



ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

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Priests of the Parish

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Parish Office

The office is closed over Christmas until
 January 7th 2022

Parish Secretary Mary Mullen

Come, Let us Adore Him

He is Christ the Lord



Feast of the Holy Family

Mass Times and Intentions

10am Weekday Mass

There will be mass and a priest on duty every day in our parish over the coming days of Christmas. The celebration of daily Eucharist will be as usual at 10am. If a funeral occurs during this time it will be combined with the parish mass at 10am.

Sunday 26th	9am	Jane Kellegher Robert
Donaghmore	10am	McLoughlin & Tierney Families
Wednesday 29th	10am	John & Kathleen Moore
Thursday 30th	10am	Seán O'Sullivan & Family
Friday 31st	10am	Ned Nulty & Family
Saturday 1st	7pm	Philomena Mulvaney
Sunday 2nd	9am	Maureen & James Maloney
	11am	Aily O'Regan, Cluain Rí (Months Mind)
	12.30pm	Sean Conway
		Moira & Matt Kiernan
		Sean O'Connor



Next Saturday evening (January 1st) there is a Vigil Mass at 7pm and the normal schedule of masses will happen on Sunday.

Sunday 26th December 2021

We reflect at mass today on the fact that at a particular moment in time God identified with us by sending us His Son and that he lived in a family just like us. The family is the kernel of God's love and fabric of social cohesion. As we look at the crib in our churches and homes we thank God for the family that Jesus was born in to and the example of love that radiates from Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Today we recall St. Stephen, one of Jesus' early followers, who openly lived his faith and is the first Christian martyr.

"The family that prays together, stays together". Fr. Peyton

Prayer to the Holy Family

Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary, bless our family. Graciously inspire in us the unity, peace, and mutual love that You found in Your own family in the little town of Nazareth.

Mary, Mother of God and Our Mother, nourish our family with Your faith and Your love. Keep us close to Your Son, Jesus, in all our sorrows and joys.

Joseph, Foster-father to Jesus, guardian and spouse of Mary, keep our family safe from harm. Help us in all times of discouragement and anxiety.

Holy Family of Nazareth, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the centre of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen.

Pope Francis on Family Life

Always remember in your family to say 'Please, Thank You and Sorry'.

Celebrate happy moments, value everyone's achievements and successes and support one another in difficult passages of life.

Give a kind look. Never underestimate the value of a gaze of love.

Learn to forgive. Before we can forgive others we must learn to forgive ourselves. Be slow to point out the limitations of a loved one.

Listen to the older members of the family tell their stories and encourage children and adolescents to learn from their experience.

Be slow to judge another whose situation you do not fully understand.



Old Picture of the Holy Family

While cleaning out the garage in recent weeks an old print painting of the Holy Family was discovered. It is on display in Ashbourne church next the crib for today's feast. Do take a look at it. Does anyone know did this painting hang in the old church in Ashbourne before the 1981 extension?



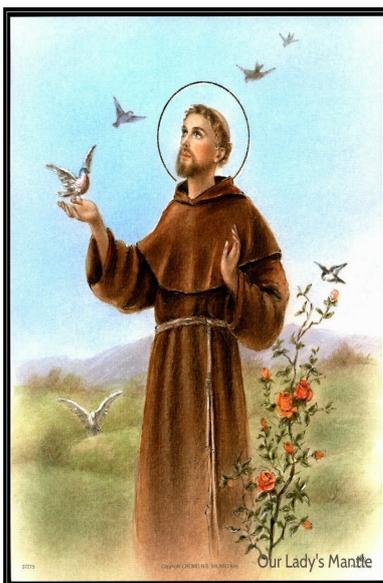
January 1st - World Day of Prayer for Peace

New Year's Day is this Saturday. January 1st is the solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God and with Christians and people of faith throughout the world we pray for world peace. Mass will take place on New Year's morning in Ashbourne Church at 10am. This will be the first mass of 2022. All are welcome and is there a better way to get the new year off to a good start?



'I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.' Generally credited to Stephen Grellet (1773 - 1855)

Prayer for Peace *Attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi*



Lord, make me an instrument of your peace,

Where there is hatred, let me bring love.

Where there is offense, let me bring pardon. Where there is discord, let me bring union.

Where there is error, let me bring truth. Where there is doubt, let me bring faith.

Where there is despair, let us bring hope. Where there is darkness, let me bring your light.

Where there is sadness, let me bring joy.

O Master, let me not seek as much to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love, for it is giving that one receives, it is in self-forgetting that one finds, it is in pardoning that one is pardoned, it is in dying that one is raised to eternal life.

Closure of our Church and Grounds



Both the church in Ashbourne and the church grounds are closed every day at 8pm. This is the same during the Christmas holidays. We thank everyone for their co-operation.

First Sunday Masses of 2022

Next weekend we offer our first Sunday masses of the new year and mark the second and final Sunday of the Christmas season. As we say goodbye to 2021 there are many wishes for 2022. The first masses of 2022 in our parish churches are offered for a healthy and peaceful year. The gospel speaks of Jesus as a light that shines in the darkness.

The Feast of the Epiphany

On Thursday week we celebrate the twelfth day of Christmas with the Feast of the Epiphany. It is a day when we remember the Magi following a star and bringing gifts to the crib. Morning mass in Ashbourne that evening will be at 7pm.



will be at 10am and mass *The Wise Seek Him Still*

Christmas Offerings 2021

Thanks is expressed to all those who are financially supporting their parish at this time. At Christmas both the envelope and basket collection goes towards the payment of a monthly salary to Fr. Michael and Fr. Ciaran. With three of the six regular offertory collections curtailed this year due to restrictions parishioners are asked to be as generous as they can. For those who have not got their own parish envelope number special Christmas envelopes are left in each of our churches. In February our priests and the parish finance committee will update parishioners on the finances over the past twelve months.



Here are the weekly collection figures from last weekend. Plate €1640.00 / Shrines €1050.00 / Development Fund €1200.00. We thank all those who contribute, collect and count our finances.

Thanks to Volunteers in our Parish working throughout 2021

As 2021 concludes in the coming days gratitude is expressed to all the volunteers who helped ensure this year's Christmas ceremonies were beautifully and safely celebrated in churches. It is by people being involved in their parish in a voluntary capacity that the faith community is strengthened and the message of Christ is kept alive.



Last Baptisms of the Year



With New Year's Day falling on a Saturday baptisms will take place on Wednesday afternoon, December 29th at 2.30pm. This is to facilitate anyone wishing to have a baptism during the festive season. The first New Year baptisms will take place on Sunday, January 9th as part of masses on the Feast of the Baptism of our Lord.

We pray for those who have died recently
Ciarán Benville, Hawthorns
Jim McMahon, Monaghan



We remember also our deceased loved ones whom we miss at Christmas
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

A Christmas Blessing

During this Christmas season, may you be blessed with the spirit of the season, which is peace, the gladness of the season which is hope and the heart of the season which is love. Somehow, not only for Christmas but all the long year through, the joy that you give to others is the joy that comes back to you. And the more you spend in blessing the poor and lonely and sad, the more of your heart's possessing returns to you glad. John Whittier



Wishing you every Blessing for 2022

Fr. Michael, Fr. Ciarán and Mary, the parish secretary, wish all our parishioners a very happy, peaceful and safe New Year. Thanks to all those who have supported our work and ministries throughout 2021. This past year was not easy for anyone but the burden on us was made lighter by all of you. Your love, friendship and support is greatly valued. Thank you. Mile buíochas.