

# 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**

**ashbourneparish.ie**

**01 8353149**

**ashbounedonaghmoreparish@gmail.com**



**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
**Year A**

(John 14:15)

"If you love me, obey my commandments."



## Mass Intentions

Saturday 13th <i>First Holy Communion</i>	10am 11.30am 2pm 3.30pm	St. Mary's Group 1 St. Mary's Group 2 Gaelscoil na Cille Sacramental Programme Group 2
Saturday 13th <i>Shared Mass Intentions</i>	7pm	Michelle Donnelly, Tara Close, (1st Anniversary) & dad Hugh Bartley, Ann Marie & Tommy Scully, Austin & Charlotte McGuire, Margaret & Michael Whelan, Kay Mintern
Sunday 14th	9am	Rose Griffith
Donaghmore	10am	Joseph Morris
Hospitality in the Parish Centre Afterwards	11am	For the Children Receiving Holy Communion
	12.30pm	John Fanning, Castle Crescent, (1st Anniversary)
Monday 15th	10am	John Brennan
Tuesday 16th	10am	Patrick Donnelly
Wednesday 17th	10am	Chris McLoughlin
Thursday 18th	10am	Stephen Ledwith
Friday 19th	10am	Thomas Conroy
Saturday 20th <i>Shared Mass Intentions</i>	7pm	Phyllis Peakin Gerry & Geraldine O'Loughlin Bridget Kearney, Mary Tracy
Sunday 21st	9am	Deceased of Lynch & Clarke Families
Donaghmore	10am	Al O'Connell
	11am	Kathleen Lee (1st Anniversary) & Jimmy, Millbourne Drive.
	12.30m	People of the Parish

## Congratulations to the First Holy Communicants



Congratulations to all the children who received their First Holy Communion on May 6th and 13th. We welcome them, especially those children who are 'guests of honour' today as they receive Holy Communion for the first time this Sunday - the Lord's Day.

Thank you for joining us at Mass today with your families. We rejoice as you receive the Body of Christ.

## Thank You for your help

Thanks to all those who cleaned our church and donated flowers for the days of our Holy Communion Masses. Thank you also to the musicians, singers and volunteer sacristans who are helping with the extra ceremonies. Finally thank you to those who keep our Church grounds clean and tidy.



## Changes of Priests in the Diocese of Meath



Fr. Ciarán is included in this year's changes of priests within the diocese. He will be moving to Ballivor and Kildalkey Parish and all the new appointments will take effect on Saturday July 1st. Fr. Brendan O'Rourke and Fr. Stephen Kennedy will be beginning in our parish that weekend. They belong to a congregation of the Institute of the Incarnate Word.

## Bethany - Ashbourne Parish Bereavement Support

The parish bereavement group, Bethany, is holding an open night on Tuesday evening next in the Parish Centre from 7-8pm. If you are bereaved, and would like someone to talk to in confidence, the Bethany Bereavement Group will provide a listening ear. Their telephone number is (087) 2715222.



Next Sunday is Ascension Sunday as we recall Jesus' ascent to heaven and the handing over of the building of the kingdom to His followers.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Thursday 10.30am to 8pm / Confessions on Saturday 5 to 6pm / Bethany Bereavement Support (087) 2715222



## Cemetery Devotions

The annual prayers for the faithful departed interred in the cemeteries of Ashbourne and Donaghmore takes place in the coming weeks.



Mass for those interred in Ashbourne Church Cemetery will take place in Ashbourne Church on Saturday June 3rd at 7pm followed by the blessing of the graves immediately afterwards at 7.45pm. Killegland graves will be blessed at 8.30pm that same evening. The graves in Donaghmore and Greenogue will be blessed following the Sunday morning 10am Mass of the Bank Holiday weekend, June 4th with Greenogue devotions taking place at 11.15am. On the following Saturday evening of June 10th the 7pm Vigil Mass will be offered for those interred in St. Declan's with the blessing of the graves afterwards at 8.30pm.

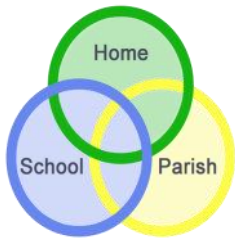
Cemeteries are special places for bereaved families and for Christians they are held as sacred grounds, as they hold the earthly remains of our brothers and sisters in Christ, awaiting the resurrection.

All those with plots and niches in our parish cemeteries are reminded to bring home old flower pots, withered wreaths and burnt candle ends. At times these are thrown to one side, dumped in a hedge or left for others to take away. This is disrespectful to people who own other plots and to parish property. We are grateful to all the families and volunteers who help maintain our parish cemeteries to a high standard but must remain vigilant to ensure dumping is kept at bay.

*Lord Jesus Christ, by your own three days in the tomb, you hallowed the graves of all who believe in you and so made the grave a sign of hope that promises resurrection even as it claims our mortal bodies.*

## After School Sacramental Programme

This year's After School Sacramental Programme is coming to an end and there will be a Mass of thanksgiving celebrated on May 16th at 4pm. Registration for next year's programme has begun for classes due to begin in September. This continues during this month and Registration forms with details of the classes next year and all that is involved for parents are available from the Parish Office and can be received from our priests. Completed forms and payment for the first term should be returned to the Parish Office before the last day of May.



## 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 couples preparing for marriage every Saturday in the Parish Office.



## Does St Dympna Mean Anything to You? Bring Her to Life ...

Two pilgrimages from our parish to learn a little about the life of St. Dympna have been organised. Some parishioners with our priests will leave the grounds of Ashbourne Church at 12 noon on Monday May 15th to travel to the National Gallery to learn about her life and view the Belgian altarpiece on loan to the museum. At 2pm on Thursday, May 18th a group of fifteen parishioners have been granted



permission by the National Museum of Ireland to privately see and learn about the relic called *bachall Dhamhnaid* (Dympna's staff). Entrance is free but limited to a small group. Both trips should be booked through the Parish Office. The stained glass window in Ashbourne Church (shown above) depicts St. Dympna in red and white clothing and holding a book of the gospels and a palm branch. Do take a look at the window in the old part of our church as we prepare for her Feast Day on Monday.

## May Rosary



Rosary is recited in our parish every morning before and after the 10am daily mass. For the month of May the Legion of Mary will hold a public rosary in the church grounds on Wednesday May 17th next at 7.30pm. All are welcome.

## Parish Pastoral Council

A meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will take place on Tuesday evening May 23rd in the Parish Centre at 7.30pm. The meeting will look at a new mission statement for our parish and four items that the New Parish Assembly will work on over their four year term beginning in September.



## Diocesan Director of Faith Development

The Diocese of Meath is seeking to recruit for the role of Director of Faith Development in the Diocese of Meath for a five year fixed term contract. It is an exciting and challenging opportunity in the life and mission of the Diocese. The post holder will be required to lead and work under their own initiative as well as work as part of a team to develop and implement new approaches, resources and programmes to adult faith formation, sacramental preparation, and evangelisation in parishes across the diocese. Full details relating to the vacancy can be found on the Diocesan Website at: [www.dioceseofmeath.ie](http://www.dioceseofmeath.ie) clicking on the tab job vacancy where terms and conditions and Application Form relating to the roll can also be accessed.



Last Sunday's Collection Total Amounts:  
Plate €1750.00; Shrines €1075.00;  
Development Fund €850.00. Gratitude is expressed to all those who generously give to our parish and the building of our Lord's kingdom.



We pray for Mary Battersby, Milltown Road whose funeral took place on Tuesday last and Ronald O'Connor whose funeral will take place Monday May 15th at 10.45am.