

# ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Website: [ashbourneparish.ie](http://ashbourneparish.ie)

## Priests of the Parish

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## Parish Office

Open Tuesday - Friday

10.30am - 12pm

Parish Secretary Mary Mullen



Wouldn't we love to have been a witness to today's dramatic gospel story, to see the jaws dropping, to see the deflated looks on the faces of the Pharisees and the defeat on their retreating backs? Only two remain in the final scene, the woman at the centre of the story and our Lord, 'great misery and great mercy' is the way St Augustine paraphrases it. The main point of the story is we ourselves, followers of Jesus, we are to keep the stones in our pockets and to rout this Lent any tendencies of the Pharisees from our lives.

## Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 2nd <b>Anniversaries Occurring Mass</b>	7pm	Paul Geoffrey Smith, Peggy Ruttrell John, Mary & Dan Landers Marie Weston, Tony Mulvaney Gerry Lillicrap, Theresa Casey
Sunday 3rd	9am	John, Mary Teresa, Patrick & Tony Clarke
Donaghmore	10am	Ann, James & Eileen Murphy
	11am	Orla Dowling, Archerstown Wood (Months Mind)
	12.30pm	Marie McManus & Michael Sheady
Monday 4th	10am	Anna McKeown
Tuesday 5th	10am	Mary Fanning
Wednesday 6th	10am	Chris Gough
Thursday 7th	10am	Martin Cusack
Friday 8th	7.30am 10am	Mass for the People of the Parish Catherine Conroy
Saturday 9th	10am	Denis O'Brien Tudor Grove, (Memorial Mass)
Saturday 9th <b>Anniversaries Occurring Mass</b>	7pm	Pat Doherty, Joseph Heapes John Fields, Ann Watson, Margaret McCarthy, Donal Kavanagh Brigid Malone, Hughie Kelly
Sunday 10th	9am	Deceased members of Boylan & Garvey Families
Donaghmore	10am	Collette O'Herlihy
	11am	Ger Dowd, Milltown (1st Anniversary)
	12.30pm	Mary & Andy Roche

## Seeking Increased Road Safety at Donaghmore Church

A petition for signing is available at Donaghmore Mass this Sunday morning. Parishioners can also take a petition for neighbours and friends of Donaghmore Church to sign. We are asking our local councillors to positively engage with the council executive of Meath County Council in bringing forward proposals that will improve safety for those attending masses, baptisms, funerals and weddings in this parish church. Fr. Michael and Fr. Ciarán are saying at this time 'The people of Donaghmore that we have met in church and at parish meetings feel that the dangerous bend at the church is inadequately addressed. The church is at a blind corner and in works carried out this year the yellow painted lines were taken away both from the bend and outside the church for parking. The rumble strips to slow traffic down have not been replaced in the recent road upgrade. There must be a better solution than signage when it comes to controlling traffic speeding at this extremely dangerous location. The safety of people crossing the road to attend church and visit the cemetery should be addressed properly.' Parishioners can help us by asking local representatives to put back in safety measures and find a solution that improves safety around the church. A church has existed in Donaghmore for centuries and is linked to St. Patrick's time in county Meath.



## Well done to those who already received their 1<sup>st</sup> Confession Yesterday

Congratulations to the children attending St. Declan's School who received the sacrament of confession for the first time yesterday. The children were excellently prepared by their parents and teachers. We thank all involved in this preparation. The children in first class from St. Mary's School and Gaelscoil na Cille will receive the sacrament next Saturday afternoon. We hope that all the children receiving the sacrament for the first time these days will always know and celebrate God's love. Confessions take place in Ashbourne Church every Saturday from 5 to 6pm.



## Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Four adults are being prepared in our parish for baptism this Easter. Ashbourne is a host parish in the diocese of Meath for the RCIA program with Brendan and Áine O' Reilly accompanying the candidates on their faith formation journey. We welcome the candidates to the 11am mass today where, as part of the third scrutiny, the candidates embrace the Lord's Prayer.



## Singing at Sunday Mass

Do you love to sing and offer your gifts to the community? You are welcome to contact Ephrem & Giovanna Feely at [ashbournesinging@gmail.com](mailto:ashbournesinging@gmail.com) for more information on music ministry at Sunday 11am Mass in Ashbourne Church.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Thursday 10.30am to 8pm

✠ Confessions this Saturday 4 to 6pm.

## Meeting of Eucharistic Ministers

Fr. Michael and Fr. Ciarán have organised a meeting of Ministers of the Eucharist in Ashbourne Church for **7.30pm** on Tuesday next (please note the earlier time). Fr. Kevin Heery, curate in Curraha, will offer support to those involved in this ministry. It is a great source of blessing for our faith community that we have a good group of people who serve our God in this way. New rota available in Church for Ashbourne Ministers.



