



ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Priests of the Parish

Fr. Michael Kilmartin, P.P.

Fr. Ciarán Clarke, C.C.

Parish Secretary - Mary Mullen

Parish Office - Public Opening Times

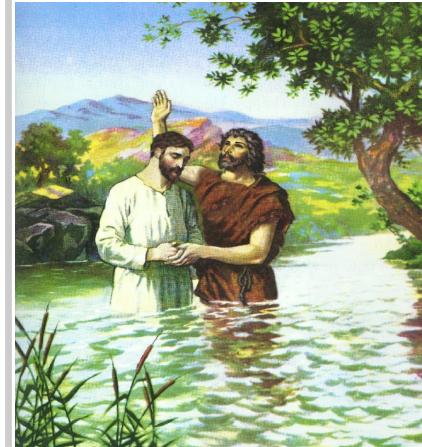
Monday - Thursday 9am - 12.30pm

Website: ashbourneparish.ie

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Feast of The Baptism of the Lord



"I have baptised you with water, but He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 7th 7pm Shared Mass Intentions
Maureen & James Moloney; Theresa & John Farrell,
Margaret & Michael Hogan, Niall Mongan; Walter Murphy;
Deceased of the Churm Family; Deceased of the Davis Family;
Winnie Houlihan; Fr Peter Smith; Leslie, Kathleen & Gerard
Quelch; John Harty; Thomas & Monica Carberry;
Patrick Simpson; Joe Gunnane, Séan Browne & deceased of the
Murtagh, McNamee & Browne Families.

Sunday 8th - The Baptism of the Lord

Donaghmore	9am Celia & Reiltín Farrell 10am William & Ann Henry 11am John Scanlon, Deerpark 12.30pm Pat Keane
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(1st Anniversary)

Monday 9th 10am Anne Lecky

Tuesday 10th 10am Catherine Walsh

Wednesday 11th 10am Margaret Gomaz

Thursday 12th 10am Joan & Seamus Lyons

Friday 13th 10am James & Catherine McDonnell

Saturday 14th 7pm Shared Mass Intentions
Darren Ellis, Crestwood (Month's Mind)
Tom Daly; Derek Tysom; Philip Dunne.

Sunday 15th 9am Andrea Fleming
Donaghmore 10am Sean Conway
 11am Chris Beary, Archerstownwood
*Hospitality in the Parish
Centre after 11am Mass*
 12.30pm Christopher Tormey

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI: 1927 - 2022

We mourn the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI who died on December 31st 2022. We give thanks to God for his lifelong ministry and service in the Lord's vineyard as a Priest, Bishop, Cardinal and Pope. Lord, grant him eternal rest and welcome him into the eternal light and peace of God's Heavenly kingdom.



Renewal of Baptism Promises

This Sunday we mark the Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan. All four Gospels record Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist which heralds the start of Jesus' public ministry. Jesus was thirty years of age when baptised. At mass we renew our baptismal promises and we are sprinkled with holy water as we pledge our allegiance to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Our baptism sets us apart and calls us into union with God.

Parish Baptism Guidelines

Baptisms take place in Ashbourne Church every Saturday afternoon at 2.30pm. In order to strengthen the connection of baptism with the gathering of the faith community parents introduce themselves and their new born baby to Fr. Michael or Fr. Ciarán after attending Sunday Mass and express their desire to have their child baptised. The parents receive a 'Baptism Request Form' and information on preparing for the celebration of the sacrament. The Baptism Request Form is then completed and returned to the Parish office or one of the priests. Up to four baptisms take place on any given Saturday. At least two weeks advance notice is necessary and once the form is processed the Parish Secretary will confirm the baby's baptism date by Email or Telephone.



Yearly Statistics on Parish Baptisms

In 2022 there were 128 infant baptisms (56 girls and 72 boys). Three adult baptisms took place at Easter. 145 baptisms took place in 2021; 95 in 2020 and 157 in 2019.

