

# OCTOBER IS MISSION MONTH

Sunday 6th October 2019 DAY FOR LIFE

Mass Times FOR the coming Week.  
**Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri Mass at 9.00 am**  
**Wed Prayer Service at 9.00 am**



## LAST WEEKS COLLECTIONS

Offering €610 Share €446 Family Offering €345 Maint. & Dev. €190

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Over the last couple of weeks the Parish has been focusing in on the Parish Pastoral Council and existing members have been introduced to you while presenting the Reflection after Communion. At all masses this weekend Leonard Kaye will be speaking to us on the importance of the Parish Pastoral Council to the working of the Parish.

## Exploring the Faith

The first session in the Exploring Faith was held last Tuesday night in the De La Salle Pastoral Centre in Wicklow. The sessions begin at 7.30pm and will last no more than one hour.

The programme is open to everyone. The sessions will be very accessible and simple, with a little input each week followed by some discussion/ questions. If you are interested please come to these sessions anyway, without any obligation to continue if you feel it is not for you.

## THE IRISH CATHOLIC

The Irish Catholic newspaper is on sale in both St. Joseph's Church, Glenealy and The Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Ashford. The current cost of the newspaper is €2.

## Readers for the next 2 weeks in Ashford.

	Vigil	Sunday
12/13 Oct	John Holly, Celia McWatt	Michael Noone
19/20 Oct	Carmel Grant, Marie Togher	Tom McHugh

## Eucharist Ministers for next 2 weeks in Ashford.

	Vigil	Sunday
12/13 Oct	Ray Kinsella, Donal Dunne	Ann Clarke, Garry Dowling
19/20 Oct	Denis McWatt, Mary Ellen Doyle	Denise O'Donnell, Ann Lyons

## MISSION SUNDAY

Advance notice the weekend of 19th/20th October is known as Mission Sunday and there will be a special collection in support of the missions. This collection will replace the SHARE collection.

## DAY FOR LIFE

This weekend we also focus on DAY FOR LIFE is celebrated by the Catholic Church in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness of the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. Today we focus on "The Scourge of Domestic Abuse". There are some leaflets about this available in the church, the details of which are below.

The Catholic bishops of Ireland, England & Wales and Scotland have chosen to focus on domestic abuse as the theme for Day for Life 2019. We wish to raise awareness of the prevalence of this issue across our countries.

### Laura's Story'

'My name is Laura and I am forty-three years old. I have three daughters and a beautiful grand-daughter. During my many years of marriage, I was repeatedly abused by my husband. I had my jaw and teeth broken, and on several occasions was strangled to the point of unconsciousness. Despite knowing that his behaviour was unacceptable, I desperately wanted my marriage to work ...'

To read Laura's full story and learn about Church initiatives in this area, go to: [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie) or [www.dayforlife.org](http://www.dayforlife.org). #DayforLife2019.

### An Intolerable Problem

One in four women and about one in six men suffers from domestic abuse in their lifetime. According to a 2018 report\*, almost nine out of every ten women murdered in Ireland are killed by a man known to them. This fatal violence is at the most severe end of the spectrum of domestic abuse. Women's Aid says that the dangerous patterns present in abusive relationships are all too often dismissed and not taken seriously, which can put women at risk of serious assault or homicide.

It is a deeply regrettable fact that men, women and children suffer domestic abuse at the hands of husbands, wives, parents and other family members. Violence of this kind should

never be tolerated or justified. It is an offence against the dignity of the human person.

### Pope Francis

The Church recognises the hurt done to those who have experienced domestic abuse. As Pope Francis wrote in 2016:

Unacceptable customs still need to be eliminated. I think particularly of the shameful ill-treatment to which women are sometimes subjected, domestic violence and various forms of enslavement which, rather than a show of masculine power, are craven acts of cowardice. The verbal, physical and sexual violence that women endure in some marriages contradicts the very nature of the conjugal union. (*Amoris Laetitia*, 54)

### How can Catholic parishes and communities be places of safety, welcome and assistance?

This is a call to action for our parishes, schools and Catholic communities to reflect, learn and act together, so that we can help those suffering from domestic abuse in our parishes, our workplaces and even in our own homes. Knowing what to look for and spotting the signs means that, individually and collectively, we can make a real difference to people's lives.

It is time to start talking and taking action. Go to [www.dayforlife.org](http://www.dayforlife.org) or [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie) to find out more about what you can do.

### NOTES

1. The name has been changed to protect the identity of the survivor.
2. Women's Aid, *Femicide Report*, 2018.

### About Day For Life

Day for Life is celebrated annually by the Catholic Church in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness of the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition.



Irish Catholic Bishops' Conference  
Columba Centre, Maynooth, Co Kildare  
[www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie)



## ASHFORD COMMUNITY GROUP

The results of the September Monthly draw are: 1st Robert Quinn, 2nd Bernie Shortt, 3rd Marie Peake and 4th John Byrne. Thanks to everyone for your ongoing support.

## OFFICE

The office will be closed next Friday 11th October.