## Meeting of Readers

Fr. Michael and Fr. Ciarán have organised a meeting for readers in Ashbourne Church for **7.30pm** on Thursday next (please note the earlier time). Fr. Mark English, parish priest of Duleek, will offer support this Lent to those involved in the ministry. We thank all ministers of the word for their participation in our parish and please God you will find this gathering a positive and affirming experience of faith. New rota available in Church for Ashbourne Readers.



## Next Sunday is Palm Sunday

Holy Week begins next Sunday with the blessing of Palm at the start of all our masses as we relive Jesus' triumphant entry into the holy city of Jerusalem a few days before he died. Branches for the celebration of Palm Sunday this year come from the Indian Missions. The gospel will be printed and distributed to help us begin our reflection on Jesus' passion.



  
**HOLY WEEK** Ceremonies for Holy Week 2022 in Ashbourne are announced below. We thank all those who are helping to organise and put together the liturgies. We especially thank the ministers of the Word, Eucharist, our sacristans and our musicians for the preparations that they are making to help us celebrate the central mysteries of our faith.

### Holy Thursday – Mass of the Lord's Supper

Ashbourne Church – 7pm

### Good Friday – Outdoor Way of the Cross

Ashbourne Church Grounds 12 noon

### Veneration of the Cross + Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Ashbourne 3pm      Donaghmore 7pm

### Holy Saturday Vigil and 1st Mass of the Lord's Resurrection

Ashbourne 9pm

### Easter Sunday Morning Mass

Ashbourne 9am, 11am, 12.30pm      Donaghmore 10am

On Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday there will be confessions each morning in Ashbourne Church from 10 to 11am

We look forward, after two years of online ceremonies, to properly celebrating together as a faith community the Sacred Triduum. Please make every effort to attend the ceremonies and make the days truly memorable.

## Chrism Mass



On the evening of Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, in the Cathedral in Mullingar Bishop Tom Deenihan will bless the holy oils to be used in our parishes in the coming year. Priests and parishioners from the 69 parishes are invited to the mass. The completed synodal questionnaires from across the diocese will be brought to the mass and after Easter they will be read as part of discerning the Holy Spirit's promptings.

## Last Week to Return Your Questionnaire

A consultation process is coming to an end in the parishes of our diocese. Questionnaires on Pope Francis' synodal questions of 'Communion, Participation and Mission remain available in our parish churches. You are invited to write down your faith experience and to communicate your thoughts and reflections to us on paper or online. A box for completed questionnaires has been left in Ashbourne Church. You can write down your views on any aspect of church life and they will be forwarded to Bishop's House on Spyn Wednesday.



## Trocáire Boxes: Help families in forgotten crises



Out of the media spotlight this Lent, loving families are suffering in forgotten cities from Covid to poverty and climate change. Please fill and return your Trocaire Box to help them or give o [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org) or by Freephone 1800 408 408 and let your love be their lifetime.

## Thank You For Your Support to Ukraine

Thank you to all those who donated to our parish appeal for Ukraine. A total of € 3950.00 was collected last weekend and was forwarded to church relief efforts on the Romanian border. Bishop Iosif Páulet. Bishop of Iasi in Romania, expresses thanks to the faithful of the Diocese of Meath. 'I would like to thank you for the noble gesture of charity and generosity that you have made in the name of faith, that of supporting the Ukrainian refugees fleeing the war, but also those who are on the front line embracing the refugees with their human, spiritual and material support. Together with my collaborators, I want to assure you of our appreciation and fraternal prayer. We seek the intercession of Pope St. John Paul II for the peoples of Ukraine. We pray for an end to the madness of war and a conversion of those who choose evil, who abuse the power of leadership. Our Lady, Queen of Peace, Pray for us.'



## Youth 2000 Retreat in Ashbourne



Youth 2000 are a group of young people who spread the good news within the catholic church. On the weekend of the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 10<sup>th</sup> of April they are holding their Leinster Lenten Retreat in Ashbourne Community School. If you are a young catholic in the 16 to 35 age group and are interested in your faith you can find out more or register at [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie)  
*Youth leading Youth to the Heart of the Church*

## 'Three Tenors' Concert

A 'Three Tenors' Concert will take place in Ashbourne Church on the Second Sunday of Easter, the evening of April 24<sup>th</sup>. The concert is at 8.00pm with the doors opening at 7.30pm. Tickets are €30 are on sale from the parish office during its opening hours and are also available from SuperValu. Tickets to the concert would be a lovely Easter gift and is part of our parish supporting the arts sector as the country emerges from covid. We look forward to hosting this musical celebration and thank SuperValu for their help with the ticket sales.



## Collection Total Amounts

27/03/2022 Plate €1175.00 Shrines €1005.00  
Development Fund €610.00  
Gratitude is expressed to all those who support our parish.



**Congratulations to** Nicola O'Donoghue and Adrian McArdle who got married in Ashbourne Church on Friday week last. We wish them every happiness.



*Rest in Peace*

Terry Tormey, Donaghmore  
Seamus Lynch, Dunshaughlin