

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 Monday-Thursday

9am-12.30pm - phone 01-8353149

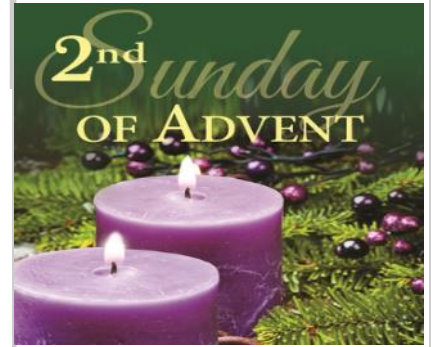
ashbourneparish.ie

ashbournedonaghmoreparish@gmail.com

Confessions every Saturday 5-6pm



2nd Sunday Advent B



John the Baptist Sunday

'Prepare A Way For the Lord ...'

(Mark 1: 2)

Mass Intentions

Saturday 9th	7pm	Eddie Fennelly, Rath Lodge (Month's Mind) Julia, Mary and Paddy Brady; Mary Murphy; Margaret and Michael Daly; Victor Bolster; Linda Moloney; Michael Gaynor; Patrick, Adam Hopkins + Deceased Hopkins and Taite families; Maureen Hurley and John Higgins
<i>Shared Mass Intentions</i>		
Sunday 10th	9am	Paul Kelly
Donaghmore	10am	Mary Theresa and Patrick Clarke & sons Albert, Tony and John
Hospitality in the Parish Centre after Mass	11 am	Kathrina Hurley, Alderbrook Glen (Month's Mind)
	12.30pm	Kathleen Tubbritt, Rath Lodge (1st Anniversary)
Monday 11th	10am	Ellen and Margaret McDonald
Tuesday 12th	10am	Frank Meegan
Wednesday 13th <i>St. Lucy</i>	10am	Tom, Margaret and deceased members of the O'Brien family
Thursday 14th <i>St. John of the Cross</i>	10am	Jack Smith
Friday 15th	10am	John and Marcus Allen
Saturday 16th <i>Shared Mass Intentions</i>	7pm	Darren Ellis, Crestwood (1st Anniversary) Margaret Burke Daniels, Cherryfields, (Months Mind) Ron Tier; Paddy Stritch; Sean and Elizabeth Clusker; Seamus Donnelly; Derek Tysom; Daniel, Kathleen and Donal Keenan; Margaret and Michael Hogan; Theresa and John Farrell
Sunday 17th	9am	Kathleen and Jimmy Lee
Donaghmore	10am	Bernadette Ralph
Hospitality in the Parish Centre after Mass	11 am	Chris Beary, Archerstown Wood (1st Anniversary)
	12.30pm	Charlie Fitzsimons

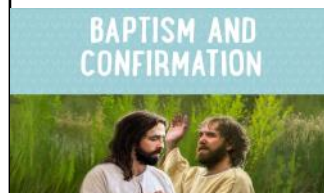
Celebrating our Faith This Advent

A second purple candle is lit today on our Advent wreath and it represents 'Faith'. This is the word that joins 'Hope' on our Advent Tree. It is by faith that we understand Jesus. Our faith in Jesus brings reason to the season. John the Baptist was the first person to speak about Jesus in public. Think of what your faith means to you this second week of Advent. Thank God for the faith that you have and thank Him for those who enlightened you.



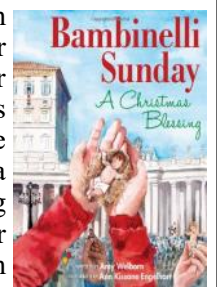
Confirming our Children

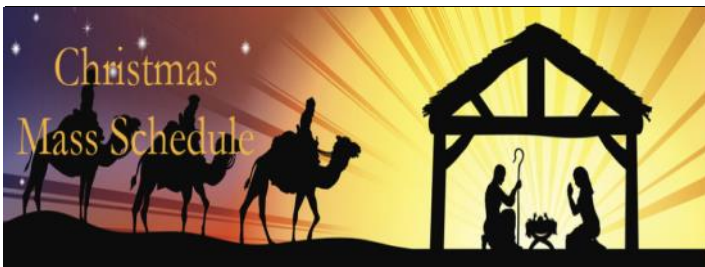
The second of four preparatory Masses for confirmation takes place this weekend. We welcome the 'confirmandi' and their families. Mass this Sunday is about the link between the sacraments of baptism and confirmation. Parents have been talking to their children about their baptism day. On Confirmation day next March before Bishop Tom roles will change when these children will take on the baptismal promises for themselves. Baptismal promises expressing belief in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit replace the Nicene Creed at Mass today. The response to each promise is 'I do'.



