

PARISH NEWSLETTER

7th May 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A

Wicklow & Rathnew
RCN 20016166



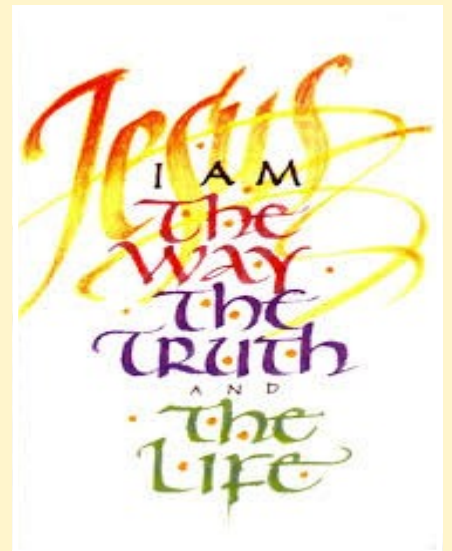
Gospel reflection Donal Neary *The Centre holds*

The gospel presents Jesus as the guide in life, the 'way, truth and life'. The Christian centre is the person of Christ. Our work for Jesus and our love for people, no matter what our calling in life, flow from this. Mother Teresa was once asked why she did what she did, and she simply said 'for Jesus'. This centre always holds, it cannot be unhinged. It is a deeply personal relationship: we are led by Jesus 'one by one', known by name, not as one of a group. We follow him as one we know, not a stranger.

We study his life and times, getting to know the places and events of his life, we become familiar with the gospels and get to know him in the heart. Prayer is the way of keeping our centre of conviction and motivation strong. Freedom grows and we begin to find him everywhere.

Different types of people and spirituality stress different aspects of Jesus. The Eastern approach to Jesus is very much the 'way'; while the African is the 'life'. The European stress is the 'truth'. In Europe we need to rediscover also the joy and vibrancy of the African and Latin American expressions of faith, and also the presence of God in all life's moods and journeys of the Indian and Eastern traditions. We can get so caught up in small or even big truths and doctrines that we miss other centres of faith. All faith needs the balanced approach to Jesus - way, truth and life. Recall people who guided you well in your life. Pray for them.

Jesus, our way - guide me in life;
Jesus, our truth - teach me your meaning of life;
Jesus, our life - love me always.



BLESSINGS OF THE GRAVES 2023

BARNDARRIG CEMETERY	~ TUESDAY 4TH JULY AT 7.30PM
THREE MILE WATER CEMETERY	~ MONDAY 10TH JULY AT 7.30PM
CASTLETIMON CEMETERY	~ MONDAY 17TH JULY AT 7.30PM
RATHNEW CEMETERY	~ WEDNESDAY 19TH JULY AT 7.30PM

Mass Intention List



This Weekend ~ 6th - 7th May

- 6.00pm** Joe Vickers - Months Mind, Timmy, Lily & Anne Kelly
Maggie & Ger Vickers
- 7.00pm** Anthony (Nip) Clare- Months Mind, Jordan Quinn (A)
- 10.00am** Tom Keogh
- 11.30am** Christine Roche - 1st Anniversary, Ann Roche,
May & William O'Neill, deceased members of the O'Brien
family, Liam & Teresa Whyte, Tom & Annette Delahunt
& their daughters Kathryn & Ashling, Mick Marah.

Please note that the Masses in green type are in St Joseph's Rathnew

8th - 12th May

- Monday** Bill Phillips
- 7.00pm** Special Intention
- Tuesday** Margaret & Denis Buckley & Fr Sean Buckley
- 7.00pm** Special Intention
- Wednesday** Owen Malone
- Thursday** Special intention
- Friday** Gareth Dunne (BR & A)

Next Weekend ~ 13th - 14th May

- 6.00pm** Joey (Joseph) Cullen— Months Mind, Cora Crennan,
Coley Murley & his parents Jim & Angela,
Teresa Kavanagh
- 7.00pm** Jim & Bernie Jacob
- 10.00am**
- 11.30am** Don Marah, Noleen Shortall, Winifred Lambert,
Martin Murphy, Eddie Hanlon - BR

Building Hope in Partnership

As part of the 'Building Hope' initiative that is taking place across the diocese, the Pastoral Councils of the three parishes in our grouping of Wicklow/ Rathnew, Ashford/ Glenealy and Kilbride/ Barndarrig took place recently. The priests and members of the three Parish Pastoral Councils attended and discussed hopes and fears for the partnership as we face the future.

