

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Wicklow & Rathnew

RCN 20016166

Third Sunday of Lent -Year C

23rd March 2025



Gospel Reflection Donal Neary SJ

God of the Second Chance: Consider The fig tree

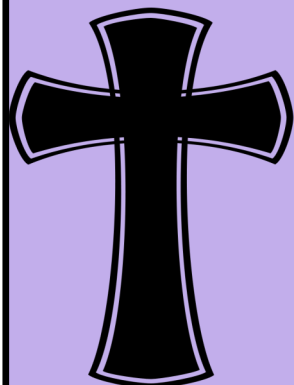
This seems a rather strange story about Galileans being killed by Pilate. They were no greater sinners than others, but people thought they were being punished by God. Jesus asks us to repent, but does not punish the sinner. Repent is the word of Lent - and followed by the invitation to believe the good news of the gospel.

A fig tree had three years to get good. It is a precious tree because it uses little water. This one has not produced its fruit. Is God the one to get rid of the tree or the one to give it another chance? **God is the God of the *second chance all the time.***

He never gives up on his love! We may need to give God another chance. We know we get angry at times. People find that many good things can happen even in bad times. Let's have that faith and pray for it. God gives us chance after chance in our lives, as He wants our faith in him to grow.

We ask also that we now give the Church another chance. So this is a day of more chances, that life never folds up. We need to return more and more to the gospel and the goodness of so many people, which will lead us in our Church communities to Christ. We do not belittle some terrible things that happened, nor lessen our care for those abused, but ask to take a deeper step to the God who is the one giving and asking us for another chance!

*Renew us O Lord in love,
in hope and in joy
in your care for us.*



Sincere sympathies to the families of

Mark Conlon late of Glenview Rd

Marie Dunne late of Mount Carmel Avenue

Mass Intention List

This Weekend ~ 22nd & 23rd March 2025

- 6.00pm** Everett Kavanagh - who's Ashes will be present at this Memorial Mass, Deirdre O'Reilly (Birthday Remembrance), Helen Hennessy (RD), Mary Finlay (A), Timmy & Lily Kelly (A), Leonard & Anne Kelly (A), Sid, Cís, Anne & Helen Dunne (A) John Bunn, (A) Kevin Kearns (A)
- 9.00am** Grainne Kavanagh RD
- 10.30am** John Timmons (A), Jack Hagan (A) Dick & Teresa Turner & deceased members of the Turner & O'Donnell Families
- 12.00pm** Mary Malone & Michael Knowles (both MM), Margaret Ring - 1st Anniversary, Special Intention, Yvonne Cummins (A) Arthur Delahunt (A),

24th ~ 28th March 2025

- Monday** Funeral Mass of Mark Conlon RIP
- 7.00pm** Denis Ronan (A)
- Tuesday** Dorothy Sweeney (A)
- 7.00pm** Sarah Quinn (A)
- Wednesday** John Sillery
- Thursday** Special Intention
- Friday** Jimmy Cleary

Next Weekend ~ 29th & 30th March 2025

- 6.00pm** Aidan & Rose O'Rourke (A)
- 9.00am** Denis Ronan (A)
- 10.30am** Josephine Carragher, Maureen O'Brien (Ann. & Birthday Rem)
- 12.00pm**

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS FOR WICKLOW & RATHNEW:

16th March 2025

ENVELOPE/CHURCH COLLECTION	- goes towards maintaining our parish	€1845
1ST COLLECTION /COMMON FUND	- pays salaries of Priests of Diocese	€2405
2ND COLLECTION/SHARE	- goes towards Diocesan Administration	€1905

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: Joshua 5: 9-12

PSALM: 33: 2-7

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3,11-32

Baptisms 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



Please note : The next meeting will be on Thursday, 10th April 2025, at 8pm in the De La Salle Pastoral Centre



Society of St Vincent de Paul

QUARTERLY COLLECTION.

The quarterly Church Door collection will take place on the weekend of 29th /30th March.

Your support to this collection would be very much appreciated.

