

PARISH NEWSLETTER

5th February 2023

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A

Wicklow & Rathnew
RCN 20016166



Gospel reflection Donal Neary Salt for the Eucharist

In Galilee around the time of Jesus, there was a flourishing fishing industry. Peter, James and John were part of it, and they were big-time fishermen. Fish from Galilee went all over the then known empire, and to Rome along the trade route, which went through Galilee. It was kept fresh, as much food was, as we kept food fresh for years before freezers - by salting it. The word of God is kept fresh within us by prayer; otherwise our Christian life may become weak and tasteless.

A big food of Jesus is the Eucharist. His bread of life can go stale unless we 'salt' it. We salt the Eucharist by our lives. We keep the Mass alive by the way we live.

The Eucharist is entrusted to us. God gives us his Son, his food, and leaves it to us how we live by it.

Jesus invites us to be the 'salt of the earth' - to be people whose lives are centred on helping others and making the places around us places of kindness, compassion, hope, fun and life. We don't say 'You're salt of the earth', if someone just receives communion. We are the salt of the earth if we live out our communion. The bread of Jesus is salted with the goodness of men and women, young and old, everywhere.

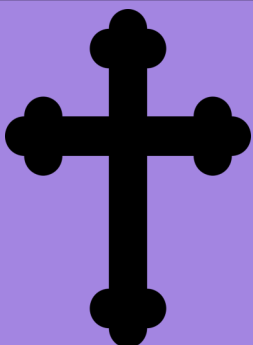
Our response then links in with the first reading - if we feed, shelter, clothe and help our neighbour, we are 'the light that rises in the darkness'.

*Recall when you helped someone recently.
Give thanks you could do this.
Lord may your kingdom come in every part of the world.*

The real evidence for Jesus and Christianity is in how Jesus and the Christianity based on him manifest themselves in the lives of practicing Christians.

Lionel Blue

Quote-ix.com



Sincere sympathy to the family of ...

Michael Barry late of Glebemount

Mass Intention List



This Weekend ~ 4th & 5th February

- 6.00pm** Michael Fitzgerald - 1st Anniversary, Jim & Mary Fitzgerald, William & Bridget Kilbride, Billy Earls, Pat O'Rourke, Mary Fitzgerald nee Merrigan
- 7.00pm** *Nan Quinn (A) & her brother John Quinn*
- 10.00am** Dick & Teresa Turner & deceased members of the Turner & O'Donnell families
- 11.30am** Noel Murphy, Carmel Wyatt, John Dunne & deceased members of the Dunne & Kirwan families, Rose Flaherty

6th February - 10th February

- Monday** Gillian Stanley - BR, Pauline Hoyle
- 7.00pm** **NO MASS BANK HOLIDAY**
- Tuesday** Teresa Aherne RD
- 7.00pm** *May Bennett RD*
- Wednesday** Maura O'Brien RD
- Thursday** Kathleen Newsome RD
- Friday** Beth Stone RD

Next Weekend ~ 11th & 12th February

- 6.00pm** Pauline Doyle - nee Carroll - Months Mind, Valerie Manns - 1st Anniversary, Paddy Quinn, Peter & Annie Vickers
- 7.00pm** *Anne McDonald, Anthony Doyle*
- 10.00am** Áine Chambers, Patrick O'Connor, Gary & Susan Turner & deceased members of the Turner & Byrne families
- 11.30am** May Rice - Months Mind
Michael Murphy, Edward Marah



Any parents who wish to have a child baptised are asked to attend an introductory meeting before booking a date for the baptism. At this meeting you will be given all the necessary information about the Sacrament of Baptism and the commitment required of the parents who request it for their child.

The next meeting will be on

THURSDAY - 9TH FEB. AT 8PM

IN THE PARISH CENTRE

Please contact the parish office for more information

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS FOR WICKLOW & RATHNEW:

29th JANUARY 2023

ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION - goes towards maintaining our parish - € 2165
1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND - pays salaries of Priests of Diocese - € 1365
2ND COLLECTION / SHARE FUND - goes towards Diocesan administration - € 1000

Many thanks for your continued support.



NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS - 12TH FEBRUARY 2023

First Reading : Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 118: 1-2, 4-5,, 17-18, 33-34

Second Reading : 1 Corinthians 2: 6-10

Gospel: Matthew 5: 17-37

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

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr Donal Roche : 0404 67196

Fr Pat O Rourke: 0404 67133

Parish Office: 0404 61699

parishofficewicklow@gmail.com

Website: work in progress

Office opening times

Monday - Friday:

10am – 12.30pm

For all enquires and bookings



PARISH PRAYERS FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

To pray for peace and to end the conflict in Ukraine. This will take place on Saturdays at 3pm in St Patricks Church. The Rosary and some peace prayers will be recited. All are very welcome to come along on the day or call 087 6955 555 for more information.

CHY3 FORMS have been sent out to Parishioners whose forms are currently out of date. If you haven't received one - your form is still valid, and you will automatically receive a new one when its necessary. If you have received one - we would be very grateful if you could return it as soon as possible as we need to have a current and up to date form to comply with regulations and to be able to claim the tax back. Forms can be left in the office/sacristy or given to either of our priests.

The Pope's Intention for February

For parishes - We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.



WICKLOW CANCER SUPPORT

UNIT 2, FIRST FLOOR,
REAR OF BOOTS PHARMACY ABBEY
STREET, WICKLOW
0404 32696 OR 086 821 6694

WE ARE A VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION
SET UP OVER TEN YEARS AGO TO
ASSIST THOSE HAVING TREATMENT
FOR CANCER IN EVERY WAY POSSIBLE

WE HAVE VARIOUS OTHER SERVICES
AVAILABLE IF YOU NEED TO CONTACT
US.

