



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*

30th Sunday A

25th October 2026



Matthew 22; 34-40

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 24th	7pm	Adèle Vance, Brookville (Month's Mind) May McCabe; Margaret and Oliver Kelly; Patrick and Nuala Cully; Terry Houlihan; James O'Donnell; Christopher and Cora Lowe; Annette McDonagh; Tony and Winnie Ross
Shared Mass Intention		
Sunday 25th	9am	Camilla Morgan and Deceased Family Members of the Morgan Family
Donaghmore	10am	Matthew, Maura, Christy and Patrick Lambe
Hospitality in the Parish Centre	11am	Mass in Honour of St Therese of Lisieux, Patron of Mission
	12.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday 26th	10am	Margaret Mintern
Tuesday 27th	10am	Mp and Kathleen O'Brien
Wednesday 28th	10am	Jacqueline Sheehy
Thursday 29th	10am	Clare Donnelly
Friday 30th	10am	Joe Curran and John Buckley
Saturday 31st	7pm	Robert and James Galway; Betty Meleady; John Ward; Kathrina Hurley; Austin, Noreen, Mary and Geralyn Corcoran; James Keating; Mary and Martin Guinnane
Shared Mass Intention		
Sunday 1st Nov <i>All Saints Day</i>	9am	Niamh Flatley, Castlehyde, Fermoy (Month's Mind)
Donaghmore	10am	Betty O'Connell
Hospitality in the Parish Centre	11am	Mass on Feast of All Saint's
	12.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday 2nd	10am	Mass and Rosary on The Feast of All Soul's

Today's gospel teaches that the greatest commandments are to love God with all your heart, soul and mind (Deuteronomy 6:5) and to love your neighbour as yourself (Leviticus 19:18), and that all the Law and the Prophets of the Old Testament depend on these two commands. Jesus said that all of the commandments and rules for living life are framed around an understanding of the centrality of Love.

Visit of the Relic of St. Therese, the Little Flower



This Sunday at our 11am and 12.30pm Sunday Masses the relics of St. Therese and those of her parents, Louis and Zelig Martin are in Ashbourne Church for Veneration. Our

priests at these Masses will speak about this remarkable family and how they radiated the commandments of love. St. Therese is the Patron saint of Missions. Although she never travelled far from the Martin homestead or her Carmelite convent she is acclaimed as a true example of the call of every Christian to be a missionary. We are very fortunate to have the relic with us as the Month of Mission concludes. We thank the Sweeney family of Kildare and the 'Knights of St. Therese' for bringing to Ashbourne the relics that they are custodians of.

St Therese's Diary on the Greatest Commandment

'I have found my vocation;
it is love'.

'Let us love, since that is what
our hearts are made for'.

'The loveliest masterpiece of the heart is
the heart of a mother'.

'Our Lord does not so much look at the greatness of
our actions, or even at their difficulty,
as at the love which we do them'.

'Without love, deeds, even the most brilliant,
count as nothing'.

Entries in St. Therese's Diary 'The Story of A Soul'.



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



Confessions on Saturday 5pm to 6pm.

Update on Pope Leo's Health

We continue to pray for our Holy Father as he recovers from his recent surgery. On Wednesday last the doctors treating Pope Leo confirmed that the tumor removed on October 13 was a lung adenocarcinoma, and that the disease was localized. The Pope continues to recover and is resuming his normal work and life schedule. It is hoped that Pope Leo will still be able to travel to South America on November 6. We continue to pray for Pope Leo XIV and all we know who are sick at this time.



List of the Dead 2027



Altar lists of the dead and envelopes are available in both Ashbourne and Donaghmore Churches. Names of those who have died are collected, and Masses are offered on the First

Fridays of the coming year for those who make up this Annual Parish List. When your list is completed please return it with your offering in the envelope. You can return them either to the Large Safe Deposit Box in Ashbourne Church marked 'List of the Dead' or to the Parish Office.

Explaining Halloween to Catholic Children

With the clock time change this weekend we are reminded that the days are drawing in, trees are going bare and much of nature is preparing itself for the long months of hibernation. November is a time when we as Catholics traditionally reflect on the meaning of life, and pray for all those who have died. The first day of November is next Sunday and it is All Saints Day, The following day, 2nd of November, is All Souls Day. Halloween means the eve of All Saints or Hallows. In the eighth century the church moved the feast from May 31st- the height of summer, to the first day of November, to shadow the pagan belief in evil spirits, and to emphasise at this time of year- when things may seem bleak and bad - the Christian belief in all things good. On this day, All Saints, we thank God for those whose lives have been found worthy of heaven.



Outdoor Rosary on All Souls Day



Monday week is All Souls Day and the Rosary after the 10am Mass will take place, weather permitting, in the cemetery in the church grounds. During the month of November we are encouraged to visit our cemeteries and pray for all those who have died. We believe, in doing so, we help our loved ones, especially the souls in Purgatory, to find eternal life.

Registration For Sacraments Concludes

Registration by catholic parents in Ashbourne of children for Holy Communion and Confirmation next year is now complete. We thank all the parents for attending the recent sacramental meetings and returning the request, commitment and baptismal forms to the Parish Office. Our parish priests and parishioners look forward to working with the children, parents and teachers in helping the children grow in love of God and accompanying them on their faith journey.



Booking of Masses 2027



The 2027 liturgical calendar is now ready in the Parish Office to take Mass Intentions. As usual the 11am Sunday Mass and every second 12.30pm will be reserved for those booking a Month's Mind Mass or 1st Anniversary. The 'Shared Mass Intention' celebration will once again be the 7pm weekly Saturday Vigil Mass for the Sunday. All public Masses in our Parish that are named are for loved ones who have died.

Keeping Our Churches Warm

The heat is now on in both our churches and we ask that parishioners work together to ensure that all doors in both Churches are kept in the closed position. Our buildings are large and the oldest in our community, and this makes them extremely hard to heat, and just like our homes, keeping the doors shut helps the building retain heat and leads to the best possible and most responsible conservation of energy. We thank all those who help us look after our churches and contribute financially towards payment of our rising energy bills.

**PLEASE KEEP
DOOR CLOSED**

Parish Pastoral Council Update

The Parish Pastoral Council met on Wednesday evening last. The meeting reviewed their recent hosting of the Pastoral Councils from neighbouring parishes. The members organised a Mass Attendance Count for the weekend of Sunday November 15th. Ideas for the Parish Carol Service on Sunday, December 6th, were also advanced. The recent proposals emerging from the National Irish Church Synod were reflected upon.

Parish Finance Committee Meeting

The Parish Finance Committee will meet in a fortnight's time. The committee will look at the current parish income and expenditure. It will discuss projects for the coming year, and the drawing up of the January statement to parishioners. We thank all those who serve on this parish committee and help our parish to follow charity regulations and good financial practises.



Supporting the Church at Home and Abroad

On behalf of Pope Leo and 'Missio Ireland', thank you for your support on Mission Sunday. The Mission Sunday Collection last weekend amounted to €1965. Last Sunday's collection amounts supporting our own parish were as follows: Offertory Collection: €1535 Envelope/Parish Development Fund: €1260; Shrines: €860. *Mile buíochas.*



Praying For The Deceased

We pray for our parishioners who died the week. Declan Daly of Deerpark whose funeral Mass took place in Ashbourne Church on Wednesday and Mary Ferguson of Huntsgrove whose requiem took place on Thursday. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.



We wish all our parishioners a Happy Sunday and an enjoyable Bank Holiday Weekend.