



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

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Sixth Sunday of
Ordinary Time

12th February 2023



**Jesus said to his disciples
'The man who keeps the
commandments and
teaches them will be
considered great in the
kingdom of heaven'.**

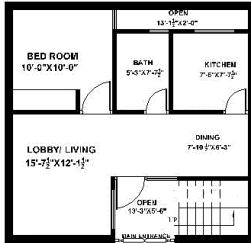
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Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday February 11th		Shared Mass Intentions Niamh Dalton, Ashdale Crescent, 1st Anniversary Mary Dignam, Wendy Fleming, Lee Moore, Bridie Burdis, Paudy Daly, Mary Hartnett, Gerard Fanning, Patrick Gorman, Paul Meleady
Sunday 12th	9am	Margaret Mintern
Donaghmore	10am	Paddy Moran
	11am	Francesco Macari, Month's Memory <i>Hospitality in the Parish Centre</i>
	12.30pm	Ronan & Ned Carey
Monday 13th	10am	John, Annie & Jack Fitzsimon
Tuesday 14th	10am	Pat McGlynn
Wednesday 15th	10am	Joseph & Julia Brennan
Thursday 16th	10am	Dina Burke
Friday 17th	10am	People of the Parish
Saturday February 18th		Shared Mass Intentions Philip O'Connor, Denis Dowling, Joe Finn, Bill Fuller, PJ Walsh PJ & David O'Rourke
Sunday 19th	9am	Christina Kearns
Donaghmore	10am	Bill Henry
	11am	People of the Parish <i>Hospitality in the Parish Centre</i>
	12.30pm	Kathleen Tubritt, late of Rath Lodge (Months Mind)

Map of Presbytery Works

A map of the works currently underway on the presbytery in the church grounds is on display on Ashbourne Church notice-board. During the week the asbestos was removed from the floor and roof areas of the building. We thank parishioners for parking away from the building site.



Earthquake in Turkey and Syria

Help is needed with the relief efforts in Turkey and Syria. If you can, please donate money or supplies to aid agencies on the ground helping those caught up in the devastation of Monday's earthquake.



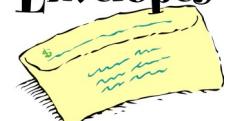
Introduction of Shared Mass in Donaghmore



On the last Sunday of every month in Donaghmore Church the 10am Mass will be multi-intentional. This means that there may be more than one intention on the mass that day. This is in order to facilitate parishioners wishing to remember their deceased loved one in Donaghmore. In Ashbourne Church there is one shared mass every Saturday evening at 7pm. All other masses have one intention only as prescribed by Irish church authorities. Booking for all masses is made through Mary in the parish office.

We thank all parishioners with the new envelope box who have confirmed their name, address and contact telephone number on the envelopes that they are returning. We ask everyone using a standing order to call in to the parish office during office hours by the end of February so that we can improve identification of payments that we are grateful to receive through this means. All data received will be dealt with in a confidential way. This is all part of having a more up to date accurate record and to provide an acknowledgement of monies received.

Offering Envelopes



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Thursday 10.30am to 8pm



Confessions this Saturday 5pm to 6pm

Just 10 Days To The Start of Lent



Lent will begin in ten days time. If you have any suggestions for Lent 2023 or can help us plan the season please let Fr. Michael or Fr. Ciarán know. In next weekend's newsletter the Lenten schedule will be announced.

Next Wednesday week is Ash Wednesday. There will be masses to mark the beginning of Lent at 10am and 7pm. People will have the option of receiving ashes on their foreheads or taking home ash to apply it themselves. The priests of the parish will also be available with ashes on several occasions in the church and opportunities for the sacrament of confession will also be available as people embark on this opportunity of spiritual renewal.



Trocáire Boxes



Trocáire Boxes will be available at the end of all masses next Sunday. If anyone would like to become a Trocáire ambassador - that is a volunteer in our parish supporting

Trocáire- we would be glad to hear from you. Trocáire ambassadors support the priests of the parish in communicating the work of Trocáire in the developing world.

