

ASHFORD COMMUNITY GROUP

Providing support & a social outlet for older people

DRAW RESULTS JANUARY 2025

| | | Winner | Seller |
|-----------------|------|------------------|-------------|
| 1 st | €300 | Shiela McDermott | Simon Marah |
| 2 nd | €150 | Liam O'Brien | Ann Lyons |
| 3 rd | €100 | Sheila Byrne | Ann Lyons |
| 4 th | €50 | Stephen Moore | Ann Byrne |

Thank you for your ongoing support

Registered Charity Number (RCN) 20200036

Parish Envelopes

The parish envelopes have gone out to Glenealy Church. If anyone is missing envelopes please contact the parish office.

Apologies for the delay.

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.....

We are indeed the light of the world-but only if our switch is turned on.

John Hager

ChristianQuotes.info



ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

The Presentation of the Lord -Year C

2nd February 2025

RCN 20016166



Gospel Reflections Faith beyond words Fr. John Littleton

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which occurs forty days after our celebration of the birth of Jesus at Christmas. The feast is also known as Candlemas Day because the blessing and procession of candles is included in the Mass. Jesus Christ is the light of the nations, 'the light to enlighten the pagans' (Lk 2:32). That is why we have the blessing and procession of candles on this day.

The Presentation of the Lord brings to an end the celebration of the Nativity – although Christmas officially ends with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In obedience to the Law, as was customary with first-born male children, Jesus was presented in the Temple in Jerusalem by his mother, Mary, and his foster father, Joseph.

Through the prophecies of Simeon and Anna, Jesus was revealed and acknowledged as the Messiah. A similar acknowledgement had occurred when the wise men knelt in adoration during their visit to the newborn infant Jesus (see Mt 2). Over the preceding centuries, many prophets had longed to see the Messiah. But they had died without realising their greatest desire. Simeon and Anna were truly blessed to meet the Saviour of the world, even if the meeting was tinged with sadness because of their predictions about the future events in his life. We too are blessed because we are privileged to know that we have been saved from the consequences of our sins.

Simeon and Anna used their time well because they spent most of it in the Temple praising God. There is an important lesson here for us. It is relatively easy to spend time in God's presence – simply because God is always with us. We are not required to be in the Temple or in a church or in another designated sacred space. We can be in God's presence wherever and whenever we choose and, enlivened and encouraged by God's presence, we can be witnesses to Jesus Christ who is the light of the world.

The tradition of lighting candles in our homes as a sign that Christ is the light of the world is one practical custom that we could easily initiate to focus our attention on him being at the centre of this wonderful feast and at the centre of our lives. Finally, on today's feast, all families can learn the value of giving thanks to God for the gift of children and can seek his blessing on their lives and work. Enlightened by the brightness of Christ, let us re-dedicate ourselves to God, confident that he never abandons us.

My eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel. (Lk 2:30-32)



ASHFORD & GLENEALY ~ PARISH - CONTACTS

FR EAMONN CROSSON 0404 40540

www.stmantan.ie parishofficewicklow@gmail.com

PARISH OFFICE WICKLOW 0404 -61699

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

For all enquires and bookings

Your Church needs you ...

Do you attend Mass?

Do you like to read?

We would like to add to our teams of Ministers of the Word in both churches.

If you think you can help out please contact the parish office on 0404-61699 and leave your name and contact details.

| | This week we remember | Next week we remember |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| SATURDAY 6.00pm ASHFORD | NO MASS | Elizabeth Esmonde Nora Taylor (both MM) |
| SUNDAY 10.30am GLENEALY | Dick Fitzpatrick (1st A) | NO MASS |

ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH 26th January 2025

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|---------|
| ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION | - goes towards maintaining our parish | - € 65 |
| 1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND | - pays salaries of Priests of Diocese | - € 190 |
| 2ND COLLECTION / SHARE FUND | - goes towards Diocesan Administration | - € 195 |
| MAINTENANCE | - goes towards Parish upkeep | - € 50 |

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: Isaiah 6:1-2, 3-8

PSALM: 137

SECOND READING: Corinthians 15:1-11

GOSPEL: Luke 5:1-11

Baptism in the St. Mantan Pastoral Area

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

Next Ashford Meeting is on

Please ring the Parish Office (0404-61699) to confirm your attendance at this meeting.

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

Mass Schedule B and C.

Mass Schedule B

Weekend 25/26 January // Weekend 8/9 February

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------|------------|-----------------------|
| Ashford Vigil Mass | 6.00pm | (Saturday) | NO MASS in Glenealy |
| Wicklow Vigil Mass | 6.00pm | (Saturday) | |
| Kilbride | 9.00am | (Sunday) | NO MASS in Barndarrig |
| Wicklow | 10.30am | (Sunday) | |
| Wicklow | 12.00pm | (Sunday) | NO MASS in Rathnew |
| Brittas Bay | 12.00pm | (Sunday) | |

Mass Schedule C

Weekend 18/19 January // Weekend 1/2 February // Weekend 1/2 March

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|------------|------------------------|
| Wicklow Vigil Mass | 6.00pm | (Saturday) | NO MASS in Ashford |
| Barndarrig Vigil Mass | 7.30pm | (Saturday) | |
| Rathnew | 9.00am | (Sunday) | NO MASS in Kilbride |
| Wicklow | 10.30am | (Sunday) | |
| Glenealy | 10.30am | (Sunday) | NO MASS in Brittas Bay |
| Wicklow | 12.00pm | (Sunday) | |