



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*

22nd Sunday A

30 August 2026

**Then Jesus said to
his disciples, "If
anyone wants to
follow after me, let
him deny himself,
take up his cross,
and follow me.
Matthew 16:24**



Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 29th August Shared Mass Intention	7pm	Mary and Jack Hickey; Mary Matthews; Jim Lenehan and deceased Family Members; Jim Lanigan; Deceased members of the Fenton and Ruane Families.
Sunday 30th August	9am	Breda O Keffe
Donaghmore	10am	Brenda Barry, The Wotton, (Month's Mind)
	11am	People of the Parish
	12.30pm	Joe Donnelly
Monday 31st	10am	Buggie and Bailey Families
Tuesday 1st Creation Day	10am	Mass for the Intentions Received in our Petition Box
Wednesday 2nd	10am	People of the Parish
Thursday 3rd <i>St Gregory</i>	10am	Paddy Lee and Deceased Family Members
Friday 4th	10am	Parish List of the Dead
Saturday 5th Shared Mass Intention	7pm	Elizabeth, Eddie and John Bradley; Lily Ronan; Paul Kelly; Hugh and Bridie Bannon; Holy Souls; Deceased Members of the Boylan and Garvey Families; Sr Merlyn Galway and her sister Catherine; Paul and Walter Meleady Snr; James and Mary Rogers
Sunday 6th	9am	Ciara Nicol and Deceased Family Members
Donaghmore	10am	Pat Moran
	11am	People of the Parish
	12.30pm	Patrick Fitzsimons, Racehill (1st Anniversary)

Schools Re-Open This Week



Our parish schools re-open their doors in the coming days. St. Mary's, St. Declan's and Gaelscoil na Cille are under our parish patronage. Our priests visit the schools and support the teachers with the delivery of the Catholic religion program. Ashbourne Community School is joint Catholic and State patronage and our priests support the spiritual and pastoral needs of the children going to ACS. We wish all the children, parents, teachers and staff all the very best for the new academic year. We thank all our parishioners who help our principals on the School Boards of Management.

A Prayer For Children Going Back to School

Lord, our God, bless all children as they return to school. Instruct them ... Give them inquiring minds and discerning hearts. Strengthen them... Give them courage to persevere in all they undertake. Delight them... Give them the gift of joy and wonder in all things. Befriend them... Give them laughter and love to share with all. Guard them... Give them protection and safety as they move out of our embrace. Love them... And give them sure and certain knowledge of your unfailing love. Amen.



We are recruiting New Altar Servers



Are you going in to 3rd class, or any class above that grade, and would like to serve Sunday Mass in either of our Parish Churches? So if you and your parents are happy to give consent please ask one of our priests for an Altar Server Registration Form. We are very grateful to all the children who serve Mass currently in our parish. We hope to begin training for new servers around the middle of September, and shortly after that the new recruits will begin their ministry. As always, we thank parents bringing their children to Mass and doing their best to pass on the precious gift of faith.



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



Confessions this Saturday 5pm to 6pm.

Join the Choir at The 11am Mass



Do you love to sing? Ashbourne Choral Ensemble would love to hear from you. Singers drawn from the choir lend their gifts to our 11am Mass in Ashbourne on alternate Sundays, and sing for all the high points of the church

year at Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, etc, as well as supporting local charitable causes throughout the year. Rehearsals start back Monday 7 September from 7-9pm. This year we are especially looking for men - tenors and basses. Singing is fabulous for physical and mental wellbeing, and being in a choir allows you to be part of something special, with friendship and fun thrown in, and a chance to contribute to the parish community. For more information, please email ashbournesinging@gmail.com, or speak to Ephrem or Giovanna any Sunday after 11am Mass.

Looking For Photographs To Do With Our Parish



As announced last week as part of strengthening faith history archive, we are looking for 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 of significance you have and to copy them, if possible. We have two photographs of Ashbourne Church prior to the extension being added, but has anyone got a photo of the extension being added? Did anyone locally work on the extension and take photos back in 1981 and 1982? The day the foundation stone was laid on 22 February by Bishop McCormack, did anyone take a photo? Does anyone have a photograph of the interior of Ashbourne Church before it was rearranged and the Altar relocated to the centre of the original building? Perhaps a photo was taken at a wedding? Does anyone have an old first communion photo or wedding day that shows the church interior of Ashbourne?

Parish Pilgrimage to Armagh



Thanks to all those who joined last Saturday's annual pilgrimage. We had a wonderful day.

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention For September

September 1st is the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and marks the beginning of the ecumenical season of Creation, which will conclude on October 4th, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron of ecology. Christian communities are united around a shared commitment to care for our 'Common Home' and defend life in the face of the multiple socio-environmental crises affecting the planet. Pope Leo asks Catholics to unite with all Christians in praying and acting in a way that respects the role entrusted to mankind as stewards of creation.



September - Time To Do Something New ...

New Readers



At this time of year many people take on doing something new. If you are interested in becoming a Sunday reader at any of our Masses in either of our Churches please let us know. We especially are looking for Ministers of the Word at the 9am and 12.30pm Masses. Training for reading the Word of God will be provided.

Church Cleaners Wanted

A group of volunteers clean Ashbourne Church at 11am every Wednesday morning. They are always looking for more help at making sure 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.



After School Sacramental Preparation Dates



The after school classes for 2026 - 2027 will begin on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd of September in the Parish Centre. Catholic Parents with children attending state schools in Ashbourne who wish their children to receive the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation must enrol them in two years of Preparation classes in the Parish. Any child in First Class or older may enrol for First Communion, and children in Fifth Class may enrol for Confirmation. Late enrolment is still possible. Registration forms are available from one of our priests after Sunday Mass, and completed forms should be returned to the Parish immediately to secure a place.

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 prepares 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.



First Friday Mass and Visitation



This Friday is the First Friday of the month and the 10am Mass is offered for those enlisted on the Parish Altar List of the Dead. At the time of the First Friday we also have the visits by the priests with Holy Communion to those who are sick and those confined to their homes.

Supporting Your Parish

Last Sunday's Collection Total Amounts were as follows: Offertory Plate €1660; Shrines €910; Envelope Development Fund €860. Gratitude is expressed to all those who generously give to our parish and the building of our Lord's kingdom.



Ashbourne Senior Citizens Meet Again

Ashbourne Senior Citizens are meeting again on Thursday 3rd September following their summer break. Our priests celebrate Mass once a month for them and we are glad to be involved. We thank the wonderful volunteers who care for the older members of our parish. Best Wishes to all involved.