EASTER NOVENA CARDS

There are a beautiful arrangement of Easter Novena cards at €5 each, now available in the Parish Office. These are suitable for both the living and the dead and the names will be remembered in nine Masses over the Easter Season.

There are also Easter - I lit a candle cards available for €2 which are also a lovely way to remember someone over the season.

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



Journeying with Jesus through the lenten Sunday Gospels
join us on any or every Wednesday evening to reflect and
pray the Lenten Sunday Gospels

Where? 'An Tairseach', Dominican Ecology Centre

What time? 7.30pm - 8.40pm

When? Wednesday evenings

- Wednesday - March 5th (Ash Wednesday)
- Wednesday - March 12th
- Wednesday - March 19th
- Wednesday - March 26th
- Wednesday - April 2nd
- Wednesday - April 9th

Join us for a cuppa afterwards - if you would like!

**Wicklow Historical Society
presents:**

**Wicklow Through the Ages -
Well-known personalities in
Wicklow Town in the late
19th and early 20th
centuries - Part 2
by
Brian White**

**De La Salle Pastoral Centre
Tuesday, 25th March
@ 8pm**

LOURDES ANNUAL COLLECTION

**Will be held on the weekend of the
5th/6th April after all Masses. This
collection goes towards helping a
person / family who may need extra
help to get to / or while in Lourdes.
Your support for this collection
would be very much appreciated.**

GROW run peer support groups in Wicklow on a Wednesday afternoon at 2.30 to 4.30 in De La Salle Parish Centre.

They are self referral and no charge for anyone struggling with depression, anxiety, low mood or just the stresses of life. They offer a tried and tested method of self help and personal growth. Experience new hope and meaning through working on issues together in a peer support setting

MEETINGS ARE CONFIDENTIAL. Ring Trish for further info on 086 0129 082

And see Grow.ie to listen to stories of Hope and Recovery.

Congratulations to all couples planning their marriage.

Don't forget to give 3 months notice to the parish where you live.

Your local parish is responsible for organising the paperwork necessary for the Sacrament of Marriage irrespective of where the wedding will take place.

Be sure to get in touch with the Parish Office to make arrangements to complete wedding papers at least 3 months before the date of the proposed wedding.



Bethany
Bereavement Support

The death of a loved one can be an overwhelming and isolating experience but you don't have to face it alone.

National Bereavement Support for Adults

The Bethany Bereavement Support Group offers a safe, compassionate space where you can share your grief and find comfort among others who understand. Our trained listeners provide emotional, practical support to help you navigate this difficult time.

Whether you need to talk, to be listened to or simply be present, Bethany is here for you. Our help is confidential and free.

You are very welcome to join us at one of our meetings. We meet at 8pm on the last Tuesday of every month in the De La Salle Centre in Wicklow. You can call or text us at 086 8359 148

You are not alone - we are here for you.



Wishing all the girls & boys from St Patrick's School & Holy Rosary School who will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation next Tuesday 25th March & next Friday 28th March respectively. We hope the families all have a very enjoyable day celebrating this special time in their child's life. Many thanks to their teachers and the parish co-ordinators for all the hard work and great effort, that they have put in during the past few months.

WHAT ARE THE MASS COLLECTIONS FOR?

THE FIRST COLLECTION/COMMUN FUND

The First Collection is also known as the Common Fund. This was set up years ago in order that all priests got a fair share of the collection regardless of the size or wealth of the parish that they are working in. It also supports the priests of the Diocese, who are sick and retired. Christmas/Easter & Summer Dues are lodged directly into this fund. This fund has been declining over the past few years which means that priests incomes have also been declining.

THE SECOND COLLECTION/ SHARE

The Share Collection is for the Diocesan building fund which helps to subsidise projects in some very poor parishes. It gives financial assistance to parishes who wouldn't have the necessary income to maintain their buildings. It also funds the central services of the diocese which looks after 199 parishes. The money for this collection is also lodged directly to the Diocese.