Marking the Foundation of the New Church

Wednesday week is Ash Wednesday and is the feast day on which the foundation stone of Ashbourne Church extension was laid by Bishop John McCormack. This event happened on 22 February 1981 and in attendance with parishioners were the priests at that time Fr. Martin Burke and Fr. Fintan Cassidy. A photograph of the old church before the extension was added is on display this weekend in the church. Ashbourne was part of Ratoath parish and Donaghmore was part of Curragha. In 1984 the diocese established Ashbourne and Donaghmore as a new parish in its own right. The 10am mass on Tuesday week in Ashbourne will be one of thanksgiving for our church.



Clean Up of Our Church Interior

Have you time to give to your faith community on Monday next, February 20th? It is hoped that a group of parishioners would meet in the church at 11am on Monday morning week to hoover, dust and clean the church in

time for the church feast day and the new season of Lent. If you have time and are willing to work with others for an hour or two please let the parish office know in the coming days. We appreciate the work of all our volunteers in keeping our parish active and strong.



Next Sunday we look forward to welcoming the children and families for First Confession as they lead us in the Penitential Rite of Mass.

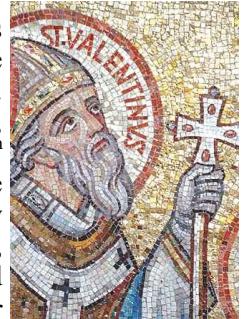
'Accord' Marriage Care



Accord is the catholic marriage support service agency in Ireland. Trained facilitators provide pre marriage courses and on-going marriage support to couples. They also provide counselling to couples seeking help. The Meath diocesan office of Accord is in Navan and their website is www.accord.ie

The Story Behind St. Valentine

As St. Valentine's Day is celebrated it is worth reflecting on the man behind the name. Valentine was a priest in Rome. According to the Roman martyrology, Valentine died for the faith, 14th February 269, under Claudius II, the Emperor at the time. The martyrology says: "At Rome, on the Flaminian Way, the heavenly birthday of the blessed martyr Valentine, a priest. After performing many miraculous cures and giving much wise counsel he was beaten and beheaded under Claudius Caesar." The Roman Emperor Claudius II forbade the young men to marry because he thought single men were better soldiers. Valentine secretly married young couples and was arrested and put in prison. The threat of death could not induce Valentine to renounce his faith. While in prison he prayed for and healed the blind daughter of a judge, Asterius, who with his family converted to Christianity and suffered martyrdom with Valentine. In 498AD Pope Gelasius named February 14th St. Valentine's Day. A Basilica was built in his honour near the cemetery of St. Hippolytus where his remains were found. In the nineteenth century, a relic of the saint was given to the Carmelite Church in Whitefriar Street and married couples celebrating significant anniversaries visit this Irish shrine of St. Valentine to renew their vows. The crocus, which flowers about this time of year, is also known as St. Valentine's flower.



Getting Married in the Coming Months?



Any couple getting married in the coming months are asked to make sure that they do their pre marriage course and the church paperwork in plenty of time. This is to ensure that all is organised and the couple can focus on planning their ceremony in the church with their priest in the months coming up to the wedding. In recent weeks Fr. Michael and Fr. Ciarán updated the parish wedding guidelines to support couples in our parish getting married. Our priests meet brides and grooms to be every Saturday afternoon in the parish office.

Today is one of the six Envelope and Offertory Collections that supports the priests in our parish. Last Sunday's Collection Total were Plate €1740.00; Shrines €1105.00; Development Fund €615.00. Gratitude is expressed to all those who support our parish. Míle buíochas.

Spirit of Giving



We pray for the repose of
Paul Grimes, Baltrasna whose funeral took place in our parish on Wednesday.
May he rest in peace. Amen.