'Bambinelli' Sunday

Next Sunday, following an Italian tradition, children bring their figure of baby Jesus from their crib to Mass and the priest blesses the figure before it is put in the crib. Any boys and girls with a crib at home are welcome to bring their figurine to show it to our priests for blessing after each Mass in our parish.





Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Mass Times
Ashbourne Church 5pm, 7pm, 9am, 11am & 12.30pm
Donaghmore Church 7pm and 10am

Committed attendees at Sunday Mass should note that as the fourth Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve and we have three vigil Masses that evening as a result there will be no 12.30pm Mass on Sunday December 24th. This will allow time between these two celebrations and give us space to prepare Ashbourne Church for the celebration of the Lord's Nativity. Masses for the fourth Sunday will be at 9am and 11am in Ashbourne Church. Donaghmore Mass that morning remains at 10am. Extra Masses are on Christmas Eve and the regular schedule is rostered for Christmas Day.

Other Dates and Times to Note

- **Confessions 7-8pm Tuesday 19th and 3.30pm –6pm Saturday 23rd**
- **Advent Holy Hour 7-8pm Thursday 21st**
- **Carol Service 8pm Saturday 6th January**



Decorating our Churches and Grounds



Thank you to all those who are helping to clean and decorate our churches for the liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas. We rely on volunteers and are most grateful to those who help prepare our churches in Ashbourne and Donaghmore.

Can you help with Music on Christmas Day at 9am or 12.30pm?

We are looking for help with music at two of our Christmas Day Masses. If you could sing a few carols at the 9am or 12.30pm Mass we ask you to contact us in the Parish Centre. It would be a lovely gift both for Baby Jesus and our faith community.



New Altar Server's Rota

A new Altar server's rota is available from the rota drawer in Ashbourne Church or parent's can get a copy from one of the priest's after Mass this Sunday. There will be a short meeting for Mass Server's on Wednesday evening, December 20th, at 6.30pm in Ashbourne Church. We will look at how the ministry is going and decide on the Christmas Eve and Day Mass rota.



New Primary Schools Boards of Management

New boards of management are being constituted in the three Catholic primary school's of St. Declan's, St. Mary's and Gaelscoil na Cille. Each school board is made of eight members which consist of the principal and teacher, two parent's (a mother and a father), two community representatives and two nominees appointed by the patron. Fr. Michael is one of the patron's representatives on St. Mary's school board and Stephen will serve as a patron's nominee on St. Declan's board. The board works for four years in a voluntary capacity implementing state legislation within the ethos of Catholic patronage.



Christmas Mass and Party for Senior Citizen's



The Annual Christmas Celebration for Ashbourne's Senior Citizen's takes place in the Ashbourne House Hotel on Thursday next. Fr. Michael will celebrate Mass for all gathered for the occasion. We wish all attending a very happy time. We congratulate our local Senior Citizen's Branch on the marvellous work they do in keeping members so happy and active.

St. Mary's National School - Christmas Bazaar

St. Mary's National School Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held in the school on Wednesday 13th December from 7-9pm. Plenty of great prizes to be won on the night. Stalls include toys, books, cakes, crafts, bric-a-brac and much more.



Supporting Ashbourne's Needy and Senior Citizen's

The St Vincent de Paul Annual Christmas Appeal is taking place at this time. Envelopes have been sent out to homes and the parish is happy once again to facilitate the distribution and taking up of these envelopes. Anyone wishing to donate to St. Vincent de Paul can leave a contribution in the Safe Deposit Box, near the old confession box at the back of Ashbourne Church. Our parish refers people in need to St. Vincent de Paul who act in the name of the parish in helping those needing financial assistance. Thank you to all those who support the magnificent work of the society and thank you to all the active members in our local St. Enda's SVP Conference. Once again this year Ashbourne Parish encourages parishioners shopping in Super Valu for Christmas to support the Super Valu/ Ashbourne Parish Fuel Appeal. All money donated goes towards fuel vouchers to keep our senior citizen's and those in material need warm over the winter months. If you are shopping in the store you might donate to this Fuel Appeal.



Contributing to Your Parish

The collection amounts for last week were as follows: Offertory Plate €1325; Shrines €1195; Envelope/Development Fund €1085. Gratitude is expressed to all those who contribute, collect and count monies given to our parish. *Mile buíochas.*

