



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

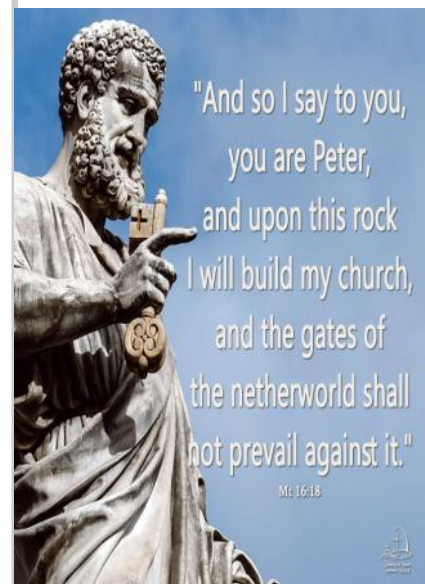
ashbournedonaghmoreparish@gmail.com

Facebook Follow Ashbourne Parish

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

21st Sunday A

23 August 2026



Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 22nd August 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; Séan Farrell
Sunday 23rd August	9am	People of the Parish
Donaghmore	10am	Michael and Joan O'Reilly
	11am	Susan Mullen, Castle Close (Month's Mind)
	12.30pm	Maureen Lawless, Killegland Court (Month's Mind)
Monday 24th <i>St. Bartholomew</i>	10am	Nora Simpson
Tuesday 25th	10am	Tom and Mary Rafferty, Fr. Tom and deceased Family Members
Wednesday 26th	10am	Brigid and James Keating
Thursday 27th <i>St. Monica</i>	10am	John and Kathleen Conneely
Friday 28th	10am	Kay and Jim Curry
Saturday 29th <i>Passion of St. John the Baptist</i> Shared Mass Intention	7pm	Mary and Jack Hickey; James and Mary Rogers, Mary Matthews; Jim Lenahan and deceased Family Members; Jim Lanigan; Deceased members of the Fenton and Ruane Families
Sunday 30th	9am	Breda O Keffe
Donaghmore	10am	Brenda Barry, Wotton, The Ward (Month's Mind)
	11am	Mass for the Petition Intentions
	12.30pm	Joe Donnelly

Looking For Photographs To Do With Our Parish



For the last three months our parish has been working on strengthening its archive of faith history. We thank all those who have provided information to us throughout this period. We thank Brendan O Reilly for gathering all the information and putting it into categories, and writing various pieces on our evolving history. We now turn our attention to gathering photographs to do with parish events through the years. If anyone has any old photographs to do with occasions in the church, or church activities, that touches on the history of Ashbourne - Donaghmore parish we would be delighted if you would contact us. We would love to have a look at any photos you have and to copy them if possible and are of significance. Please contact the Parish Office. Thank you.

Parish After School Sacramental Program

The Parish After School Sacramental Program will begin in a few weeks time. All Catholic parents with children attending non Catholic Schools must be registered on this program if they wish their child to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation in the coming years. Registration Forms are available from our priests after Sunday Mass. If you are not registered please come to Sunday Mass with your child and introduce them to us. Once the form is complete it should be returned to the Parish Office. Classes for 1st Communion and Confirmation are held over two years.



Keeping Up To Date With The Pope ...

The official Church app for the latest updates about the Pope, the Holy See and the Church in the World is called 'Vatican News'. It is available for download or you can visit the Vatican News website.



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



Confessions this Saturday 5pm to 6pm.

Altar Server Recruitment

At the moment Ashbourne parish is recruiting new Altar Servers. Have you received the sacrament of First Holy Communion and would like to serve Sunday Mass in Ashbourne Church? So, if you and your parents are happy to give consent, please ask one of our priests for an Altar Server Registration Form. Fr. Jinse will be organising training for new servers in the coming weeks. We thank parents bringing their children to Mass, and doing their best to pass on the precious gift of faith.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



Would you like to become a Catholic or do you know someone who would like to become a Catholic? Are you baptised but not confirmed in the faith? Our Parish is one of the diocesan centres for the RCIA programme which starts in September to prepare people for reception into the Church. If you are interested please let one of our priests know and they will point you in the right direction. Further details are also on www.dioceseofmeath.ie/rcia.

