



ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

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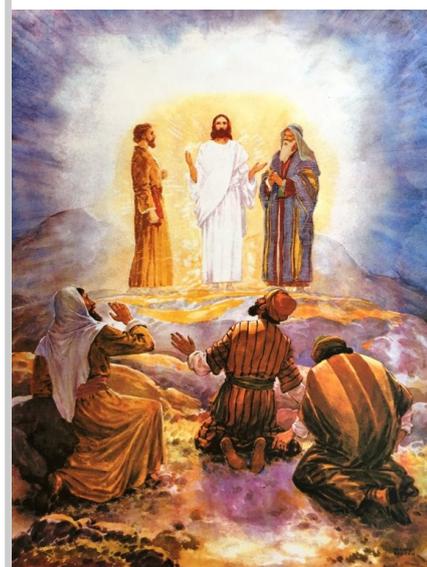
*Ashbourne is Part of the Meath Diocesan
Pastoral Area of Ratoath, Curraha, Ardcaith,
Dunshaughlin and Skyrne*

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2nd Sunday Lent A

1 March 2026

The Transfiguration of Jesus



Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 28th Anniversaries Occurring Mass	7pm	Michael, Andrew, Harry and Monica Allen; Con and Michael Moynihan; Rosemary Finegan
Sunday 1st March	9am	People of The Parish
Donaghmore	10am	Teresa Moran
Hospitality in the Parish Centre after Mass	11am	People of the Parish
	12.30pm	Terry Brennan
Monday 2nd Donaghmore	10am	Paddy Fitzsimons
Tuesday 3rd	10am	Sam Leonard
Wednesday 4th	10am	William and Teresa Tierney
Thursday 5th	10am	Chris McLoughlin
Friday 6th	10am	Parish List of the Dead
Saturday 7th Anniversaries Occurring Mass	7pm	Charlie and Tess Murphy; Stephen Taylor; Bobby Eager; Heberto Rios
Sunday 8th	9am	John Farrell
Donaghmore	10am	Caroline Crean, Brookville, (Month's Mind); Ciarán Benville
Hospitality Parish Centre	11am	People of The Parish
	12.30pm	People of The Parish

March List of the Dead Mass and Calls to the Sick

The 10am Mass next Friday will be offered for those enrolled on the Ashbourne-Donaghmore Altar List of the Dead. Communion calls will take place in the coming days. If anyone is at home and cannot get to Mass and wishes to receive the sacrament of the Eucharist they should contact the Parish Office.



On this Sunday of Lent every year we reflect on the transfiguration of Jesus. It offers us a glimpse of our destiny and reveals how the light of God's glory can shine. On the mountain top of Tabor God revealed Jesus' real face. As a Lenten endeavour we are asked to try to see the face of Christ in everyone we meet, and all situations that come our way.

Welcome To First Confession Families



We welcome to Sunday Mass today the children who are preparing to receive first confession this Lent. The girls and boys will join us in the 'I confess' and 'Lord, have mercy' prayers at Mass today. They have been learning that a sin is a time when one does not show love. They have brought with them their art proclaiming that 'God is Love'. On Saturday afternoon next, the children and families from St. Mary's Primary School will be in Ashbourne Church from 4 to 6pm to receive the sacrament. We thank the parents, grandparents and teachers who have been preparing the children with our priests.

Congratulations To Our Confirmation Children

Congratulations to the 193 children from our parish confirmed yesterday in Ashbourne Church.



Thanks to the parents, children and teachers for extending a warm welcome to Bishop Tom. Our priests express thanks to all those who helped them to organise the two ceremonies. Thanks to Giovanna and Ephrem for providing the liturgical music and the sacristans who helped everything to run smoothly.

Adult Preparation For Confirmation

We pray for Jana, William and Culla who are following the RCIA Programme in our parish and are preparing for Confirmation. They are with Bishop Tom in the Cathedral in Mullingar this Saturday to take part in the Diocesan Rite of Election and Enrolment of Names.



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful...



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



Confessions this Saturday 5pm to 6pm

Take on the Challenge of Lent



Pray



Fast



Give

Bring Lent to Life. * Attend the Bible Study Group on Tuesday evenings in the Parish Centre. * Partake in the daily 10am Mass from Monday to Friday* Gather to explore and share matters of faith on Wednesday * Commit to be present for an hour or part of an hour's Eucharistic Adoration each Thursday * Pray the 14 Stations of the Cross * Fast on a Friday Or Consider the tech fast highlighted below.

