



ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Priests of the Parish

Fr. Michael Kilmartin P.P.

Fr. Jinse Jose, C.C.

Parish Secretary - Sinéad Carroll

Telephone: (01) 8353149

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday,
9am - 12.30pm

Website: ashbourneparish.ie

ashbournedonaghmoreparish@gmail.com

Facebook Follow Ashbourne Parish

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

13th Sunday A

28 June 2026



Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 27th June 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	7pm	Margaret Corduff; Anne Madigan; Patrick, Julia, and Vincie Gough and Deceased Members of the Gough Family; Liam Tierney; Deceased members of the Mathieu, Limery and Stephenson Families.
Sunday 28th	9am	Deceased Members of the Hussey and Collins Families
Donaghmore	10am	Betty Hussey, Donaghmore, (Month's Mind); Sonny Dwyer
Hospitality in the Parish Centre	11am	People of the Parish
	12.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday 29th Peter and Paul	10am	James McGrath
Tuesday 30th	10am	Maureen and Peter John Kelly
Wednesday 1st July Oliver Plunkett	10am	Liturgy of The Word <i>If there is a funeral on this day it will replace the liturgical service</i>
Thursday 2nd	10am	Carmel McGuirk
Friday 3rd Thomas, Apostle	10am	Parish List of the Dead
Saturday 4th 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A	7pm	John Byrne, Maple Grove, (1st Anniversary) William and Teresa Tierney; Manus O'Byrne; Pauline Larkin; Christine McNally
Sunday 5th	9am	Lar Skelly
Donaghmore	10am	Declan Kelly
	11am	Delia Donnelly, Alderbrook, (Month's Mind)
	12.30pm	Gerry, Pauline, Tommy, Patrick and Maura Harrington

Following the way of Jesus comes at a cost, but also with a great reward. It is a frequent theme of Matthew's gospel. If we follow Jesus then our reward will be great in heaven. Jesus includes in the reward for spreading the Gospel all who assist it in any way - from those who give hospitality to those who simply offer a glass of water on a hot day.

Thanks to Those who Organise Hospitality

Hospitality after the 11am Sunday Mass concludes this morning and we will resume in September. We are grateful to the volunteers who get the milk, set up the tables and put on the kettles for our faith community throughout the year. For Fr. Michael's marking of thirty years as a priest on Sunday, July 25th, the hospitality group will reassemble for a small parish celebration to mark the occasion. We thank all those who help with this form of parish outreach and community building. Mile buíochas.



Liturgy of the Word on Wednesdays



Fr. Michael, our parish priest, is covering the parish on his own at the moment as Fr. Jinse has returned home to Kerala in India. There is Rosary and a short Liturgy of the Word at 10am on Wednesday mornings for the coming three weeks. 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.

Best Wishes to Schools as the School Year Ends

As the school holidays begin we wish that the children have a happy and enjoyable summer. We express thanks to our teachers in our schools and thank all those on the School Boards of Management for the support and time they have given to their schools over the last year.



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



Confessions this Saturday 5pm to 6pm.

Celebrating St. Oliver Plunkett, Bishop and Martyr

St. Oliver Plunkett's Feast Day is on Wednesday next, the first day of July. The Annual Meath Diocesan Mass in the birthplace of St. Oliver takes place today in Loughcrew Gardens, Oldcastle at 3 pm with Bishop Denis Nulty as guest homilist. As part of marking our parish connection with St. Oliver Fr. Michael will talk about martyrdom at Tuesday's 10am Mass at which parishioners will be blessed with the relic of St. Oliver. Later in the summer, on Saturday August 22nd, Fr. Michael and the Parish Pastoral Council have organised a pilgrimage to the city of Armagh. Enroute North the pilgrimage 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.



When Oliver Plunkett was Archbishop in Armagh he wrote letters to his cousin Fr. Michael Plunkett who was a priest and vicar general of our diocese. Fr. Michael died as Parish Priest of Ratoath and was buried 299 years ago in the ruins of the old abbey of Killelland, the old place name for Ashbourne. It is thanks to Fr. Michael's archive of letters that we know the story of St. Oliver Plunkett. This photo shows the icon to St. Oliver in Ashbourne Church. The icon shows Oliver in his Tyburn prison cell writing to Michael and telling him he is about to be executed at London Bridge and he forgave those responsible for his death.