Holy Water in our parish

Holy Water is available in the metal container outside the Sacristy Door next the Cemetery in Ashbourne Church grounds. Parishioners are welcome to take Holy Water from this container when the church grounds are open.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Thursday 10.30am to 8pm



Confessions this Saturday 5pm to 6pm



2023 Month's Memory and 1st Anniversary Masses

Our parish has restored the practise of having one intention on our Sunday morning Masses. Our shared Mass for deceased loved ones with an anniversary occurring is on a Saturday evening at 7pm at which a candle is lit for the intention and families gathered. The 11am Mass and two of the 12.30pm Masses each month are now reserved for families booking a Month's Memory or First Anniversary Mass for their loved one. We kindly remind parishioners to understand that our secretary, Mary, tries her best to facilitate the wishes of families but a person's first choice is not always available. Parishioners are encouraged to book all Anniversary Masses through the Parish Office at an early opportunity, to be flexible in terms of dates (particularly on a Sunday) and families should liaise to avoid the same intention occurring twice in the Parish Diary. The stipend for the Mass being offered should be paid to Mary at the time of booking through the Parish Office. The priest who says the Mass receives this donation. Be assured if any person wishes to have a Mass said and cannot afford a stipend, the priests of our parish are happy to oblige.

Catholic Schools Week 2023

Catholic Schools Week 2023 will be celebrated in schools and parishes across Ireland from **Sunday January 29th - Sunday February 5th 2023**, anchored on the memory of St. John Bosco. This year's theme for Catholic Schools Week 2023 is 'Walking Together in Faith & Love'. During Catholic Schools Week families, parishes and schools are invited to participate in a week of celebration reflecting on the work of Catholic Schools, and on their contribution to a Synodal Church based on Communion, Participation and Mission. Link to all resources for Catholic Schools Week are found in the Catholic Education Partnership Website by following this link: catholiceducation.ie/resources-for-catholic-schools-week-2023/



Catechesis and Visitation

Each year a team of Primary School Catechists visit our catholic primary schools to support and encourage teachers in transmitting the Primary School Catechetical Programme. A team will be visiting the Catholic Schools and Sacramental Programme in Ashbourne parish on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The priests of the parish will meet the children attending our parish catholic schools with their teachers for Catechesis in Ashbourne Church from 10.45am to 11.20am on Tuesday for the First Holy Communion preparation and on Wednesday for Confirmation preparation. The catechesis links with the work the children will be doing at home and at school as part of their preparation. The children and their families are asked to attend weekly Sunday Mass with the faith community and once a month the children are involved with the Sunday liturgy. On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week the after school Parish Sacramental Programme Classes resume in the Parish Centre. The children from this programme will also attend Catechesis in Ashbourne Church during their class time this week in preparation for the Sacraments.



World Youth Day 2023

World Youth Day will be celebrated in Lisbon in early August. It is a week long event, with Pope Francis, where young Catholics from all over the world gather and participate in a formative faith filled fun environment. A group of young people from the Diocese of Meath hope to be part of the event. If you are aged 18 to 35, involved in our parish, and are interested in being part of the pilgrimage please let Fr. Michael or Fr. Ciarán know before the end of January. Our parish wishes to support young parishioners in fundraising efforts towards getting to this great event. Meath Diocese WYD information is available on www.dioceseofmeath.ie



Christian Unity Week January 18th - 25th

Each year during this month Christians unite to pray and promote greater co-operation between Christians of all denominations. In the past in our country there was much emphasis on difference rather than on similarities and regrettably Christians often did not share and celebrate their common vision. We have all heard stories of how horrific these divisions were. Today thankfully Catholics, Church of Ireland members, Methodists and Presbyterians emphasize the person of Christ at the heart of their lives. On Sunday January 22nd Fr. Michael and Fr. Ciarán will offer Mass for Christian Unity.

"May we all be one in Christ"

Parish Financial Matters

The first 2023 meeting of the Parish Finance Committee will take place on Wednesday evening January 18th at 6pm in the Parish Hall. The Parish Financial Statement for 2022 will be released on the last weekend of January and the new envelope boxes are being prepared for distribution to homes in Ashbourne and Donaghmore who use them as a means of supporting our parish.



Last Sunday's Collection Totals Plate €1290.00; Shrines €995.00; Development Fund €2215.00. Gratitude is expressed to all those who support our parish and we thank all those making their annual Christmas Offering at this time.

We pray for our parishioners whose funerals took place this week

Fran Hannon, Brookville and

Tommy Milner, Huntsgrove

Rest in Peace

Epiphany Announcement of Easter 2023

Know, dear brothers and sisters, that as we have rejoiced at the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ, so by leave of God's mercy we announce to you also the joy of his Resurrection, who is our Saviour.

On the 22nd day of February will fall Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of the fast of the most sacred Lenten season.

On the 9th day of April we will celebrate with joy Easter Day, the Paschal feast of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the 21st day of May will be the Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On the 28th day of May, the feast of Pentecost.

On the 11th day of June, the feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

On the 3rd day of November, the First Sunday of Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom is honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.