

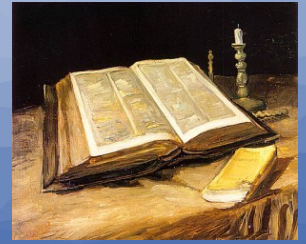
ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

1st December 2024

First Sunday of Advent - Year C

RCN 20016166



Gospel Reflections Slow Waiting Donal Neary SJ

The four weeks of Advent are a slow wait: one candle this week, the empty crib. With **M**ary and **J**oseph we wait for **C**hrist. The candles light the way for them - and for us, one each week of Advent.

Christmas should come quickly - the message of the ads. We could be excused for thinking it is nearly over. The Christmas parties are well under way. Some dinners for the elderly have been held already. The carols have been playing for weeks now.

The best waiting, like waiting for birth, is slow. Parents wonder about their child - who will he/she be like? The mother needs support and love; the children look forward to another baby; grandparents wait in pride. Even when the family situation is limited, we wait in joy and hope for the child - like **M**ary and **J**oseph, **E**lizabeth and **Z**echariah and all the bible parents who waited, often for many years.

How is my faith this year from last year? And what would I be asking for?
Would I promise anything to help me wait actively for **J**esus
~Mass more often than Sunday, ~ the Angelus every day,
~to read the gospel each day, ~to be kinder and more just,
~ to care for the poor and needy at home or away in war torn or climate challenged countries.

Let my Advent bring me closer to **G**od and effect for the best the lives of those close to me. If we wait in faith and in hope, then everything, even the carols being sung and the celebrations begun too early, can remind us of the **G**od who is coming soon in **J**esus **C**hrist, to be born of **M**ary.



Mary, may I wait with you in joy, reflection, patience and hope.

ASHFORD & GLENEALY ~ PARISH - CONTACTS

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PARISH OFFICE WICKLOW 0404 -61699

Office opening times Monday - Friday: 10am - 12.30pm

For all enquires and bookings

	This week we remember	Next week we remember
SATURDAY 6.00pm ASHFORD	Noeleen O'Brien (MM) T.J. Hayden (A) Stephen Hayden (A)	Michael Behan Thomas & Rosanna Boyce Seamus Darcy
SUNDAY 10.30am GLENEALY	John Cullen (A), Jay & Frances Byrne (A), Rita & George George Byrne (A), Tom O'Brien (A), Kevin Alcorn (A)	

ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH
24th November 2024

ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION - goes towards maintaining our parish - € 140
1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND - pays salaries of Priests of Diocese - € 440
2ND COLLECTION / SHARE FUND - goes towards Diocesan Administration € 295
MAINTENANCE - goes towards Parish upkeep - € 60

Many thanks for your continued support.

NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

To reflect on the readings please check
catholicireland.net / sacredspace.ie / universalis.com

FIRST READING: Baruch 5:1-9

PSALM: 125

SECOND READING: 1Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

Baptism in the St. Mantan Pastoral Area

Wicklow	First Saturday	2pm
	Third Sunday	1pm
Rathnew	Fourth Saturday	2pm
Ashford	First Sunday	12 noon
Glenealy	Third Saturday	12 noon
BBK	Second Saturday	2pm

Next Ashford Meeting is on 19th December at 7:30pm in the Church. Please ring the Parish Office (0404-61699) to confirm your attendance at this meeting.



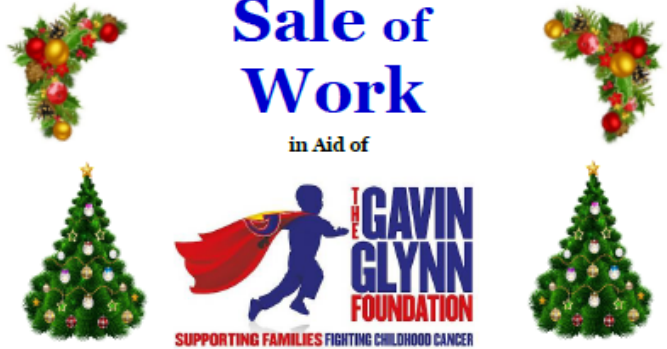
Christmas Craft Fair in Glenealy Village Hall - Sunday, 1 December

The annual Christmas Craft Fair will take place in Glenealy Village Hall on Sunday, 1 December from 11.30am to 4.00pm. Come early and join in the festive fun with bargains for everyone.

