

ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
Third Sunday of Advent -Year C
Gaudete (Rejoicing) Sunday
15th December 2024

RCN 20016166



Gospel Reflections Brings Out Our Best Donal Neary SJ

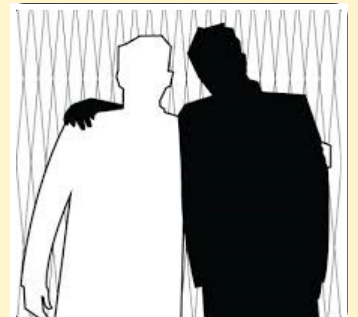
This mid-point of Advent alerts us to issues of justice and equality. The prophet **J**ohn has been asked as a sort of trick by people who exploited others with tax bills, and soldiers who often used their brute force on others how they should repent. His words were tough but quite ordinary ~ don't overcharge, ~ share your surplus with the needy ~ and don't exploit people. It's another, but more figurative way, of stating the basic demands of 'Love one another'.

Christmas can bring out the best in us to care for the needy. We are surrounded by charities looking for aid. We know that **J**esus hears the cries of the poor, and he joins every carol singing group trying to help.

Christmas also asks us to consider our honesty and integrity, for we know that many are poor, at home and abroad, because of the greed of others. **C**hristmas is a reminder and a challenge that all can live with the dignity we have come to regard as human rights - education, safety, shelter, food, water, employment, freedom.

The Christ child who was born poor represents all the poor of the world, especially children. As he was born ordinary, he represents that **G**od who meets, greets and helps us in the ordinary aspects of life. The one who is to come is the one who will live and love according to these truths of human dignity and equality.

*Come, Lord Jesus, child of the earth, child of God.
Come into our world of joy and sorrow.
Stay with us always,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*



ASHFORD & GLENEALY ~ PARISH - CONTACTS

FR EAMONN CROSSON 0404 40540

www.ashfordglenealyparish.ie parishofficewicklow@gmail.com

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	Paul Maguire (1st A)	Ronnie and Terri Connolly, Seamus Darcy, Freddy McGowan
SUNDAY 10.30am GLENEALY		

ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH

8th December 2024

ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION	- goes towards maintaining our parish	- € 85
1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND	- pays salaries of Priests of Diocese	- € 5
2ND COLLECTION / SHARE FUND	- goes towards Diocesan Administration	- €
MAINTENANCE	- goes towards Parish upkeep	- € 20

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: Micah 5:1-4

PSALM: 79

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10

GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-44

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 CAROL SERVICE BY CANDLELIGHT

Our annual Christmas Carol Service will be on Sunday 15th December at 4pm in St Patrick's Church.



This has become a very popular part of our Christmas schedule and is a lovely way to lead into Christmas week.

Our Hospitality Group will be on hand in the De la Salle Pastoral Centre with the mulled wine and mince pies after the service.

*Why not take a little time out and join us?
Everybody is very welcome!*

An event poster for a winter solstice celebration. The background shows a building at night with lights. The text is white and yellow on a dark background.

An Tairseach
SATURDAY
21ST DECEMBER 2024
4PM - 5:30PM
CELEBRATION OF WINTER SOLSTICE
THIS EVENT IS FREE OF CHARGE
CELEBRATION FOLLOWED BY SEASONAL REFRESHMENTS
WWW.ANTAIRSEACH.IE/EVENTS/EVENTS-CALENDAR
AN TAIRSEACH ORGANIC FARM & ECOLOGY CENTRE
KILMANTIN HILL, WICKLOW TOWN, A67 YX26
INFO@ANTAIRSEACH.IE 0404 61833

A book cover featuring a young man in a red jacket and sunglasses standing in a field. The text is in white and black.

GOD'S INFLUENCER
A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF
CARLO ACUTIS
MICHAEL COLLINS

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.

Now available to buy in the Parish Office, costing €10
BI Carlo Acutis to be Canonized April 25-27, 2025
at the Jubilee of Teenagers.



**Unit 2, First Floor,
Rear of Boots Pharmacy,
Abbey Street, Wicklow**

*Have you, or a family member,
been diagnosed with Cancer?*

*We're here to help -
All our services are free of charge*

0404 32696 or 086 821 6694

Email info@wicklowcancersupport.ie

Open: Mon-Fri: 10.00-5.00.
Closed for lunch 1-2p.m.

**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.....

.....

.....

When we seek to
discover the best in
others, we somehow
bring out the best in
ourselves.

– William Arthur Ward