

# ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

## Priests of the Parish

Fr. Michael Kilmartin, P.P.

Fr. Stephen Kennedy, IVE/ C.C.

Fr. Brendan O'Rourke, IVE/ C.C.

Parish Secretary - Mary Mullen

Parish Office - Public Opening Times

Monday - Thursday 9am - 12.30pm

ashbourneparish.ie

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27th Sunday of Year A



Today's vineyard parable tells us that the gifts and graces which God gives to us are signs of his love and care and his expectation that they will bear fruit in our lives.

Saturday 7th <i>Shared Mass Intentions</i>	7pm	Grace O'Malley, Crestwood, (1st Anniversary) James & Sarah Reilly; Joseph & James Norris & deceased Family members
Sunday 8th	9am	Margaret & John Farrelly
Donaghmore	10am	Robert & Margaret O'Boyle
Hospitality in the Parish Centre after Mass	11am	Con Breen, Race Hill
	12.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday 9th	10am	Catherine Davis
Tuesday 10th	10am	Patrick Walsh Snr
Wednesday 11th	10am	Baby Holly Kane
Thursday 12th	10am	Alice & James Dervan
Friday 13th	10am	Eilish Howlett
Saturday 14th <i>Shared Mass Intentions</i>	7pm	Terry O'Brien; Mary Keogh; Peg, Jamsey & Henry Kavanagh; Keith Andrews
Sunday 15th	9am	People of the Parish
Donaghmore	10am	People of the Parish
Hospitality in the Parish Centre after Mass	11am	Mary Moss, Milltown
	12.30pm	People of the Parish

### Synod of Bishops on Synodality

Pope Francis opened the Synod of Bishops in Rome on Wednesday. He has gathered church representatives from around the world to converse with him on church matters. The Irish delegation as they left for the eternal city reiterated that the synodal process is about conversion. They asked people attending daily and weekend masses, at home and in religious communities to pray for Pope Francis and for all members of the Synodal Assembly as they reflect on and discuss the work of reform and renewal of the church. In the words of our Holy Father 'without prayer there will be no Synod'.



### New Altar Servers Begin their Ministry Today



Barry, Rachel, Emma, Elspeth, Jeremy, Tess, Solomon, Isabel, Abigail, Ruben, Ann, Grace and Lucy we are delighted to have you

serving at Sunday Mass in our Parish. Children last served mass in the pre covid days. So today is another day in our parish recovering and trying to heal itself after the terrible damage of the pandemic. As servers you will serve in groups of two and three at the 7pm, 11am and 12.30pm masses. We hope that you will not be too nervous and that you and their families will feel and know the support of parishioners. We wish you all the best in your ministry and thank you for being a mass server in our parish. We hope you enjoy the experience and that it helps you and parishioners grow in faith and love of our God.

### Reflecting on the Call to Mission

"Today vast numbers of people still do not know Jesus Christ. For this reason, the mission *ad gentes* continues to be most urgent. All members of the Church are called to participate in mission."



Pope Francis on Mission

"Each bishop should have a special concern for evangelization. Above all, he should endeavour to awaken, to encourage and to support the missionary activity in his own particular church." Canon 782

On Mission Sunday (October 22nd) we will reflect at Mass on the mission we all have to build the kingdom of God in our locality and to support the worldwide mission to build the kingdom of God's love on earth. This year Pope Francis has chosen a theme inspired by the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus in which "hearts are set on fire and feet are on the move". Our Holy Father will publish a letter on St Therese, the patron of missions, in the coming days.



## 1st Communion Registration Begins on Wednesday

First Communion will take place in our parish next May. Now is the time for parents to put their children forward for the sacrament. The Request and Commitment Forms will be emailed from the parish to interested parents through our three parish schools in the

coming days. The closing date for registration is November 2nd. A meeting for all parents of first communion children will take place in Ashbourne Church at 7.30pm on November 7th.

## Confirmation Registration Finishes Next Week



Thank you to all the parents who registered their children for the parish confirmation programme. Request Forms are available through our three Catholic Schools and our Parish Office. Closing

date is Monday October 16th. The priests of the parish will meet with all parents putting their child forward on Wednesday evening October 18th at 7.30pm in Ashbourne Church. Confirmation takes place on Saturday March 23rd 2024.

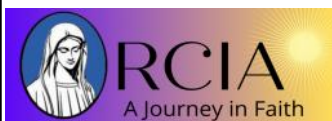
## School Boards of Management come to an End

The process has begun to form new Boards of Management for our three parish primary schools—St. Declan's; St. Mary's and Gaelscoil na Cille. Our parish schools serve the children of our community and their families offering education and opportunity in a catholic setting. Our parish provides the land for St. Declan's and St. Mary's and supports the principals in the running of our schools with a Catholic ethos. We thank everyone who has so generously served on the boards that are coming to the end of their four year term. Our faith community has been served extremely well by some wonderfully altruistic parishioners. If you are offered the opportunity to serve on a new board of management and feel you have the talent to give, do serve. In doing so, you will continue to strengthen the great learning environment we provide to so many children.



## Donaghmore Hospitality

Thank you to all those who organised the hospitality after last Sunday's mass in Donaghmore. It was a lovely tribute to Ciara Nichol who gave so much of her time to our faith community. The Nichol are very appreciative to all those who attended Ciara's Month's Mind Mass.



On Saturday 14 October this year's Rite of Christian Initiation begins. We have two candidates beginning the journey of adult reception of the catholic sacraments. We thank Brendan and Aine for running the classes every Saturday morning in the Parish Centre. We look forward to welcoming the candidates to Sunday Mass as we accompany them on their journey of faith.



Pope Francis at his Angelus address last Sunday invited Catholics to remember the beauty of praying the Rosary. In the Rosary we learn to learn the discipline of contemplating the mysteries of Christ with Mary and we invoke the Lord's intercession for the needs of the world. During this month you are encouraged to make an extra effort to pray the rosary and appreciate it's traditional power and beauty. Some people praying the rosary this month to link with mission offer each decade for the church in the five continents. The Rosary is recited in Ashbourne Church every day after the 10am morning Mass. *Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us.*

## Ireland's Favourite Saint is Saint Anthony

At the Catholic Church stand run by Kildare and Leighlin Diocese at the Ploughing Championships in Ratheniska two weeks ago visitors were asked to chose their favourite saint. The 'Top Five Saints' in Ireland are Anthony, Brigid, Patrick, Therese and Martin de Porres. Which is your favourite in this list? Are you surprised at this ranking?



## Thank You who Came to the Blessing of Pets



On Wednesday last for the feast of St. Francis of Assisi the priests of the parish blessed pets and their owners. It was great to see so many people come for the annual blessing. This photograph shows Fr. Brendan with Fr. Stephen blessing all the dogs and dog lovers that came along.

## New Boiler Arrives for Ashbourne Church



A new boiler is in the process of being installed in Ashbourne Church. The new boiler control switches will be in the church sacristy and hopefully will mean that we have a warmer church on the cold days of winter. It will take another two weeks for the installation to be complete and when we turn on the heat we will be asking parishioners to be vigilant about keeping the outside doors of the church closed at all times to conserve heat energy and keep our running costs under control.

Last Sunday's Collection Total Amounts:  
Offertory Plate €1295.00; Shrines €880.00;  
Envelope Development Fund €1050.00.



## Remembering Parishioners who have Died



We pray for **Gerard McCann, Milltown**, whose funeral mass took place on Wednesday and **Marian Winston, Westview** whose funeral mass took place on Thursday in Ashbourne Church. May they and all the faithful departed rest in peace.