

PARISH NEWSLETTER

17th September 2023

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Wicklow & Rathnew

RCN 20016166



Fr Donal Neary, S.J ~ Gospel Reflections for the Year of Matthew

Forgiveness

We are called to forgive; and that can be really difficult. You have been defrauded by the banks of your life's savings - can you forgive? You were abused as a child - can you forgive? You were done out of a job because another lied to get it - can you forgive? The answer is maybe 'no'. What then does God want? He asks us to open our hearts to the other so that we may forgive. Forgive-ness is the deepest of God's desires on our behalf, and he hopes that we can forgive each other.

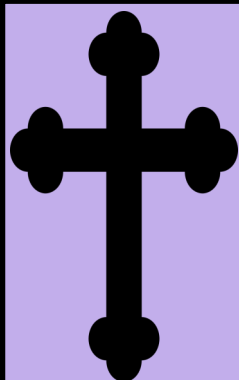
Our hurts and burdens are heavy to carry through life. To for-give can release some of that weight. The person who hurt us may be dead, or may not even know (or care) that we are hurt-ing. When we desire to forgive but don't know how, one way of looking for this strength is to pray for it. We often pray, '*Lord, make my heart like yours*'. When we pray that we are praying to be forgiving people!

Another way is to pray for the person. When we realise that as God loves me, he also loves everyone, we may find a spark or light of forgiveness in our souls. Out of this we may find the will to meet the other and talk to him or her, and find the grace of forgiveness between us.

Forgiveness sometimes comes slowly. When God sees us want-ing to be on the road to forgiveness, he gives us the graces we need to unburden ourselves and be able to love like him.

Sit in silence for a while, and send a blessing or prayer to someone you need to forgive.

Lord, I ask - make my heart like yours.



Sincere sympathy to the families of

Louis Carroll late of Dunbur Road

Evelyn Lalor late of Dunbur Park

May Kavanagh late of Wentworth Grove

Mass Intention List



This Weekend ~ 16th & 17th September

- 6.00pm** Jimmy Balbontin— Months Mind Mass,
Grainne O'Toole, Joe & Eileen Delaney, Lily Melia
- 9.00am** *Angela Fitzgerald (In Rem)*
- 10.30am** Pat Henry, Grainne Byrne, Patrick O'Donovan,
Bridie Ralph, Paula Tarrant
- 12.00noon** Martin Carr - Months Mind

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

18th - 22nd September

- Monday** Rita Byrne (In Rem)
- 7.00pm** *Fr Joseph McCarthy (In Rem)*
- Tuesday** Special Intention for Good results
- 7.00pm** *Parishioners Intentions*
- Wednesday** Georgina O'Donovan (In Rem)
- Thursday** Terry Cooney (In Rem)
- Friday** Judy Fleming (A)

Next Weekend ~ 23rd & 24th September

- 6.00pm** Esther Callaghan - Months Mind
Ann Moran - 1st Anniversary
- 9.00am**
- 10.30am** Stephanie Byrne & Roey Bouchier - both 1st anniversaries
William Sinnott
- 12.00noon** Noel Furlong, Christina Doherty & deceased
members of the Doherty families

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr Aquinas Duffy PP : 0404 67196

Fr Gerard Deegan CC: 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

The Pope's Intention for September

For people living on the margins:
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.



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

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 -12TH OCTOBER
AT 8PM
IN THE DE LA PARISH CENTRE

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

The parish offers Religious Education classes for Catholic children who are attending non Catholic Schools.

Parents who wish to present their child for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion & Confirmation are invited to enrol them for a two year programme of preparation.

Classes take place in the De La Salle Parish Centre in Wicklow -
3.20pm for First Holy Communion and 4.10pm for Confirmation classes.
These classes commence on Tuesday 19th September 2023.
Candidates can enrol on Tuesday before the class

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS FOR WICKLOW & RATHNEW:

10th September 2023

ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION - goes towards maintaining our parish - € 1770
1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND - pays salaries of Priests of Diocese - € 1205
2ND COLLECTION / SHARE FUND - go towards Diocesan Administration - € 860

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: 55 6-9

Psalm 144

Second Philippians

1: 20-24, 27

HONESTY POLICY, CARDS & CANDLES

We are introducing an Honesty Policy system to buy Mass Cards and candles in the Church after the weekend Masses. Initially there will be someone to help out with this.