Keeping Ashbourne Church Clean and Tidy

A group of volunteers clean Ashbourne Church at 11am every Wednesday morning. They are always looking for more help ensuring that our church looks its best. Can you give a helping hand for an hour? If you can, please come along on a Wednesday that you are free and see what you can do to lend a supporting hand.



Bullstown Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund



As announced last week Bullstown Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund is now open for applications. The Fund will provide grants to local community groups in

Donaghmore or any social or environmental enterprises within 2 km of Bullstown Solar Farm. The Bullstown Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund is funded directly from the renewable energy generated at Solar Farm. The fund value for 2026 is envisioned to be €20,000 and will vary each year, depending on the amount of green electricity produced at the Solar Farm in the preceding year. All applications must be submitted through the online application platform. Each application will be evaluated in accordance with the eligibility criteria outlined in the Fund Guidelines. Proposed projects must seek to create positive social and environmental impacts in the area close to the Solar farm. Applicants requiring help or support with their application can contact the appointed Fund administrators, SECAD Partnership, by emailing info@secad.ie with the subject line "Bullstown Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund". The Fund will close for applications at 5pm on Monday the 31st of August 2026.

Radio Maria

Radio Maria Ireland is an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station. Prayer, Catechesis, Uplifting music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies - all Commercial free - Listen via TV on Saorview - channel 210 and Freeview channel 826; Download the Free App - "Radio Maria Ireland" or Stream on www.radiomaria.ie.



Gospel Sunday

In today's gospel Jesus is claiming his true identity. He wants his followers to understand who He is. Peter is convinced that Jesus is the 'Messiah, the Son of the living God'. The future direction of the Church will rest on Peter and his successors as Pope. Today's gospel reminds us to pray for the Pope, and our task with him to build the church on earth as a living witness of the kingdom of God.

Copies of Pope Leo's Encyclical

Pope Leo's first encyclical, *Magna Carta*, on safeguarding the human person in the time of Artificial Intelligence, has been received warmly worldwide since its publication at the end of May. In his letter our Holy Father



uses the image of everyone being tasked with building. All activities of mankind are at the service of some project. The key choice is the vision followed. The encyclical frames human choices in technology, using biblical images of the Tower of Babel (self - assertion and harm) versus the rebuilding of Jerusalem (shared responsibility and God-centred community) to guide AI development ethically. His letter affirms every human person's intrinsic dignity, warns against reducing people to mere resources or optimization projects, and emphasizes flourishing through human limitations. The encyclical urges all people of good will to build the "civilization of love" through truthful communication, dignified work, education, protection of the vulnerable, and communion with God and others. Copies of the Pope's letter are available after our Sunday Masses this weekend. Alternatively, you can read the encyclical on the Vatican website www.vatican.va/leoxiv/encyclicals

New Carpark Guidelines For Ashbourne Church



Thanks to all parishioners for your co-operation with the new carpark guidelines introduced in recent days. The aim of the Parish Finance Committee is to provide parking for parishioners when they come to our church. Ashbourne church carpark is for church related activities and is marked for this exclusive use in 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, is now 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 in the church grounds are designated for a specific purpose and people should not impede the entry or exit to these spaces. We also ask people not to park overnight or to leave their cars for several days at a time in the church grounds. We thank all our parishioners for their understanding and co-operation with this difficult issue, but it is to safeguard our parish mission.

Contributing To Your Parish



On behalf of the Parish Finance Committee we thank all those who give generously in support of our priests, people and parish. Last Sunday's collection total amounts were as follows: Offertory Plate: €1580; Envelope/Parish Development Fund: €1350; Shrines: €930. August Offerings: €2670. Holy Day (August 15th): €440. *Mile buíochas*.