



ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH BULLETIN



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2nd Sunday of Advent

Printed 08/12/2017

MASS INTENTIONS

Church of the Immaculate Conception, Ashbourne

Sat. 9th Dec.	6.00pm	Av. Margaret & Michael Daly
Sun. 10th Dec.	9.00am	Av. Paul Kelly
Sun. 10th Dec.	11.00am	People of the Parish
Sun. 10th Dec.	12.30pm	Av. John Higgins
Mon. 11th Dec.	10.00am	Av. Ellen McDonald
Tues. 12th Dec.	10.00am	Special Intention *
Wed 13th Dec.	10.00am	Thanksgiving Mass
Thurs. 14th Dec.	10.00 am	Remem. Noreen Eager
Fri. 15th Dec.	10.00 am 8.00pm	Av. Michael & Mary Macken
Sat. 16th Dec.	10.00 am	Av. Elaine Moran
Sat. 16th Dec.	6.00 pm	Av. Biddy Randle
Sun. 17th Dec.	9.00 am	Av. Una, Jackie & Alice Maye
Sun. 17th Dec.	11.00 am	Av. Ron Tier
Sun. 17th Dec.	12.30 pm	Av. Seamus Carolan

St. Patrick's Church, Donaghmore

Sun. 10th Dec.	10.00am	Av. John Ellis Av. Joe & Kathleen Armstrong
Sun. 17th Dec.	10.00am	Av. Eddie & Kathleen Caffrey Deceased members of the Toole & Sweeney families

BLESSING FOR EXPECTANT MOTHERS

On the first Saturday of each month, expectant mothers and their families are invited to gather immediately after the 6pm Mass at the altar of the Immaculate Conception in Ashbourne Church to receive a blessing invoking God's blessing on the duration of their pregnancy. It will include a short prayer for protection and safe delivery with an individual blessing for all mothers-to-be.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE CITY OF THE SACRED HEART

Fr. Derek will lead a pilgrimage to Paray-Le-Monial, 5th-12th June 2018. Itinerary also includes visits to Ars and Verosvres. For brochure and further information contact: Carmel on 087 4410204 or email carmeldonaghy@gmail.com.

SAFETY NOTICE

We would ask the assistance of parishioners attending the 12.30pm Mass on Sundays to be mindful when parking their cars of Family Mass children and their leaders as they cross the church grounds to the Parish Office at the beginning of Mass.

A prayer for those who have entered Eternal Rest:



Thomas Sheehan, Lindsey Mews;
Dominic Colgan, Rath Lodge;
Kevin Costelloe, Rathlodge;
Seamus Murphy, brother-in-law of Moira Butler;
Kitty Cassels, mother of Gerry Cassels, Brookville;
Betty Brady-Mc Closkey, formerly Fleenstown and England.

Eileen Cassidy and M. P. O'Brien whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May they rest in the peace of the Risen Christ. Amen.



Ashbourne:

1st & 2nd Sunday of the month at 1.30pm.
3rd Saturday of the month at 4.00pm.

Donaghmore:

Sunday 31st December after 10am Mass. Beginning in Jan. 2018 Baptisms in Donaghmore will take place **during** the 10am Mass.

Pre-Baptism Meeting

Next talk will take place on Monday 11th December 2017. in the Parish Hall, Ashbourne at 8.00 p.m.



Sacraments and Devotions

Morning Masses:

Mon.-Sat. 10.00 a.m.
Ashbourne

Eucharistic Adoration:

Tues. 10.30a.m. to 11.30 a.m.
Thurs. 10.30a.m.—9 p.m.

Confessions:

Saturday after 10 a.m. Mass
First Friday of the Month
7-8pm

Rosary:

Ashbourne Church
Mon-Fri. 9.30am
Mon-Fri. after 10am Mass

FUELLING THE HOPE CHRISTMAS FUEL APPEAL

The parish is relaunching its Christmas Fuel Appeal in conjunction with Super Valu, Ashbourne in support of those who live alone or families who find Christmas a burden. If you would like to donate fuel (kindling, coal, briquettes, sticks), include it in your weekly shopping and advise those at the tills it is for the 'Parish Christmas Fuel Appeal'. The fuel will be distributed in the run-up to Christmas.

DONAGHMORE CHOIR APPEAL

Our thanks to choir members who recently retired after years of dedicated commitment to music ministry in Donaghmore. In preparation for Christmas ceremonies in Donaghmore, the choir are inviting parishioners to join in the singing as members of the choir. If interested, please contact the Parish Office 018353149.

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

The Elderly: That the elderly, sustained by families and Christian communities, may apply their wisdom and experience to spreading the faith and forming the new generations.

Priests of the Parish Fr. Derek Darby P.P. - 8350547 Fr. Ciaran Clarke C.C. - 8350406 Priest on Duty Fr. Derek 087 6757554	Parish Office Opening Hours 9.30 a.m.—12 Noon Mon. to Fri. 10.00 a.m.—12 Noon Sat. Phone: 01 8353149	PARISH HALL Bookings for the Parish Hall can be made with Mary on 086 7327737 or parishhall2014@gmail.com
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PARISH NOTICES

PLEASE JOIN US for tea or coffee after the 11 a.m. Mass in the Parish hall. All welcome

LEGION OF MARY meet on Thursdays at 8 p.m. in Parish Office. All welcome.

MEDITATION takes place on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. in John Paul II Chapel.

BETHANY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT: Drop-in Centre on 3rd Tues. of each month 8-9 p.m. or anytime by appointment. Tel. 087 2715222.

ASHBOURNE FLOWER CLUB: Christmas flower arranging demonstration by Fr. Sean McEvoy in Ashbourne House on Thursday 14th December at 8 p.m. Tickets €10 at the door.

