



ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Priests of the Parish

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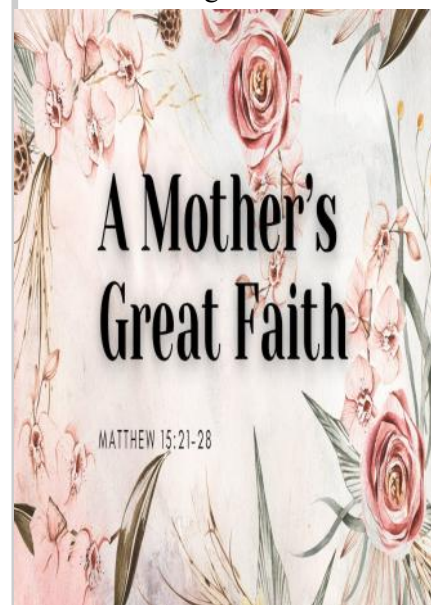
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*Ashbourne is Part of the Meath Diocesan Pastoral
Area of Ratoath, Curraha, Ardcah,
Dunshaughlin and Skyrne*

20th Sunday A

16 August 2026



Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 15th August Shared Mass Intention	7pm	Amy Arkins Connolly, Ardcah (Month's Mind) Walter Mulvey; Betty and Billy Coughlan; Declan Brennan; Bernard and Kathleen Carragher; May Brennan
Sunday 16th August	9am	Lisa Doherty
Donaghmore	10am	Ann Somers
	11am	Catherine Finnigan, Broadmeadow Green (1st Anniversary)
	12.30pm	Peggy Swinburne <i>Burial of Cremains and Rite of Committal of Anna Kleibauer</i>
Monday 17th <i>Lady of Knock</i>	10am	Olivia and Michael Dunphy
Tuesday 18th	10am	Seamus and Margaret Donnelly
Wednesday 19th	10am	Deceased Members of Fleming and Dunne Families
Thursday 20th	10am	People of the Parish
Friday 21st <i>St. Pius X</i>	10am	John, Nora and Donald Downey
Saturday 22nd Shared Mass Intention	7pm	Paddy Stritch; Mary Kelly; Barney Kearns; Vera and Eamonn Tuttle; Eddie and Kathleen Caffrey; Ann O'Neill; John and Mollie Fay; Susan Barrett
Sunday 23rd	9am	People of the Parish
Donaghmore	10am	Michael and Joan O'Reilly
	11am	Susan Mullen, Castle Close, (Month's Mind)
	12.30pm	Maureen Lawless

New Carpark Guidelines For Ashbourne Church



Ashbourne church carpark is for private use and for church related activities. This criteria is part of our parish insurance premium. Our car park spaces are for masses, funerals,

weddings, baptisms and people calling in to the office, cemetery and the church to pray. To stop the increasing problem of all day parking from Monday to Saturday the carpark in front of the Old National School, for a trial period, will be opened only when it is needed. It will be opened for funerals, weddings and Masses on a Sunday or holyday. Parishioners entering for other reasons ie. daily Mass, the rosary, to pray in the church, visit the cemetery or Parish Office are asked to park in the main body of the carpark. The wheelchair spaces are designated for a specific purpose and people should not impede the entry or exit to these spaces. We thank all our parishioners for their understanding and co-operation with this difficult issue. It will take time to get used to these new practices but it is to safeguard our parish mission.

Become a Minister of the Word

'Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.' (St. Paul's 1st letter to Timothy 4:13)



At this time of year some people take on doing something new. The parish is always looking for volunteers to keep its mission strong. If you are interested in becoming a Sunday reader in either of our Churches please let us know. Training for reading the Word of God will be provided. At the moment we would like more readers at the 9am Sunday Mass.



'A pilgrimage has a vital part to play in our life of faith, for it removes us from our daily routines, and gives us time and space to encounter God more deeply.' Pope Leo XIV



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



Confessions this Saturday 5pm to 6pm.

Bullstown Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund



The ESB is delighted to announce that the Bullstown Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund is open for applications. The Fund, administered by SECAD

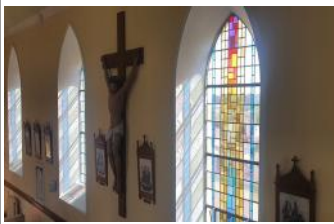
Partnership, will provide grants to local community groups, not-for-profit organisations, or social enterprises that operate or service communities within 2 km of Bullstown Solar Farm, or which are the primary provider of services or activities within this area, for projects that will create positive social and environmental impacts.