Date for Confirmation Next Year

On Monday Bishop Tom announced the 2027 dates for Confirmation in our diocese. On Saturday, February 27th, Confirmation will take place in our Parish. We look forward to welcoming our bishop and preparing candidates for this great sacrament of the church. For those in non catholic schools enrolment in next year's after school confirmation program has begun. The program provides instruction for these catholic children in Ashbourne. The after school classes will begin next September. Enrolment forms are currently available from the priests of the parish. Once completed by parents they should be returned to the Parish Office. Places are allocated on a first return first place basis. Baptismal certs for children being enrolled for the first time and not baptised in Ashbourne Parish are required with the application. Children who have completed Year One of the religion classes must register for Year Two.



First Friday Mass and Communion Calls



Friday next is the First Friday in July. The 10am Mass that morning will be offered for all those whose names are recorded on Ashbourne- Donaghmore List of the Dead. With Fr. Jinse away, alternative arrangements will be made for the sick and housebound. If anyone is at home and would like to receive Holy Communion, as they are unable to attend Mass, they should let the Parish Office know.

Pope Leo's Prayer Intentions This July

For respect of human life: Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.



Income and Expenditure Sheet

Following the Parish Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday evening the Income and Expenditure for 2025 is published. The total income last year in Ashbourne and Donaghmore was €346,628, a modest increase of 1.45% on last year. The net outgoing resources, before monies on capital works came to €314,061. The surplus of €32,567 was spent as part of our the ongoing five year plan of investment on parish buildings which amounted in 2025 to €79,128.54. This relates to final works on the Parochial House and Grounds. The six Offering Collections for our priests were up while the weekly and plate collections were slightly down, Cemetery Income and expenditure both increased as we invested substantially in Ashbourne Cemetery, and sold several niches in the columbarium wall. The Income and Expenditure sheet is now on display, on the parish noticeboards, or you can get a copy by emailing the Parish Office. These accounts are now forwarded to the Diocese of Meath and will be audited as part of charity legislation and governance of monies donated to the St. Finian's Diocesan Trust.



Chalice and Ciborium Inscriptions



As part of our ongoing work on our parish faith history we are looking for any information on the names that are inscribed on our church vessels in both our parish churches. This week we highlight the inscriptions on four vessels to do with Donaghmore Church. The sacred vessel photographed is one of our oldest chalices and inscribed with the following words 'By Subscription for the chapel of Donaghmore, June 1818. Revd. T Kennedy.' The second vessel has the words 'Presented to Donaghmore church by William and Julia White in memory of their parents, 1946'. The parish has a silver ciborium inscribed: 'Presented by Mrs Rooney Robertstown in memory of her husband Nicholas who died 23rd December 1928'. Finally, there is a Silver Chalice inscribed: 'Belongs to Crickstown Parish got by Landy's Leonards Henry McPlunkett Bishop to Revd. Pastor 1790'. Can anyone shed light on who the people mentioned are? If you have any information please let us know in the Parish Office.

Second Collection this weekend

There will be a second collection at all of our Masses this weekend for St. Peter's Pence. This collection will be taken up after the distribution of Holy Communion. This collection enables Pope Leo to continue the mission of the Universal Church, to support the upkeep of the Vatican offices and missions abroad, and for the discretionary use by the Holy Father for any charitable initiatives he may support within the Universal church, including for the relief of those most in need. The church collection amounts for last week were as follows: Offertory/ Plate €1655; Shrines €940; Development Fund €990. Gratitude is expressed to all those who contribute, collect and count monies given to our parish.



Praying for Those Who Have Died

We pray for Maura Heneghan of Artane and Ashbourne whose Funeral Mass took place in Ashbourne Church on Thursday morning last with interment in Fingal Cemetery. Our parish extends sympathy to her daughter Cepta, daughter in law Michelle and grandchild Grace. May Maura's soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen. *Suíamhneas Síoraí.*

