



# ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

## Priests of the Parish

Fr. Michael Kilmartin, P.P.

Fr. Stephen Kennedy, C.C., IVE

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

Parish Secretary - Mary Mullen

Parish Office - Public Opening Times

Monday - Thursday 9am - 12.30pm

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## 3rd Sunday Lent B



*'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.'* (John 2: 18)

### Mass Intentions

Saturday March 2nd	7pm	Stephen Taylor; William and Teresa Tierney; Jim Clancy; Orla Dowling; Margaret and Michael Hogan; Teresa and John Farrell; Jim Luttrell; Peggy and Pat O Connell
Sunday March 3rd	9am	People of the Parish
Donaghmore	10am	Ciarán Benville
Hospitality in the Parish Centre after Mass	11am	Julie Cronnelly, Baltrasna (Month's Mind)
	12.30pm	Maureen Enright, Cluain Rí, (1st Anniversary)
Monday 4th	10am	Sam Leonard
Tuesday 5th	10am	Bobby Eagar
Wednesday 6th	10am	Chris and Deceased of McLoughlin and Tierney Families
Thursday 7th	10am	John Farrell
Friday 8th	10am	Con Moynihan
Saturday 9th	10am 7pm	People of the Parish Christopher and Annie Kavanagh; Lorraine Gray; Paddy McGrath; Frank and Patricia McHulcheon; Margaret and Paddy Daly; Tony Mulvany; James and Cecilia Kelly
Sunday 3rd	9am	Adrian Ayres
Donaghmore	10am	Larry and Jack Kearns
Hospitality in the Parish Centre after Mass	11am	People of the Parish
	12.30pm	Chris McLoughlin

### Confirmation is Four Weeks Away



This weekend we welcome the children and families preparing for Confirmation. We offer our Masses on this third Sunday of Lent for the strength of the Holy Spirit in all our lives. The confirmation children are learning about the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

During Mass the "Confirmandi" will be asked to pick their favourite Holy Spirit gift. The seven gifts are: Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, Courage, Reverence, Right Judgement and Wonder and Awe in God's Presence.

*'Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of the faithful ...'*

### Parish Pastoral Assembly

The Parish Pastoral Assembly meet next week and continue the major work of renewing or changing our parish website. We want to make sure we do a good job in the coming months. What do you think of our parish website? What information would you like to get from the website? If you have any suggestions or ideas please let us know.



### Donaghmore Meeting on Wednesday Next



On Wednesday evening next at 7pm in Donaghmore Church the priests of the parish will meet with the parishioners of Donaghmore. Every second month parishioners meet to help the priests make decisions to do with their church and faith community. We thank all those who contribute to building this important partnership. All are welcome to this meeting.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Thursday- 10.30am to 8pm



Confessions this Saturday 4pm to 6pm

### Fr. Brendan's Talk on the 'Hail Mary'

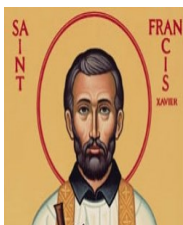
#### Hail Mary

Hail Mary, Full of Grace,  
The Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women  
and blessed is the fruit  
of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary,  
Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners  
now and at the hour  
of our death.

Amen.

### Novena of Grace 4th to 12th March

For many years Ashbourne Parish has had a Novena of Grace to the Jesuit Saint Francis Xavier. The Novena Prayers will be said at 10.00am Mass each morning. Prayer Leaflets will be available on the tables as one enters the Church. As part of the Novena Fr. Brendan is doing his talk on Tuesday evening on the 'Hail Mary'.



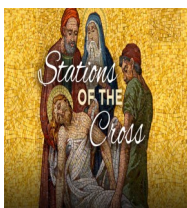
### Our Schools are Promoting Lent



The teachers and pupils of fourth class in our three Catholic Primary Schools are learning about Lent and bringing Lent to Life in their school environments. We thank all those helping with this new initiative in our schools. Fr. Michael will visit St. Mary's School on Tuesday to see all that is happening there. As part of fourth class Living Lent the children from the different classes will attend our Lenten Masses on various Wednesdays of the season.

### The Stations of the Cross

The stations are traditionally prayed during Lent. The reflections in Ashbourne Church remind us of the way Jesus carried the cross and the ways we can walk with Jesus this Lent. As we pass half way of Lent do take the time to pray the stations and deepen your relationship with the Lord. On Friday evening public stations take place at 7pm.



### First Confession This Saturday

Congratulations to the children attending the After School Sacramental Program and Gaelscoil na Cille who received the sacrament of Confession for the first time yesterday. We thank all involved in their preparation. The children prepared by the families and parents of St. Mary's will receive the Sacrament next Saturday from 4 to 6pm.



The Meals on Wheels in Ashbourne do a wonderful job in helping with care needs in our parish. A group of volunteers help organise and deliver food in our town and surrounding area. We are grateful for this wonderful service in our community.



The parish supports the fundraising work of Trocaire which was founded 51 years ago by the Irish Church to help those in some of the poorest parts of the world. Please do what you can this year to donate to their work.



### Fr. Michael Elected Chair of the Council of Priests

Fr. Michael was elected on Monday by his brother priests to lead the Council of Priests in the Diocese of Meath. The Council of Priests is a consultative forum among priests in dialogue with their bishop. Topics will range from the ongoing care of priests, evangelisation, strengthening of lay leadership, celebration of the sacraments, and all aspects of priestly ministry. Please God the Holy Spirit will guide him as he takes on this new role. We pray for him and all the priests of the diocese as a new Council is put in place for a term of five years.



### Feedback from Synod in Rome

The Meath Diocesan Synodal Team are hosting a meeting in Ashbourne on Wednesday week to offer feedback on the Synod which was held in Rome last October. We hope that parishioners will come along and engage with the process which will inform the preparations for the conclusion of the Synod in Rome next October. The gathering will last 90 minutes and take place in our Parish Centre. It would be helpful to have some familiarity with the document issued following the Synod last October called Towards the 2024 Assembly available on [www.synod.va](http://www.synod.va). All parishioners are invited to hear what is being planned, and to have their say on the Irish response to the first part of Pope Francis initiative. We hope that Ashbourne will be able to organise a cup of tea for those attending. If you can help with the simple catering please let us know.

Synode  
2021  
2024

### New Location Of Water Tap in the Parish Cemetery

The water tap in Ashbourne Church grounds has been relocated to the wall between the Cemetery and the Parish Centre. Hopefully this will work as a good location for the tap. It saves people having to walk on the grass. It is more central for parishioners and it moves the water ducting away from where the electrical port, and ducting has been placed as part of the ongoing ducting upgrade to Ashbourne Church campus.



### Collections at the Gates of our Churches

Church Gate Collections do not fall within the remit of our parish. We do not authorise the collections and the State lays down the conditions under which a collection can take place. Anyone collecting with a state permit must collect outside the church gates. No one should be collecting on church property. It has been brought to the priest's attention in recent months that people are breaching the state protocols by entering the church grounds and occasions have even entered the church.



### In the Spirit of Supporting our Parish

Last Sunday's Collection Totals were Plate €1740; Shrines €920; Development Fund €1185.00. Gratitude is expressed to all those who support our parish. Mile buíochas.



### Prayers for the Deceased



We pray for the eternal repose of Peter Hughes, Bourne Avenue; Matt Cowley, The Ward; Kay Philips, Archerstown Wood who died recently. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, May they rest in peace. Amen.