GROW MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUP

every Wed afternoon at 2.30pm for
anyone struggling with depression
or anxiety or just the stresses of
life. Experience new hope and
meaning through working on issues
together in a peer support setting.
Call Trish Williams on 086 0129082
for more information or just turn up
at the Wicklow Parish Centre.
Small donations for group running
costs are welcome.

DIARY DATES: February

- 1st: St Brigid's Day
- 2nd: Candlemass Day
- 3rd: St Blaise - Blessing of the Throats
- 5th: Baptisms - Wicklow
- 9th: Baptism meeting
- 11th: World Day of the Sick
- 12th: Accord Dublin
(Catholic Marriage Care Service)
- 14th: St Valentine's Day
- 22nd: Ash Wednesday
- 25th: Baptisms in Rathnew

PARISH OFFICE

*The Parish Office is located in
the De La Salle Pastoral
Centre and is open Monday
through to Friday from 10am
till 12.30 pm for all general
parish enquiries, to book
masses / baptisms / weddings,
to drop in envelopes, buy
mass cards etc .
Contact number 61699.*

**PLEASE NOTE There is
no Mass in Rathnew on Bank
Holiday Monday 6th February.**

**Any notices for the newsletter
need to be with the Parish
Office by 12 noon on
Wednesdays.**

BUILDING HOPE IN PARISH PARTNERSHIPS



As part of the Building Hope process of planning for the future of the diocese, Archbishop Farrell recently announced a Parish Partnership plan whereby all the parishes in the diocese would be asked to work in collaboration with their neighbours, sharing resources and working together in carrying out the mission of the church.

The partnership in this area will consist of the three parishes of Wicklow / Rathnew / Ashford / Glenealy and Kilbride / Barndarrig/ Brittas Bay.

What it means is that the priests of these three parishes are asked to work together with the Pastoral Councils and parishioners to work out the best way to share resources in order to ensure that we will be able to continue celebrate our faith through the liturgy and pass on the faith to future generations through evangelisation and preparation for the celebration of the sacraments.

Parishes are not being closed and are not being amalgamated. Each parish will retain its own identity with its own pastoral council and finance committee but we are asked to work together on joint projects such as preparation for sacraments, baptismal teams and funeral ministry teams.

With fewer priests available, there will be a need to revise the Mass schedule in the coming months. There will also be opportunities for parishioners to be trained to take on new roles so that we can truly work together in Building Hope for the future.

It is a time of great challenge but it is also a great opportunity for all of us who love the church and are committed to our faith to build something new and create hope for future generations.

The Wicklow Deanery Partnerships are :

Deanery: Wicklow

1: Wicklow / Rathnew / Kilbride / Barndarrig / Brittas Bay / Ashford / Glenealy

2: Rathdrum / Roundwood / Glendalough

3: Arklow / Castletown / Avoca / Aughrim

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 CHY3 scheme and we look forward to your continued support in the future.

Active Retirement Activities & Trips

Now with 105 members, we are one of the largest Groups in Ireland

We are back on Tuesdays, from 10.45am till 1.00pm

Line Dancing 12 noon

Valentines Day Dance on Sunday 12th February in the Pastoral

Centre from 3pm till 5.30pm. Admission €10, raffle & spot prizes.

Follow us on our facebook page: **Wicklow Active Retirement**

If you would like to join active retirement or find out more, please do feel free to ring Pam on 087 227 6760

You will be sure of a Céad Míle Fáilte

Scoil Mhuire Réalt na Mara, Brittas Bay

Scoil Mhuire Réalt na Mara (Brittas Bay MXD N.S.), Brittas Bay is enrolling for Junior Infants from January 23^r – February 10th inclusive.

Enrolment Forms for Admission for September 2023 are available on our website: www.brittasbayns.com.

Application Forms are also available by emailing brittasbaynationalschool@gmail.com

or phoning

Scoil Mhuire Réalt na Mara on 0404 47488.

WICKLOW SAVINGS CLUB -
is open on Monday
afternoons at 1.30pm, in
the De La Salle Parish
Centre.

This is a great way to save
a little bit every week for
Christmas.

Everyone is welcome to
join this savings scheme.

There is a €10 fee
to cover the bank
charges on the
account.



Scripture Reflection
Making time to pause & reflect
with others on the Sunday
Gospels, on Wednesday
mornings from 10.45am till
12noon in the Dominican
Ecology Centre. Tea & coffee
is provided and everyone is
very welcome to join us.

WEEKLY PARISH LOTTO RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS

DEIRDRE GILL

3rd Feb 2023: €50 winner 3, 7, 13, 15

Please collect your winnings from the Parish Office.

There are still some unclaimed weekly raffle prizes waiting to be collected in the office.

JACKPOT IS €5000

Remember...if you aren't in you can't win!

Join by texting the word WICKLOW to 51444

or go to the website : www.ourparishfundraiser.ie/parish/wicklow

Bayside Alpha

are running a free 7-week Zoom course on **Discovering a Deeper Relationship with the Holy Spirit**. The course starts on Wednesday the 1st of February 2023 at 7.30pm and features Franciscan Friar, Fr Dave Pivonka, and other speakers. It consists of a one hour weekly meeting on Zoom which includes a video presentation, a time for sharing for anyone who wishes, and short Scriptures to reflect on at home.

The full course is 14 episodes but we are just doing the first seven and we will do the second half at a later stage if people wish. The trailer for the course is at <https://youtu.be/ptWtlhcRC9E>

The following themes are covered on the course: God's Love Poured Out, The Breath of God, Baptism in the Spirit, The Spirit and Our Lady, Gifts of the Holy Spirit, The Spirit and the Eucharist, The Spirit of Adoption.

If you would like to take part please email Paul at alphabayside@gmail.com

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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