The Fund is part of the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme, a key policy initiative to deliver on the Government's Climate Action Plan, and it is structured in line with the requirements of the Rulebook for Community Benefit Funds under RESS. This is Year 1 of the Fund; the ESB will make an annual contribution into the Community Benefit Fund for the duration of the RESS-2 Contract (15 years). The fund value will vary each year depending on the amount of green electricity produced at the Solar Farm in the preceding year, this year's approximate fund value is envisioned to be €20,000.

As part of this strand of funding, a minimum of 40% of the overall Fund shall be paid to not-for-profit community enterprises whose primary focus or aim is the promotion of initiatives towards the delivery of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, in particular, Goals 4, 7, 11 and 13, including education, energy efficiency, sustainable energy and climate action initiatives. The Fund will close for applications at 5pm on Monday the 31st of August 2026. In next week's newsletter we will provide details on how groups, or those interested, should apply.



Stained Glass Windows in Our Two Churches



As part of strengthening the faith history archive of our parish we look this week at our stained glass windows. In Donaghmore Church (photographed) we have nine stained glass windows, with the central window in the

gallery dedicated to the church patron, St. Patrick. In Ashbourne Church we have six modern stained glass windows that were designed by the artist George Walsh. Commemorative booklets produced in 2018 tell the story of these windows. The two windows in the Old Church are dedicated to two female saints, St. Dymphna and St. Mary of Magdala. In the Ladychapel we have four small windows. The central window is dedicated to our church patron, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. The inscription reads 'Mother of God, pray for us'. Saint Patrick is to the left and Saints Brigid and Joseph are depicted to the right. Under these windows are the names of the donors. These are Mrs McAuley, Terence O' Neill; Hugh and Ellen Keona and finally, Peter Landy. Does anyone know who the families are, or know anything about the people from the late 1890's mentioned on our windows? Does the surname Landy, Keona, McAuley mean anything to anyone? If you can shed any light on this part of our parish history please write down what you know or email the Parish Office. A big thank you to all those who have contacted us with information already on questions asked.

We hear in the gospel this Sunday about Jesus' healing power. Let us always value the church sacraments of healing. There are confessions every Saturday in Ashbourne Church from 5 to 6pm. During this time, or at any time on request, the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick and Infirm is available. Every two months our parish has a Mass of Healing with the holy oils.



Information For Pilgrims on Saturday



The bus taking parishioners on this Saturday's parish pilgrimage will leave the church grounds at 8am sharp. Those on board will visit and pray at the shrine of St. Oliver Plunkett in Drogheda before stopping at the shrine in Faughart that marks the birth place of St. Brigid. After a stop in a local hotel we will head to the ecclesiastical city of Armagh. There will be then some free time for people to see the town. Our parish priest, Fr. Michael will give a brief tour of St. Patrick's Cathedral, and Mass will be celebrated at 4pm. On the return journey, there will be time for people to get food in a local hotel. The Parish Pastoral Council have organised this visit to Armagh to help people learn about St. Oliver Plunkett whose cousin is buried in Killelland Cemetery.

Knock Novena Ends on Friday
Daily Devotions 3pm and 8pm
Theme 'Sheltered in God's Love'
Feast Of Our Lady of Knock on Monday



Ground Works to the Porch of Ashbourne Church



At this time works are being carried out on the floors of the porch of Ashbourne Church to make them smoother and more level. It is hoped that it will be easier for a stroller, wheelchair, buggy or coffin to enter and exit the church. The new carpet is durable and this will hopefully mean also that it is easier to clean and maintain. These ongoing works on the doors and porch are all part of making the entrance of our church brighter and more welcoming. The final fittings on the doors are due to go in place in the coming days.

Second Collection at Masses Today

There is a Second Collection at our Masses today. It is after Holy Communion. This is to support the priests of our parish. The basic monthly salary of a priest is paid by our parish from what we collect on this August Offering Day, and the other five Offering Days. Last Sunday's collection total amounts were as follows: Offertory Basket: €1650; Envelope/Parish Development Fund: €940; Shrines: €765. On behalf of the Parish Finance Committee we thank all those who give generously in support of our priests, people and parish. *Mile buíochas.*

COLLECTIONS

Suaimhneas Síoraí



We pray for Anna Kleibauer of Brindley Park Square whose Funeral took place on Monday in Ashbourne Church. Her remains are interred today in the parish columbarium after the 12.30pm Mass. Our priests and people extend sympathy to her parents, Tomasz and Ewa. her sister Oliwia, grandparents and friends on the death of one so young. Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon her. Amen.