



ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Priests of the Parish

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

25th Sunday A

20th September 2026



**Parable of the
Vineyard Workers**
Matthew 20: 1-16

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 19th Shared Mass Intention	7pm	Thomas Hardy; Kathleen and Jim Flanagan and deceased members of the Brennan and Flanagan Families
Sunday 20th	9am	Leo Kelly
Donaghmore	10am	Joan Lucid, Greenogue (1st Anniversary)
Hospitality in the Parish Centre	11am	People of the Parish
	12.30pm	Donal Mullen
Monday 21st <i>Matthew</i>	10am	Patricia Bruton
Tuesday 22nd	10am	Ronnie and Betty Quigley
Wednesday 23rd <i>Padre Pio</i>	10am	Gerard McGrath
Thursday 24th	10am	Agnes and Peter Lawless
Friday 25th	10am	Brigid Slattery
Saturday 26th Shared Mass Intention	7pm	Anne and Jimmy Gough and deceased members of the Gough family; Jack Barrett; Brendan Reddington; Catherine O'Connell; Finbar Daly; Odhrán O'Donnell, Liam Keating
Sunday 27th	9am	People of the Parish
Donaghmore	10am	People of the Parish
Hospitality in the Parish Centre	11am	People of the Parish
	12.30pm	Fingal Old IRA Remembrance Mass

The workers in today's gospel that are hired later are not 'Shirkers': they have been available all day: it is not their fault that no one has offered them work. A theme throughout the gospel tradition is that of reversal, for instance, "the last will be first and the first, last". To be a disciple of Jesus is more important than the length of time that a person has been one.

Ashbourne Church Choir



Ashbourne Church Choir resume singing at the 11am Mass this Sunday. The choir sing at alternative Sunday Masses, and sing at the main liturgical

ceremonies at Christmas and Easter. A choir is never full and are always looking for new members. If you are interested in joining Ashbourne Choral Ensemble, and knowing about the choir and their rehearsals, you are welcome to speak to Giovanna or Ephrem after Mass today, or any Sunday. As they begin a new year we thank them for the role they play in enhancing our Sunday liturgy.

*'Sacred Music is to glorify God and sanctify the faithful. It expresses the affective dimension of prayer'.
(Pope Leo XIV, 19 August 2026)*

Ashbourne Hosts Pastoral Area Assembly

On Wednesday next Ashbourne Pastoral Council is hosting a meeting for priests and representatives from the Parish Pastoral Councils in our local pastoral area. Our Parish



Pastoral Council members will give input on how we do preparation with first holy communion families. The gathering is about parishes sharing ideas and resources so that we are supporting one another in our work of evangelisation.



There is a cup of tea for all parishioners in the Parish Centre after the 11am Mass this Sunday morning. We thank the volunteers who help to make this happen.



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



Confessions this Saturday 5pm to 6pm.

The Irish Synodal Pathway – Some Small Fruits ...



The Irish church is preparing for a National Synodal Assembly in a month's time, on Saturday 17th October. A practical development in our diocese is the rollout of new "Adult Faith

Formation" initiatives such as the 'Sycamore', 'YouCat', and, 'Baptised and Sent' Outreach programmes. In rolling out these courses lay people have been centrally involved and supported with the full backing and recognition of the Church community. Another visible change in our diocese today is the creation of 'Pastoral Areas'. Neighbouring local churches are coming together to share resources, ministries, and clergy. This structural change is about managing resources, and also a practical step toward synodality. By sharing the load, we ensure that vibrant faith communities, youth groups, and outreach programmes can be strengthened across our entire pastoral area. Read more: [www. Synod.ie](http://www.Synod.ie).

1st Communion Letter to Parents

Communion Registration



In the last few days our priests wrote to Catholic parents of children interested in receiving the sacrament of Holy Communion in the coming year. Parents with children in our parish schools are asked to read the letter and to register their child in the preparatory programme. There is a meeting for parents of all children being prepared for Holy Communion in Ashbourne Church on Monday September 29th at 7pm. This meeting is for parents with eligible children in our three catholic schools, and those with children taking part in the after school parish program of sacramental preparation for Holy Communion.

After School Classes Begin

The After School Sacramental Program begins in the Parish Pastoral Centre on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Registration is now complete. Parents should have received an email from Kay detailing the class times and dates for the coming term. We look forward to working with the children and parents in preparing the children for reception of the sacraments of Confession, Communion and Confirmation. We thank Kay for all the work that she does to co-ordinate with the teachers and pupils in the after school program. There is a lot of administration work around running these classes and we thank all involved including our parish staff.



World Youth Day - Soeul 2027



The Diocese of Meath invites you to World Youth Day Seoul 2027. Join with young people from around the world in South Korea this summer from 27th July - 10th August 2027. Age 19- 30 years. Cost: €2750 approx. Includes group flights and accommodation. Email: meathyouth@gmail.com. To find out more go to www.dioceseofmeath.ie/youth.

Recalling Past Events and People of Ashbourne



On Sunday October 4th at 3.30pm there will be a gathering of parishioners who have some knowledge or information on Ashbourne Parish. The hope is that people who grew up in the parish in the 1940's, 1950's, 1960's and

1970's would come together in the Parish Centre to share and reflect on some of the history of Ashbourne Church and Parish. People are asked to reflect on the changes that have occurred over the years. In recent days, as part of recording our parish history, Fr. Michael and Brendan O Reilly travelled to Glasson, near Athlone to meet Fr. Seamus Mulvany who was a curate in Ashbourne in the 1980's. Fr. Seamus enjoyed his time greatly in our parish and recalls a very small Ashbourne that was beginning its transition.

Altar Servers Training Begins

The first practice for our new Altar Servers takes place on Tuesday next 22nd September at 5.30pm in Ashbourne Church. Parents are asked to have their child present at this training. Fr. Jinse looks after the servers and is organising this training. On the first Sunday of October the Altar Servers will begin serving at the 7pm, 9am, 11am and 12.30pm Masses. We thank the children who are beginning this ministry in our parish. We thank parents bringing their children to Mass and doing their best to pass on the precious gift of faith. We hope you benefit from and enjoy your time as an altar server.



Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

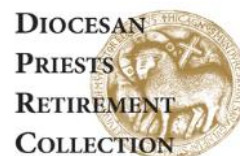


Would you like to become a Catholic, or do you know someone who would like to become a Catholic? Are you baptised but not confirmed in the faith? Our Parish is one of

the diocesan centres for the OCIA programme which starts in the coming weeks, 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.

2nd Collection At Masses This Weekend

This Sunday a second collection will take place at our Masses for our parish's contribution to the Fleming Fund which supports retired and sick priests in the Diocese of Meath. This collection takes place at this time in all parishes across the diocese. Last Sunday's collection total amounts were as follows: Offertory Collection: €1495; Envelope/Parish Development Fund: €860; Shrines: €1090. Gratitude is expressed to all those who generously give to our parish, and the building of our Lord's kingdom. *Mile buíochas*.



Remembering Those who have Died



We pray at this time for the happy repose of the soul of Margaret Olive Morgan of Milltown whose funeral Mass took place in Donaghmore Church on Monday. We pray also for Liz Kelly of Artane Parish whose brother Martin

Freeman lives in our parish. Our parish extends sympathy to their families and friends at this time. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and may perpetual light shine upon them and may they rest in peace. Amen.