

ASHBOURNE DONAGHMORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

Priests of the Parish

Fr. Michael Kilmartin P.P.

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

Fr. Stephen Kennedy IVE, C.C.

Telephone: (01) 8353149

Email: ashbournedonaghmoreparish@gmail.com

Website: ashbourneparish.ie

Facebook Follow Ashbourne Parish

Parish Secretary Mary Mullen

Parish Office Hours: Monday—Thursday
9am to 12.30pm



Ascension of the Lord
Year B
12 May 2024



*'Go out to the whole world
and proclaim the Good News
to all creation'. (Mark 16:15)*

Mass Times and Intentions

Saturday 11th Shared Mass Intention	7pm	John Fanning; Hugh Bartley; Michelle Donnelly; Anna Marie Scully & dad Tommy; Fleming Family Deceased
Sunday 12th	9am	Terry & Joey Tormey
Donaghmore	10am	Rose Griffith
All are welcome to Hospitality in the Parish Pastoral Centre after Mass	11am	People of the Parish
	12.30pm	Dermot Browne, Huntsgrove (1st Anniversary)
Monday 13th	10am	People of the Parish
Tuesday 14th	10am	Frank Walsh
Wednesday 15th	10am	John O' Brien
Thursday 16th	10am	People of the Parish
Friday 17th	10am	Imelda O' Riordan
Saturday 18th Shared Mass Intention	10am 11.30am 1.30pm 3.30pm 7pm	First Holy Communion Masses for Children from St. Mary's School Wedding Mass First Holy Communion Mass for Children from Gaelscoil na Cille Stephen Ledwith; Patty Newman—Pegley and Deceased; Al O'Connell
Sunday 19th	9am	People of the Parish
Donaghmore	10am	Martin Boland, late of the Dublin Road (1st Anniversary)
All are welcome to Hospitality in the Parish Pastoral Centre after Mass as we celebrate with food from different cultures	11am	Pentecost Sunday Mass with Confirmation and Celebration of the Diversity within our faith community.
	12.30pm	John & Sarah Thorne; Pauline Loughran; Frank & Geraldine Loughran

Ascension Sunday

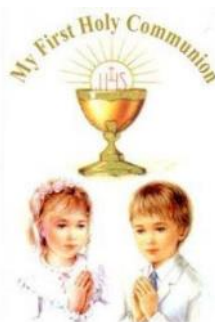
Today is the Feast of the Ascension. It is a mystery of faith often forgotten or not talked about. The Ascension marks the risen Christ's return to heaven and his departing wish for us to bring the Christian message to the ends of the earth. Today as we mark Ascension day the Catholic Church celebrates World Communications Day. We have a message to communicate to the world. We are tasked with communicating the good news of Jesus to the ends of the earth. We must never tire of living our faith and sharing the joy and hope of being a believer. Pope Francis in his message for Ascension Day encourages us to talk about our faith, be excited about what it offers and asks parishes to embrace new digital technology as best they can to radiate God's love.

'The Ascension does not point to Jesus' absence, it tells us he is alive in our midst in a new way.' (Pope Francis)



First Holy Communion Begins Next Weekend

This Sunday we welcome first holy communion children and families to their final 'Do This in Memory' Mass. The children have learnt the prayers of Mass and have done their art on the items priest and people use at Mass. The boys and girls are ready now to make their first Holy Communion. Next Saturday is a busy one for our priests with first Holy Communion for the children attending St. Mary's Catholic School and Gaelscoil na Cille. The children will be our 'guests of honor' at our Masses next Sunday. We look forward to this happy occasion in our parish.



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Thursday 10.30am to 8pm + Confessions Saturday—5 to 6pm - Ashbourne Church

Getting our Churches Ready for 1st Communion

Church Cleanup



Volunteers are sought on Wednesday morning next at 11am to help prepare our church for 1st Holy Communion in the parish. We will be cleaning our church and putting flowers in place for the first Holy Communion Masses. Thank you also to the musicians, singers and volunteer sacristans who are helping with the extra ceremonies in the coming weeks. Finally thank you also to Kalev and to all those who keep our Church grounds clean and tidy.

Parish Pastoral Assembly

The Parish Pastoral Assembly met during the week. They discussed adult faith formation and how they can help with the faith development of parents with children for baptism and first holy communion. They are working on small projects and initiatives to help those who take seriously the need to live faith and pass on faith to children in their care. The Parish Pastoral Assembly have launched the new Ashbourne Parish Facebook account, are developing a new parish website, and for next weekend, are working on two new billboards highlighting the significance of the Holy Spirit to us as believers. We thank them for the work they are doing with our priests in supporting pastoral activity in Ashbourne.



Celebrating Pentecost



Next Sunday we celebrate what the Holy Spirit means to us. The Parish Pastoral Assembly have two new billboards going up in our grounds to remind us and people passing by our church of the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Alongside confirmation at the 11am Mass next Sunday, and having children receiving holy communion for the first time with the faith community we are incorporating the various cultures that make up our faith community. As part of this year's celebration of the diversity of our parish we are doing the Prayer of the Faithful in different languages. People are welcome to wear their national costume and we are having different international foods as part of the hospitality after next Sunday's 11am Mass. All are most welcome and thanks to those organising the celebration.



Confirmation of RCIA Candidate



Next Sunday we welcome a new adult member into our parish. David Adie will be confirmed on the Feast of Pentecost. Fr. Michael has been delegated by Bishop Tom for this to happen. We thank

Brendan and Áine for meeting David every Saturday in the Parish Pastoral Centre and instructing him in the ways of faith. We look forward to this happy occasion and having David as a 'fully fledged' Catholic in our faith community.



Parish News



1) The annual retreat for the priests of the diocese of Meath takes place in the coming days. You are asked to pray for Fr. Michael and the clergy at this time for renewal and reflection in their priestly ministry.

2) For the month of May the Legion of Mary recite the rosary in various public locations in the parish. This week they will gather on the green in Churchfields on Wednesday next 7.30pm. All are welcome. Rosary is also recited in our parish every weekday morning before and after the 10am daily mass. 3) Donaghmore Church Meeting—This meeting will now take place on Wednesday evening May 22nd at 7pm in Donaghmore Church.

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 1st at 7pm followed by the blessing of the graves immediately afterwards at 7.45pm. Killeglad graves will be blessed at 8.15pm that same evening. The graves in Donaghmore and Greenogue will be blessed on Sunday morning, June 2nd following the 10am Mass offered for the deceased in these two cemeteries. On the following Saturday evening of June 8th the 7pm Vigil Mass will be offered for those interred in St. Declan's with the blessing of the graves afterwards at 8.15pm.



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. Parishioners are asked to remove all leftover material and waste from the cemetery and dispose of them in a responsible way. All those with plots and niches in our parish cemeteries are reminded to bring home old flower pots, withered Christmas wreaths and burnt candle ends. At times these are left behind headstones, 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 and our cemeteries look their best.

Gratitude for Your Support



Last Sunday's collection total amounts were as follows: Plate €1650; Shrines €1140; Development Fund €1200. Gratitude is expressed to all those who generously give to Asbourne-Donaghmore parish. *Mile buíochas.*

Recently Deceased

We remember John O' Brien, Tara Lawns whose funeral took place on Friday. John was a reader at the 11am Sunday Mass and was well known in our faith community. We pray for him and offer his wife, son and grandchild our deepest sympathies. May he and all the faithful departed rest in the peace of heaven and may their names be written in the Great Book of Life. Amen.