Consider A Tech Fast For Lent

"Encourage one another and build one another up."

(1 Thess 5:11)

LESS SCROLLING MORE LIVING

This Lent, consider a *tech fast* as a way to reconnect with faith, family, and yourself. Set aside time each day to unplug—for a set time or specific place (for instance whether it's no screen during meals or in the bedroom, or on a specific day of the week). Replace screen time with something meaningful, like reading Scripture, helping at home, or spending time outdoors. By choosing to be present instead of distracted, you'll create space for God's voice in your daily life. By scrolling less and talking more to others we reach out to those around us in a more positive way. Scrolling connects us to information, but often distances us from people. Real conversation requires attention, patience, and presence.

Trócaire Lenten Campaign 2026

This lent, our parish is supporting Trócaire's 2026 Lenten Campaign, which accompanies the story of a three - generation family in rural Rwanda, led by Uwamahoro, a young mother caring for her daughter, niece and elderly mother as they face deep poverty and the effects of climate change. Through their lived experience of resilience, care for creation and the dignity of every person, we are invited to reflect on the Gospel call to solidarity with our global family. Your prayer and financial support helps families like theirs face hardship with hope and strength.



First Confession Guidelines

First Confession takes place a year before Holy Communion in our parish and happens during Lent. Parents have taken the opportunity to request the sacrament for their child. The sacrament of reconciliation is about responding to God's love and being able to forgive and say sorry for our faults and failings. Parents are asked to continue bringing their child to confession at least once a year. Parents bringing their child to confession should consider going to confession themselves. It is as always voluntary, but children learn from example in the home. We hope that all the children receiving the sacrament for the first time will always know and celebrate God's love.

Spring in Our Church Grounds

Thank you to Kalev for all his hard work to bring colour and life into our church grounds. Kalev washed the statue of our Lady on Tuesday and brushed down the flagpoles. Meticulously, he put up our bunting to welcome Bishop Tom and the confirmation children.



A Mission to Heal and Forgive



You are invited to a short video presentation and discussion on the topic of 'Healing and Forgiveness' on Wednesday evening next. 'Are you in need of healing?' 'Can you be more forgiving?' This is part of our parish hosting four Sycamore sessions over the month of March. Sycamore is an informal course about the Christian faith and its relevance for life today. It was devised by an English priest as a tool for Catholics to come together and share aspects of their faith. It has become a space to meet other people, explore beliefs, and share ideas on contemporary issues that really matter. It will be hosted in the Parish Centre on Wednesdays from 7pm to 8:15pm starting this Wednesday evening. All welcome.

Children's Passports - My Lenten Journey

95 Children preparing for 1st Confession and Holy Communion received a Passport at Mass last Sunday. After Mass each week the children collect a 'passport stamp sticker' at the baptismal font. An Easter gift will be given to all those children who complete their passport and return it to Mass on Easter Sunday. Best Wishes to all the children taking on this prayer challenge, and the Parish Pastoral Council thank the parents for supporting their children in their faith development.



Attendance at Sunday Mass

The Parish Pastoral Council decided at its recent meeting to count the number of people who attend Mass in both our churches in our parish. This will take place on Sunday next with the second count scheduled for a Sunday in the Autumn. It is a few years since the count last happened. This will reveal what Masses are best attended. We thank members of the Pastoral Council and other volunteers who are helping with this project.



New Chairperson of Our Parish Pastoral Council

Claire Marie Murray is now chairperson of the Parish Pastoral Council and we thank her and all members for their work on the four tasks that make up the mission statement of our PPC. On Wednesday evening last, our members met in Dunshaughlin with fellow pastoral council members of the other parishes in the newly formed Pastoral Area of Ratoath.



In the Spirit of Giving

Thanks to those parishioners who, when shopping in SuperValu over Christmas, donated towards the purchase of vouchers for the Senior Citizens. A total of 850 was raised for the Parish Fuel Appeal. Our photo shows Fr. Michael and Ann Moore collecting the vouchers from Cian, the supervisor in SuperValu. Last Sunday's Collection Totals: Plate €2200; Shrines €1685; Development Fund €1005. Gratitude is expressed to all those who support our parish collections. *Mile buíochas.*



Suaimeas Shíorai

We pray for the repose of Mary Chubb of Brindley Park Green whose Requiem Mass took place on Friday. Mary helped with hospitality on Sunday mornings in the Parish Centre. We extend sympathy to Kevin and all her family members. We remember also in prayer Bernadette Gallagher, Clonsilla, brother of Shea Gallagher, of Deerpark. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

