

# ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

## Priests of the Parish

Fr. Michael Kilmartin P.P.

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**Parish Office  
Relocated to Parish Hall**

**Parish Secretary Mary Mullen**



## Second Sunday of Easter



This Sunday is traditionally known as Low Sunday as compared to Easter Sunday with the mass liturgy more toned down. Nevertheless, it is still Eastertide and remains so until Pentecost Sunday. This Sunday is also called 'Doubting Thomas' Sunday as we hear the gospel about the risen Jesus' appearance to Thomas.

## Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 23rd	7pm	Kathleen Tormey, Sr. Deirdre Mellet, Jim & Kathleen Flanagan & deceased of the Flanagan & Brennan Family Hugh, Madeline & John Sheridan Julia & Eugene Curren Bridget Kelly
Sunday 24th	9am	Oliver & May Walsh
Donaghmore	10am	Edward Faherty
	11am	Olive Fox, Frederick Court (Months Mind)
	12.30pm	Carmel Cawley
Monday 25th	10am	People of the Parish
Tuesday 26th	10am	Annie Dervan
Wednesday 27th	10am	Patrick & Bridie Garavan Angie Foy Teenie Whelan
Thursday 28th	10am	Patrick & Deceased O'Sullivan Family
Friday 29th	10am	Ned & Deceased Nulty Family
Saturday 30th	7pm	Austin and Noreen Corcoran Phylis Twomey Michael Quinn (1st Anniversary) James & Maureen Malone Paddy Strich
Sunday 17th	9am	McLoughlin & Tierney Families
Donaghmore	10am	Paddy & Elizabeth Murray
	11am	Terry Tormey (Months Mind)
	12.30pm	Colette, Emma & Joseph Flannery

## Divine Mercy Sunday



Do you know where the Divine Mercy icon is located in our parish? At mass today in Ashbourne prayers before the Divine Mercy icon will be recited as we recall Jesus' fount of loving mercy. Take a look at the icon and reflect on the red and white rays from Jesus' heart that stand for his divine and human traits. 'Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible,

look kindly upon us and increase your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to your holy will, which is love and mercy itself. Amen.'

## Fr. Michael Taking Sabbatical Leave

Fr. Michael, our parish priest, is going on six month sabbatical leave from the middle of May. A sabbatical is taken by a priest usually once in their life as part of their on-going faith formation. It is a time taken for study, reflection, renewal, and prayer. While Fr. Michael is away Fr. Ciarán will administer the parish and a priest from abroad will be appointed by our bishop to assist in the parish. Fr. Michael was asked by Bishop Tom at the time of his appointment to Ashbourne to take some months to become familiar with the parish before taking the opportunity of a sabbatical.

*Sabbatical*  
— refresh | rest | refocus —

## A New Chapter in the Life of the Parish Office



The Parish Office has relocated to the Parish Hall and opens for the first time on Tuesday with the same opening hours and temporary telephone number 086 7327737 for 2 to 3 weeks. This move is part of the parish making greater use of the buildings in Ashbourne church campus and ensuring that the parish has less buildings to maintain and pay for as it looks to the future. The priests are grateful to Mary, our parish secretary, and everyone in the parish office who are helping them with this transition. We ask parishioners to be patient with us as we all get accustomed to the new set up. We express thanks to Murtagh's Hardware and Tadg Riordan Motors for their help with moving all the furniture in recent days.

## May is the Month of our Lady



The Month of May begins next Sunday. It is a Month dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God. We remember especially the Hail Mary and the great gift of the rosary during this month.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Thursday 10.30am to 8pm

✠ Confessions this Saturday 5 to 6pm.

## Ukrainians Celebrate Easter Sunday

In Ukraine Easter is called 'Velykden' and is called the great day since the time of St John Damascene. Easter Sunday is celebrated one week after ours. Why is this? We follow the Gregorian calendar and Orthodox Christians follow the Julian calendar and a different lunar moon. Ukrainians are welcome to mass this Sunday and we hope that you feel very welcome in Ashbourne and especially feel welcome to enter our church to pray. Z Velykodrem



## Anointing with New Easter Oil



The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be part of the 10am daily Mass on Friday next, the Feast of St. Catherine of Siena. Every three months our parish offers the opportunity for parishioners to receive this sacrament. This will be the first time the new oil of holy anointing will be used in our parish since it was blessed at the Chrism Mass on Spy Wednesday. As followers of Jesus, we recall how Jesus was close to the sick and as Christians we pray for those who are sick, infirm and in need of physical, mental or spiritual healing.