THE WEEKLY ENVELOPES & STANDING ORDER / PLANNED GIVING COLLECTION

This collection funds the parish. It pays for the day to day expenses of running the Parish as well as maintaining the Churches, our Parish Centre and the Priests houses. You may contribute to the Parish by weekly envelope, Direct Debit/Standing order or annual donation. If you have thought about contributing to the Parish regularly - please arrange for a box of envelopes or a Direct Debit form to be sent to you by ringing the parish office on 61699.

TAX RELIEF SCHEME

The Tax Relief Scheme for donations to Eligible Charities is of immense benefit to the Parish. It is a very simple but effective way of increasing revenue, whereby the parish can claim back the tax paid on any recorded contributions of €250 or more per annum. Many people have already signed up for this and it has made a big difference to parish income. If you have not already done so, perhaps you would consider signing up for it now. Full details are available on the parish website or from the office.

As the church is registered as a charity, any contribution of €250 or more (which is €5 a week), allows the parish to claim back up to 40% of that, which is approx. €100, where applicable. However, we do have to be able to link the donations to a donor which is where the envelopes/Direct Debit/Standing Orders becomes important. The only information that is required from the contributor is - name, address, PPS number and a signature. Please be assured that any information received will be treated with the of confidence and that there is NO involvement at all from any tax officials. If you pay income tax and if you have contributed €250 or more to the Dues and Family Offering, the Parish can claim back the tax on your donation at no cost whatsoever to the contributor. Please be assured that the parish staff do not have any access to any personal details of any parishioner signing up to this scheme. It is totally confidential.

Please note that cash placed in the collection baskets does not qualify for Tax Relief as it cannot be traced back to a donor and is therefore added to the Diocesan 1st & 2nd collections

A sincere thanks to all parishioners who continuously support the parish through their contributions and to those who have signed up to the CFY3 scheme and we look forward to your continued support in the future.

LOURDES



LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

Wicklow Rathnew

26 August 2025

7 Nights

€1,095 per person sharing

- » Direct return flights from Dublin to Lourdes
- » 20kg bags included
- » Return Airport Transfers in Lourdes
- » 7 nights accommodation in La Solitude Hotel
- » Full Board: breakfast, lunch & dinner each day
- » Full religious programme including Anointing of the Sick, Torchlight Procession, Blessed Sacrament Procession & International Mass
- » Visit Places associated with the life of St. Bernadette including a guided tour of Lourdes and Bartres

For information please contact:

Nancy Colgan

Telephone: 086 1099112

Email: cncolgan@gmail.com

Carol Kavanagh

Telephone: 086 0601956

Email: carol.kavanagh2@gmail.com



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 COPD GROUP

**COPD Exercise class to help
improve your breathing every
Monday in the De La Salle
Pastoral Centre.**

**Fully qualified Instructors
Further information from
Denis Teevan on 086 8174 703**

You're not alone

Drink problem? We get it...



AA Open Meeting

Last Friday of Every Month

20:30-21:30
Kilcoole Community Centre
A63 X862

All Welcome!

www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie
01 842 0700

Alcoholics Anonymous

> www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie

> 01 842 0700 (ROI) / 028 90 351 222 (NI)

> gso@alcoholicsanonymous.ie



Scan for more
information

All enquiries are treated in the strictest confidence

**Please note that the DONATE
button on the pastoral website
is not working correctly.**

**We are working on this and
hope that it will be back work-
ing soon.**

Apologies for any



Many thanks to the sponsor of our newsletter
McCrea's Funeral Home, Dublin Road,
Phone 0404 69000, 24 hours
www.mccrea.ie - info@niallmccrea.com

Parish Lotto Results for 20/ 03 / 2025

NO JACKPOT WINNER THIS WEEK



The winner of the €50 weekly raffle prize is:

Elaine McDonald

Next Week's Jackpot will be: € 1,650

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr Aquinas Duffy : 0404 67196 // Fr Gerard Deegan : 0404 67133

Parish Office: 0404 61699

parishofficewicklow@gmail.com

Office opening time Monday - Friday: 10am – 12.30pm

For all enquires and bookings

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 Parish Office or Sacristy

Name.....

Contact Number.....

Address.....

**I thank God for
always giving me
Another chance
Amen**

