It bears the Pope’s signature dated May 15th,

135th Anniversary of the publication of Pope Leo XIII’s encyclical ‘Rerum Novarum’. Pope Leo was present in the Synod Hall for the publication of the document, and many believe this indicates the importance of this issue to the pontiff. The letter speaks about the benefits of AI, particularly in the fields of medicine and education. However, in the lengthy document our Holy Father expresses concerns over job losses and a natural pursuit of justice, peace and morality. The letter can be read on the Vatican website www.vatican.va/popeleo/encyclicals.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting

The Parish Pastoral Council will have its last meeting before the summer recess on Wednesday evening next. All members are encouraged to attend. The meeting will look at the summer pilgrimage to Armagh, and make pastoral plans for the September to December period in our parish. At the end of the meeting members will visit Killekland Cemetery to learn about Fr. Michael Plunkett and his links to his cousin and friend, St. Oliver Plunkett. Our parish will host a meeting of Pastoral Councils in our Pastoral area in the month of October.



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



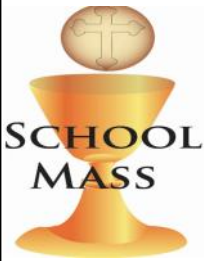
Confessions this Saturday 5pm to 6pm.

Supporting Those Doing Exams

We continue to wish all our young parishioners every blessing and success in their state exams. Prayer is always a wonderful support and help to someone you know sitting examinations. Do light a candle, write a petition, and say a prayer for our young people as the exam season concludes.



Sixth Class Graduation Mass



have given to the children over the years.

There will be a special Mass this week for all the children in sixth class in our primary schools. It will take place on Wednesday next at 11.00am in Ashbourne Church. We wish all of the children every blessing as they graduate from primary school. We thank all of their teachers, and the staff of St. Mary's, St. Declan's and Gaelscoil na Cille for all of the hard work and support that they

New Altar Servers Welcome

With the summer beginning we are recruiting new altar servers. Parents or guardians of faith, we invite you to have a conversation with the child in your care, about the opportunity to support the faith community by serving Sunday Mass in Ashbourne Church. Children must have made their First Holy Communion and be willing to work as part of a team. Fully supervised training will be given in early September before the new recruits begin. Consent Forms are available from our priests after Sunday Mass.



Retirement of Former Priest in Ashbourne



In the changes of Meath diocesan priest personnel announced by Bishop Tom last week Fr. Seamus Mulvaney, PP of Glasson has retired. Fr. Seamus was priest in Ashbourne from

1985 to 1993 and served with Fr. Martin Burke. Are you a parishioner who remembers him? Fr. Seamus remembers his time in our parish fondly, and as part of our faith history, Fr. Michael and Brendan O'Reilly hope during the summer to interview him, and to record his memories of being a priest in Ashbourne at a time when the parish was much different to what it is today.

Parish Pilgrimage to Armagh on Saturday August 22nd

The Parish Pastoral Council are organising a pilgrimage to the city of Armagh. Armagh is the ecclesiastical capital of Ireland and the See of St. Patrick. On the way to Armagh on Saturday August 22nd, the pilgrims enroute North, will visit the Shrine of St. Oliver Plunkett in Drogheda, and the birthplace of St. Brigid in Faughart, Co. Louth. The pilgrimage will leave Ashbourne Church at 8am and return at approximately 8pm. The bus fare per pilgrim is €25, and places are allocated through the Parish Office. Bookings are now being taken.



Proclaiming the Word of God

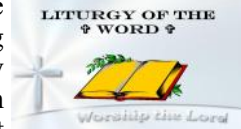


READERS

Would you be willing to become a reader in our parish? There are always vacancies on our rota for readers on a Sunday, and we always want to have as big a team involved as possible in both our churches, so that the ministry is shared and as light as possible. If you could help us deliver this important lay ministry Fr. Michael, or the Parish Office, would be delighted to hear from you. We need people in Ashbourne and Donaghmore who are confident in public speaking and dependable. A small amount of training will be provided and there is a page prepared with practical tips and guidelines for this ministry in our parish.

Liturgy of the Word on Wednesdays

Fr. Michael, our parish priest will be covering the parish for the coming weeks on his own. There will be Rosary and a short Liturgy of the Word at 10am on Wednesday mornings. This will start next Wednesday week (June 24th), and on the following Wednesdays, July 1st, 8th and 15th. If there is a funeral Mass on any of these Wednesdays they will be scheduled for 10am. We thank those who lead the Rosary, and all the lay people who help with prayer ministry in Ashbourne parish.



Parish Finance Committee Meeting

A meeting of the Parish Finance Committee will take place on Tuesday evening the 23rd of June. The committee will be briefed on outstanding works on the porch and windows of Ashbourne Church. The committee will examine a report from the Parish accountant on our parish finances for 2025. Following this meeting the 2025 Income and Expenditure will be published. Other items on the agenda are costings and financial plan for cleaning works on the gutters and drains of Ashbourne Church and Parish Centre. The church collection amounts for last week were as follows: Offertory/Plate €1660; Shrines €860; Development Fund €985. The June Priests Offering came to €1320. Gratitude is expressed to all those who contribute, collect and count monies given to our parish.



Praying for Those Who Have Died

Thank you to everyone who helped Fr. Jinse and Fr. Michael with cemetery devotions in our parish over the past few weeks. We were not as fortunate with the weather this year but 'c'est la vie'! It was wonderful to see families coming together to "do the graves", and to lovingly pray and remember deceased loved ones. We pray for Siobhan Brennan of Brindley Park Square whose Funeral Mass took place in Ashbourne Church on Monday morning last. Siobhan was a reader at Sunday Mass for many years. We also pray for Delia Donnelly, The Glen, Alderbrook whose funeral took place on Saturday. Delia was one of our oldest parishioners at 99 years of age. Our parish extends sympathy to their families and friends. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen. *Suiamhneas Siorai.*



Pope Leo blessed the new and tallest tower on the Sacrada Familia in Barcelona on Wednesday and reminded us that all 'Christians are called to be builders of unity and God's kingdom in earth'.