The main items we were asked to consider were:

- ♦ What role can the pastoral councils play in working together to provide for the pastoral care of our different parish communities?
- ♦ How can we work towards a Partnership Council for the three parishes, so that there is a balance between the parish and the partnership?
- ♦ Mass schedules: how can we review this to ensure quality celebrations across the seven churches in the grouping?
- ♦ Baptism and Funeral ministry: sharing resources, more voluntary lay involvement.

From the list above, the most urgent item that needs attention is the Mass schedule and this is being looked at for our next meeting in mid-May. At present, we have ten weekend Masses between three priests and some of these are in a very tight time schedule – e.g. two 6pm Vigil Masses and two 7pm Vigil Masses.

The Archbishop has directed that no priest should be scheduled to have more than three weekend Masses, so we will need to drop at least one and rearrange the times of the others to allow enough time for the priests to travel between the different churches. These changes will be discussed and decided upon at the next joint meeting of the three councils and it is hoped that our new weekend schedule will be in operation by early June. We will look at the weekday Masses at a later date but there will be some changes there as well.

Thank you for your support and understanding as we plan for the future in our parish grouping.

Prayer for Vocations

O Jesus, send labourers into your fields, which are awaiting holy apostles, saintly priests, heroic missionaries and dedicated sisters and brothers.

**Enkindle in the hearts of men and women the spark of vocation Grant that Christian families may desire to give your Church helpers in the work of tomorrow.
Saint Joseph, pray for us.**

ROSARY RALLY

There will be Rosary around Our Lady's Grotto in St Patrick's Church in Wicklow on Saturday May 13th at 3pm.

Everyone is welcome to come along and join us for this occasion. Bring a candle along with you or there will be some available to purchase on the day

Archbishop's invitation to contribute to Lay Ministry Collection

In celebrating World Vocations Day last Sunday, we reminded ourselves to pray continuously for vocations to the priesthood, an urgent need in the Archdiocese today. An urgent need, too, is to find new ways for priests and people to work together in parishes. The time has come to commit ourselves to creative approaches that harness the time and talent lay people can make available and support them in developing their skills for use in the faith community.

The Lay Ministry Collection this weekend will therefore support the development of a variety of lay ministries, providing for more women and men to work alongside the priests and deacons. Our hope is that lay ministry will make a significant contribution to pastoral life into the future:

Working in parishes as part of a parish team

- Supporting and resourcing faith development
- Enabling people in parishes to work alongside each other to encourage renewal
- Helping people to find their place by actively participating together in the life of their parish
- Building teams to accompany the moments that matter, especially in sacramental preparation for baptism, communion and confirmation, as well as supporting families at funeral time.
- Building communities that are faith-filled, co-responsible, active in social justice, welcoming and inclusive.

The Spirit of God is always at work among us: just as the Spirit was present in Jesus on the Cross, so the Spirit is among the People of God in these difficult times. Together with priests, lay ministers are enabling a new way of being the Church that is building hope and a new future for the people of the Archdiocese.

I ask you to be generous in your giving to the Lay Ministry Collection this Sunday, aware that the pastoral needs of the diocese have changed and grown, as has the need for all kinds of lay ministries.

Working together, let us strive to 'put fresh heart' (Acts 14:21) into our faith communities, like Paul and Barnabas, encouraged by the hope we have in the Risen Lord and in the Spirit he sends to challenge and renew us.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR MOBILE PHONE IS SWITCHED OFF WHILE IN THE CHURCH.

Active Retirement Activities & Trips

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

Tuesdays, from 10.45am till 1.00pm/ Line Dancing 12 noon

Trip to Dail Eireann - Wed 17th May

Spring Holiday to North Wales 15th -19th May.

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
Pauline on 087 227 6760



PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023

Now taking bookings for this years pilgrimage which will be 19th - 23rd August costing €879 per person sharing. This Pilgrimage is open to all—not just parishioners, family and friends from other parishes are also very welcome.