The idea is that there will be envelopes left on a table on the Sacred Heart side of the Altar, black print for deceased and blue print for everything else, eg Get Well, Happy Birthday etc. You write the intentions name on the space on the front of the envelope enclose the €5 for the Mass card, and pop it into the letterbox on the door at the confession box.

The candles are now a new style and are €2 each - again the money can be put through the letterbox. Unfortunately there is no change facility, so please use the accurate amount of money.

This will be done for a trial period to see how it goes.

Full Mass Cards are still available in the Parish Office along with other stock, feel free to come in and have a look around.

Sacred Scripture

*Every Wednesday in the Dominican Ecology Centre
from 10.45am till noon.*

*We reflect on the following Sundays Gospel, by going
deeper into it. This helps us to live the word of God in
our daily lives.*

Everyone is very welcome to come along and try these sessions!

10.30AM WEEKLY FAMILY MASS



Family Mass will be resuming this weekend. We are really hoping that families will volunteer & participate in this Mass. We are looking for families to read, bring up the gifts and of course, to join in the singing and maybe even join the choir.

You would be most welcome.

Anyone who is interested, please come along to the practices at 9.45am on the Sunday mornings. Contact Katie on 086 409 4013 for more information.

CROSSCARE COLLECTION

On the weekend of **September 16 and 17**, Crosscare will hold its **Annual Appeal for Homeless Prevention Services**. This will replace the Share collection at all Masses. Crosscare seeks your support to prevent more people from losing their homes as the housing and accommodation crisis continues.

The number of people in emergency accommodation in Dublin is now well over 9,000; sadly, this includes almost 3,000 children. As well as providing residential homeless services, Crosscare is working with hundreds of families and individuals who are at risk of losing their existing accommodation. Please support the Crosscare collection if you can next weekend at all Masses in the Archdiocese, or you can donate online at www.crosscare.ie.

2023 Homeless Prevention Appeal

Help keep families out of homelessness by supporting Crosscare's Annual Appeal at all Masses on September 16th & 17th

crosscare.ie/donate

Unwanted Gift Sale

in aid of
St. Patricks Church, Wicklow
and
Wicklow Cancer Support



Coffee Morning
and Raffle

12th
Nov

Date: 12th November, 2023
Time: 10am to 2pm
Place: De la Salle Pastoral Centre
Wicklow Town

Pick up a Great Christmas Present and support
Wicklow Parish Church and Wicklow Cancer Support Services



Special Christmas
Room



Full of Decorations



COFFEE MORNING



In aid of
WICKLOW HOSPICE
on Saturday 23rd September
from 10am till noon,



in SOL Studio,
Quarantine Hill,
Wicklow

ALL WELCOME



PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023

I wasn't sure what to expect...and thanks to Storm Betty we had an exciting start to the trip as we had no electricity and found fallen trees on route to the 3am bus pick up. Getting through the airport however was more straightforward, due to great organization including the high vis vests we were provided. After a short flight and a very picturesque bus ride we arrived at Hotel La Solitude in perfect time for lunch.

Day 1: After lunch I went to explore the town and get my bearings. The town was very busy but easy to find my way around. There were no maps needed as following the crowds led me to the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes. Later I joined an introductory walking tour of the Sanctuary with Barra (our JWT rep) and then attended mass celebrated by Fr. Aquinas in the Poor Clare Church, a short walk from the hotel. After dinner most of the group went to the walk in the Torch Light Procession. The procession was so much bigger than I'd expected. Our group led the way with the beautiful banner. I never expected when we started walking that we would end up sitting on the steps to the right of the Basilica watching the lights of the torch light procession weave along while the huge crowd sang and raised their candles to 'Ave Maria'. It was a bit surreal and lovely to experience.