## Easter Holy Water

Holy Water is available in Ashbourne Church baptismal font throughout the Easter season. New Holy Water is also available in the silver container at the sacristy door facing Ashbourne church cemetery. Holy Water is a sacramental that reminds us of the new life that we are called to as believers.



## Thank You To Our Volunteers

Thank you to all those who organized the community cup of tea after Easter Sunday morning mass in Ashbourne. It was a good success. Thanks also to those who donated yellow and white material and flowers for decorating the churches. We thank all who took part in the Holy Week ceremonies. Thanks to the stewards, the readers, the ministers of the Eucharist, volunteer sacristans, altar society members and choir in our parish communities. The work that you do to enhance our liturgy week in week out is very much appreciated.



## Road Safety Petition



The petition from parishioners and friends of Donaghmore Church will be forwarded this week. The local pastoral council is 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. We are looking for 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 matters to us. Thank you to all of our parishioners who signed the petition and have asked local representatives to restore safety measures and find a solution to this ongoing problem.

## After School Sacramental Classes 2022- 2023

Enrolment by parents of their children in after school parish classes for the next academic year will take place on Tuesday evening May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Fr. Michael, Fr. Ciarán and Kay Churm, the parish co-ordinator, will hold a meeting for all interested parents in Ashbourne Church at 7.30pm that evening. Registration Forms will be available that night and parents are encouraged to return their completed forms as soon as they can after that date as places in the classes are given on a first come first served basis. A two-year program of catechesis takes place both for the sacrament of holy communion and confirmation following Meath diocesan sacramental policy and while enrolled in the classes the parents request the specific sacraments of confession, communion and confirmation for their child. For just short of ten years the parish has run these classes and is grateful to the teachers and parents who work with the priests in providing this opportunity.

## 'Three Tenors Concert' This Sunday Evening



Kenneth O'Regan, Paul Feery and Kevin Fagan come to Ashbourne Church this evening to perform their special collection of popular hits and uplifting songs. They have been touring the country since lockdown lifting the hearts of thousands. Tickets for the concert will be on sale at the door this evening and are available after Mass today from the priests of our parish. The concert begins at 8.00pm. Tickets are €30 and are also available from SuperValu. We look forward to hosting this musical celebration and thank SuperValu for their help with the ticket sales and parishioners for supporting the concert. A portion of the funds raised through ticket sales goes towards the Parish Development Fund.

## Trócaire Returns 2022

We are now collecting the Trócaire Boxes and envelopes from the homes, schools and workplaces of our parish. Thanks to all those who have already returned their offering. If you forgot or did not get round to it yet, please take your Trócaire box or envelope to Mass next weekend and place it in the special designated and supervised box. Please do not leave your donation unattended in the church. Where possible please change coin into notes to help us process the collection. Alternatively, you can return your Trócaire envelope or box to the parish office or give to the charity on [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org) or by Freephone 1800 408 408. Thank you for your generosity to those often forgotten and in need of our help.



## 2021 Income and Expenditure



Next Sunday the parish will publish its 'Income and Expenditure for 2021'. This is part of standard financial practise in parishes across our diocese. The accounts for last year will be published and left on our church noticeboards as usual and our parish office is happy to email a copy to any interested parishioner. Gratitude is expressed to all those who give financially to us.

## Parish Finance Meeting

A meeting of the parish finance committee will take place at 6pm on Wednesday next, April 27<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall. At this meeting the accounts for last year will be examined upon their return from the accountant. Members will be updated on the current state of parish finances. Plans will be put in place for the new envelope year and the release of the income and expenditure of 2021 on Sunday next, May 1st. We thank all those who serve on the finance committee for the work that they do and guidance they give. Ashbourne Parish is a one sixty ninety part of the charity known as St. Finian's Diocesan Trust. Each parish has as its mission the building of a vibrant Catholic faith community. Parishioners in each parish support their priest and parish financially thereby ensuring the patrimony of the parish as part of the union making up the charity.



## Sound Quality in Donaghmore Church



Those attending mass and ceremonies in Donaghmore Church over Easter would have noticed the microphones playing up on us. A sound engineer visited the church and a new microphone mixer was installed in the last few days so hopefully the sound quality is now back to what it was if not better.

## Sunday Collection Total Amounts

Easter Sunday Plate €2625.00 Shrines €1285.00  
Development Fund €1460.00



Gratitude is expressed to all those who support our parish.

## We pray for those who died during Holy Week



Patrick Bruton, Killelland  
Tom Reynolds, Mullingar  
John O'Hara, Drumcondra  
Angela Daly, Ratoath