Places are now limited and need to be booked as soon as possible!

This is a wonderful pilgrimage to do - with a fantastic mix of both spiritual and social occasions.

The price includes flight + 20k luggage and a very comfortable hotel, close to all the organised events with three meals a day with various choices - something to suit everyone. There is plenty of assistance and wheelchairs which are readily available for anyone with mobility issues.

There are some very special processions - the Torchlight Procession every evening, the Blessed Sacrament Procession to the underground Basilica, Mass for the Sick, the International Mass, private Mass for the Pilgrim groups in various different churches, and of course, Mass at the Apparition Grotto and the Stations of the Cross done at the Low Stations which is very much accessible to all. The High Stations are also available to anyone who likes a challenge.

Along with the processions and Masses there is a visit to the City of Bartres - where Bernadette lived in her early years, followed by a trip to the stunning Lourdes Lake for refreshments. A visit to the City of the Poor is a must and a cable car trip up the mountains (Pic de Jur) or a trip to Gavargny - another mountain trip - (small charge on those trips) are also available and a great way to view Lourdes. All of these are optional.

There are plenty of gift shops - which are all easily accessible, beautiful coffee shops for during the day and plenty of bars to socialise and get to know the group in the evenings. This is a very casual pilgrimage whereby you can join in with the organised events or do your own thing with no pressure on anyone.

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 - 11TH MAY AT
8PM
IN THE PARISH CENTRE



The Pope's Intention for May
For a culture of peace and non violence

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.



WEEKLY COLLECTIONS FOR WICKLOW & RATHNEW:

30th April 2023

ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION - goes towards maintaining our parish - €3435
1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND - pays salaries of Priests of Diocese - €1337
2ND COLLECTION / SHARE FUND - goes towards diocesan administration - €1060

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 : Acts 8: 5-8,14-17

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 65, 1-7, 16, 20

Second Reading : 1 Peter 15-18

Gospel : John 14: 15-21

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.



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

Phone 0404 32696 or 086 821 6694

Our office is open Mon-Fri
from 10.00 -1.00 and 2.00-5.00

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr Donal Roche : 0404 67196

Fr Pat O'Rourke: 0404 67133

Parish Office: 0404 61699

parishofficewicklow@gmail.com

**BBK Website: work
in progress**

Office opening times

Monday - Friday:

10am – 12.30pm

For all enquires and bookings

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. Please contact the office for all general parish enquiries / to book masses / weddings / to drop in envelopes/ buy mass cards etc. Contact number 61699.

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.

MEDJUGORJE



Pilgrimage to Medjugorje

**Group Leader: Marian O'Meara
Led by Fr Pat O'Rourke**

**11 October 2023
7 nights**

€799.00 per person

- » Return flights from Dublin Airport
- » Transfer to Medjugorje & return
- » 7 nights' accommodation close to St James Church
- » Breakfast & dinner each day
- » Full religious programme
- » Joe Walsh Tours Representative: Philip Ryan
- » Optional Travel Insurance
- » Single room supplement €154.00

For information please contact:
Marian O'Meara: 085 8031751

DIARY DATES: MAY

5th: Baptisms - Wicklow

7th: Collection to support lay ministry in
the Archdiocese

19th: Baptisms - Wicklow

21st: The Ascension of the Lord
World Communications Day

26th: Baptisms - Rathnew

28th: Pentecost Sunday

TROCAIRE BOXES

**All Trocaire boxes
can now be returned
to the Parish Office
during Office hours
- Monday—Friday
from 10am till
12.30pm.**



WEEKLY PARISH LOTTO RESULTS

Congratulations

PATRICK EGAN

4th May 2023: €50 raffle winner
Weekly winning numbers: 2, 12, 23, 29

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

A sincere "THANK YOU" to all who support this Lotto!

Please note the Parish Privacy Notice is currently under review. A new version will be published very soon. If you have any questions or require further information, please email Noelle Dowling at dataprotection@dublindiocese.ie.

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

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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A meaningful life

is not being rich, being popular, being highly educated, or being perfect. It's about being real, being humble, being able to share ourselves and touch the lives of others.