ST. ANDREW'S ATHLETIC CLUB: Christmas raffle on Thurs. 21st Dec. at 9 p.m. in the Foxes Den. All proceeds will go towards the club. On St. Stephen's Day they will hold their annual sponsored mile around our track at Greenogue starting at 11 a.m. All proceeds will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul.



ADVENT SCHEDULE—WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES
During the Sundays of Advent, guest speakers will speak on the Advent themes of Joy, Hope, Peace and Love as we continue our preparations for the World Meeting of Families 2018.

Second Sunday of Advent — Offering **Joy** to Families
Daráine Mulvihill, broadcaster and TV Presenter. Daráine is well known for her involvement in TV presenting for the London 2012 Paralympics for channel 4, the Rio 2016 Paralympics for RTE2 and more recently her coverage of the 2017 Invictus Games from Toronto. Daráine is also a survivor of meningitis.

Third Sunday of Advent — Offering **Hope** to Families
Colin White—Irish Kidney Association. Colin will explain the work of the Association and speak on the hope organ transplants offer to patients and their families.

This weekend is traditionally 'Bambinelli Sunday' where families are invited to bring the 'baby Jesus' from their family cribs to Mass for an Advent blessing.

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY—16th/17th December 2017

For the past several decades, each year on Gaudete Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent, children (and adults) bring their Baby Jesus figures from the crib in their homes to St. Peter's Square where the Pope will bless both the people and the figurines during the Angelus.

We will celebrate "Bambinelli Sunday" at all Masses in our parish next weekend. All are invited to bring the Baby Jesus figure from their homes to Mass next weekend to be blessed.

Following the blessing, take your "bambinelli" home and place it in a gift box, wrap it, and save it for Christmas morning. Let this be the first gift your family opens at Christmas, when together you place your Baby Jesus figure in the crib. The parish will publish a special blessing in the bulletin in the coming weeks for families to pray together on Christmas morning.

NEW IRISH MISSAL

This weekend a copy of the new Irish Missal will be on display in Ashbourne Church. *An Leabhar Aifrínn Rómhánach* is the liturgical book which contains all the rubrics and prayers for the celebration of the Eucharist in Irish. The finished Irish translation is the fruit of a huge collaboration between linguists, theologians and native Irish speakers that began 14 years ago in 2003. 800 copies were recently published by Veritas Publications. The missal is Irish-made in its entirety: translations, paper, binding, ribbons, formatting and graphics. Thank you to those who kindly donated a copy of the missal to the Parish.

CONGRATULATIONS & THANKS

Congratulations to Sr. Mary Jeanetta MC (Missionary of Charity) who renewed her Religious Profession in our Parish on 8th December. Please continue to remember her and her Community in your prayer. Our thanks to those who provided the liturgical music, the boys and girls from St. Mary's and St. Declan's Primary Schools and their teachers, parishioners, and those who provided refreshments afterwards in the Parish Hall.



THE ADVENT WREATH

The most important symbol of the Advent Wreath is the symbolism of light. The progressive lighting of the candles throughout Advent remind us of our spiritual growth during this season as we grow ever closer to the birth of

Christ. In the ancient world purple was the most expensive dye which could only be afforded by kings. The purple candles tell us that the one whose birth we are preparing to celebrate is our true King. The rose candle (3rd Sunday) is a symbolic anticipation of our joy when we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Each candle represents Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. The Advent Wreath is made of evergreens, which are symbolic of life itself and, since they last through the winter, point to God's gift of life which comes to us even when the world is dark and threatening.

Each evergreen has its own symbolic meaning:

Holly—its prickly leaves remind us of the Crown of Thorns. Its red berries remind us of the Blood of Jesus shed for us upon the Cross.

Ivy—since it is frequently used as a decoration, has always been a symbol of joy and festivity.

Pine—the most common evergreen, points to Everlasting Life.

Laurel—(Bay) which was used to crown those who won in the games, signifies victory.

Cedar—because it is long lasting and aromatic, is symbolic of strength and healing.

Juniper-Holly, and Rosemary. By legend these plants provided shelter and help for the Holy Family when they fled from Bethlehem to Egypt. The fragrance of rosemary, it has been said, began when the Virgin Mary laid out the INFANT Jesus "clothes to dry on this plant". The rose-mary bush responded by perfuming the Christ Child's clothing.



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

The Annual St. Vincent De Paul collection takes place this weekend after all Masses. This year's theme is 'Christmas is not the same for everyone'. This Christmas, over 14,000 people in communities across Ireland will seek

assistance from St. Vincent De Paul for help with food, fuel, and basic clothing. We are grateful to the members of the local Conference of SVP for their commitment and tireless assistance to many families in our community. Please give generously this weekend to the work of SVP.



Parish Giving

The second collection for the month of December will take place this weekend at all Masses after Holy Communion. Following the recent deficit in the annual accounts, this collection will assist the parish in meeting its ongoing expenses.

DONAGHMORE CHURCH

Thanks to Dial an Electrician who during their recent electrical maintenance in the church and adjoining hall kindly cleaned the gutters at no charge to the Parish.

TÚS—Community Work Placement Initiative

Our sincere thanks to Calef who concluded his placement in the Parish as a TÚS participant. We are most grateful to him for the consistent level of grounds maintenance, cleanliness and his involvement in repainting the interior of Ashbourne Church. Thanks to Calef's interest and diligence, the church and its environs has been a place of welcome and beauty.



Collections

Ashbourne Plate €1,310; Donaghmore Plate €220, Parish Fund €1,375.

Míle Buíochas

We thank all who contribute and all who pay by Standing Order.