ICA Ashford Christmas

Sale of Work

in Aid of



"Helping families fighting childhood cancer who need to travel overseas for specialist cancer treatment that is not available in Ireland. The Gavin Glynn Foundation arrange all logistics and cover all costs associated with: *Transportation (eg. Flights, Car Hire). * Transportation to and from the designated Airports. * Accommodation within, or close to the designated medical centre. * Food and living expenses for the duration of the child's treatment while abroad."

Saturday 7 December 2024

9.30am – 12.30pm

**Methodist Hall, Wicklow Town
(opposite Holy Rosary National School)**



World Peace

We pray for peace in our hearts, in our homes, in our community and in our troubled world, especially in the Middle East and in Ukraine. We pray for those who are suffering, displaced and fearful because of war. Make us instruments of your peace and messengers of hope to those who are troubled.

Alcoholics Anonymous: Drink Problem? You're not alone. For anyone who is interested in getting more information, there is an 'Open Public Meeting' at 8.00pm in Kilcoole Community Centre on the last Friday of every month. Phone: 01 842 0700 or www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie All enquiries are treated in the strictest confidence.

Joly's
FESTIVE CHRISTMAS
CRAFT
Market
2024
SAT 30TH NOV + SUN 1ST DEC
10AM - 4PM
ART & CRAFT STALLS
FESTIVE FOOD & SPICED WINE
LIVE MUSIC + MORE!
JOLY'S GARDEN CENTRE
GLENEALY CO. WICKLOW A67 X940
087 447 9917
INFO@JOLYSGARDENCENTRE.IE

Advent Prayer Service

As we prepare to celebrate the coming of Jesus, the area pastoral parish council invites you to an Advent Prayer Service which will take place on **Tuesday 10th December at 7.00pm in St. Brigid's Church, Kilbride.**

It is an opportunity for us to reflect on how well prepared we are, not only to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord at Christmas, but to live the kind of life we are meant to live, loving one another as much as we are loved.

This invitation is extended to all parishioners, but in particular children and young adults in our respective parishes.

***St. Mantan Pastoral Area
Funeral Team Ministry***

A meeting for all the individual parish funeral team and funeral team leader members will be held on Tuesday 3rd December at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre, Wicklow to refresh what we do as a funeral team member at a funeral Mass and to develop a parish strategy for the years 2025-2027 as the next step of our Building Hope in terms of what service our funeral team leaders can offer by means of prayers in the funeral home, home, at the graveside etc. in the absence of a priest. We hope that as many as possible will attend.

Wicklow/Ashford Bethany Bereavement Support Group

The death of a loved one is very devastating. Most of us are not prepared for the long journey of grief. At first we don't really believe it. Often by the time the reality hits us our friends and relatives think that we are or should be okay and they go back to their busy lives.

The Bethany Bereavement Support Group is a voluntary parish based ministry which aims to help the bereaved and grieving. Although grieving is a natural process which can be helped by the sympathy and understanding of friends there are times when one needs support to work through it in a positive way. Feelings need to be expressed rather than repressed. It helps the healing process to talk with a trained listener and confront the very strong feelings associated with grief.

Wicklow/Ashford Bethany Bereavement Support Group meet on the last Tuesday of the month in the De La Salle Centre at 8pm and if you are struggling with your grief and think you might like to talk with a trained listener, you are very welcome to attend this meeting. More information from 087 946 8971

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Ashford: 1st Friday after Mass

Wicklow: Mondays and Thursdays after Mass

Kilbride: 1st Thursday at 7pm (Divine Mercy)

Brittas Bay: Tuesdays at 9am



Your contribution to the Church is your appreciation for your parish. If you would like to become a regular contributor to the Parish, please fill in this slip and return to Parish Office or Sacristy

Name.....

Contact Number.....

Address.....
.....
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It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.

-Pope Benedict XVI