Day 2: The next morning we attended mass at the Grotto followed by the low stations of the cross led by Fr. Aquinas. After a group photo we visited the baths, a very peaceful and emotional experience where we were invited to wash our hands and face with and then drink Lourdes water. There was an option to go to a town called Gavarnie on a bus trip in the afternoon which I didn't opt for but instead spent some time with others on the trip and went for a coffee in one of the little cafes nearby. That evening I walked in the procession again, another lovely experience.

Day 3: In the morning I opted to join some others from the group to go to the Pic du Jer as I could see the illuminated cross up on the hill from my room in the hotel. We took a 100-year-old funicular train up to the top for some spectacular views of Lourdes. In the afternoon I went on the trip to Bartres, the place where St Bernadette lived as a child. We attended mass celebrated by Fr Aquinas and saw some of St Bernadette's handwriting from when she was learning to write. I didn't walk in the procession that evening, but instead watched some of the procession and went to light candles with some of the donation money from family and friends at home.

Day 4: I got up early to visit the Grotto and leave petitions from those at home in the intentions box. After breakfast we attended mass in the Poor Clare's church and then everyone went to see the parish candle being lit. We attended the Eucharistic procession in the underground Basilica in the afternoon. That night at the procession we got to carry the beautiful banner which is when I realized just how many people stop to take photos of it. It was very popular with everyone that passed by.

Day 5: I joined a few others from the group on the Little Tourist Train which brought on a 45-minute tour around Lourdes. It was the perfect way to see the areas of the town that we hadn't explored yet and I would definitely do some shopping in the markets the next time! Later we visited Cité Saint Pierre, where we attended mass and heard all about the work that is done by the volunteers who give their time to look after Pilgrims who come to stay there from all over the world. That evening we went to watch the procession rather than walk in it so that we could see it from a different perspective take in the whole beautiful sight.

The group was very welcoming, everyone was friendly and helpful giving tips if they had been there before. I liked that it was very clear what was on each day but there was no pressure to do everything. It was up to everyone to decide how they wanted to spend their time there. The hotel was beautiful, with comfortable rooms and plenty of food available in the buffet for every meal. For anyone who hasn't been to Lourdes I would really recommend it.

Marie

KNIT & STITCH CHAT GROUP

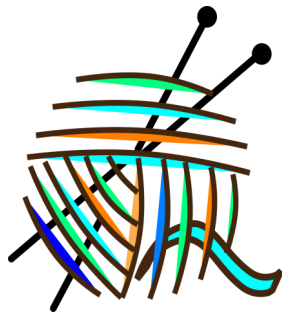
On Wednesdays from 2pm till 4pm
beginning on the 13th September.

This group work on their own projects
while helping others out.

This is an opportunity to take time out
and relax while getting to know people
over a cuppa and a
chat.

Facilitators: Sr Pauline
& Katherine Kavanagh

Donation of €5



GROW

mental
wellbeing
programs

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.

Active Retirement Activities & Trips

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

Tuesday morning meetings at 10.45am.

Mystery Tour on Wednesday 20th September

Holiday to Belfast on 16th October.

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

You will be sure of a Céad Míle Fáilte



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

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**

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

WEEKLY PARISH LOTTO RESULTS

Congratulations

ELAINE McDonald

14th September 2023: €50 raffle winner
Weekly winning numbers: 1, 14, 18, 29

Please call into the office to collect your prize.

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

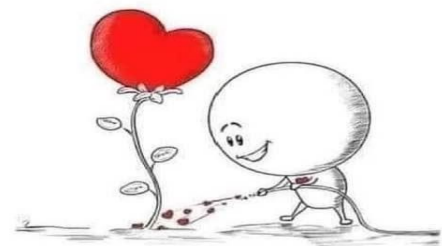
A sincere "THANK YOU" to all who support this Lotto!

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 our time on earth is done,
money or material things
will not matter. But the
love, time and kindness
we've given others will shine
and live on forever.

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