

PARISH NEWSLETTER

29th January 2023

Fourth Week in Ordinary Time, Year A

Wicklow & Rathnew
RCN 20016166



Gospel reflection *Day- to- day Compassion* Donal Neary

Today's gospel is described by Pope Francis

'This is the new law, the one we call "the Beatitudes."

It's the Lord's new law for us' (February 2016). It highlights attitudes of the heart rather than just a set of rules to be followed.

We do not stay just with the words of Jesus. His life and teaching was a commentary on this sermon. Jesus invites us to watch how the sermon is lived out in his life. All the qualities – being poor in the spirit, able to mourn our losses and work for peace – are qualities of the human person. This is how we know our need for God, our need for each other. Even in his risen life he was the humble one who could listen to the doubts of his disciples and guide them to further faith, each in his or her own way.

The church is called to live these qualities, which lead us to the compassion of Jesus and to bring compassion in our lives. Compassion and understanding come from listening deeply to others, especially their joys and sorrows.

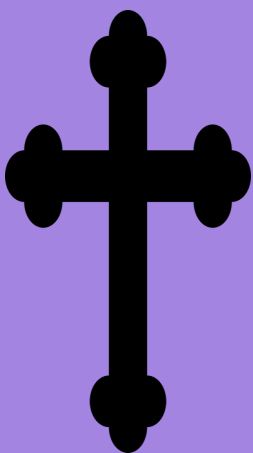
Compassion also grows in prayer – by asking for it, and by watching the compassion of Jesus in his life.

Someone working with young people once said that *'an ounce of compassion is worth a ton of exhortation.'* Marriage, friendship and family life are all enriched by the quality of compassionate listening.

*Some time today notice now you are feeling:
share that with Jesus in prayer.*

*Notice too how these feelings affect
how you are with others during the day.*

*Thank you, Lord, for your compassion for me in all
times of my life.*



Sincere sympathy to the families of ...

Billy Cullen late of St Mannan's Road

Adrian Healy late of Seaview Heights

Mary Brien late of Drumkay

Patricia Sullivan late of Glebemount

Mass Intention List



This Weekend ~ 28th & 29th January

- 6.00pm** Frank Whelan - Months Mind,
Margaret Hodgkinson, Rodney Hodgkinson BR,
Ann Byrne, Baby Matthew Eugene O Leary
- 7.00pm** Christy Murphy, Thomas & Margaret Murphy,
James & Margaret Murphy, Sarah Quinn BR
- 10.00am** Patrick & Bridget Mahon
- 11.30am** Norman Mason, George Cardiff

30th January - 3rd February

- Monday** Eddie Hanlon RD
- 7.00pm** Doreen Russell - Months Mind & 1st birthday away from home
- Tuesday** Patricia Byrne
- 7.00pm** Harriett Conoplia RD
- Wednesday** Vincent Dunleavy - 1st Anniversary, Katriona Maguire (A)
- Thursday** Leonard Kelly - RD
- Friday** Altar List of the Dead
- 7.00pm** Altar List of the Dead

Next 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**
- 11.30am** Noel Murphy, Carmel Wyatt, John Dunne & deceased members of the Dunne & Kirwin families



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: 22nd JANUARY 2023

ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION - goes towards maintaining our parish - € 2030
1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND - pays salaries of Priests of Diocese - € 1670
2ND COLLECTION / SHARE FUND - goes towards Diocesan administration - € 1300

Many thanks for your continued support.



NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS - 5TH FEBRUARY 2023

First Reading : Isaiah 58:7-10

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 111: 4-9

Second Reading : Corinthians 2: 1-5

Gospel: Matthew 5: 13-16

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 January

for true fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognised, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family



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.

PARISH COFFEE MORNING



*On Wednesday
1st February
St Bridget's Day
come along and join
fellow parishoners in
the Parish Centre
after Mass for tea /
coffee and a chat.*

No charge

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

St Brigid's Day: 1st February.

Born in Dundalk in 450 AD St Brigid was the founder of the first monastery in County Kildare, Ireland. Her father was a pagan chieftain of Leinster and her mother was a Christian. St Patrick inspired her to deepen her faith and spread the word of God.

St Brigid died at the age of 75 in AD 525 and was buried in the church she created. Her remains were exhumed years later and brought to Downpatrick to be buried alongside Saints Patrick and Columcille. However, her skull was brought to Lisbon where it remains today.

Patron Saint of Ireland

St Brigid is also known as Mary of the Gael or Muire na nGael aka Our Lady of the Irish. She is one of the Patron Saints of Ireland, along with St Patrick and St Columcille.

Taking a stand

When she was young, St Brigid wanted to join a convent however her father took a firm stand and insisted that she marry the wealthy man he had promised her to. The story goes that she asked for God's help to take away her beauty so that the man wouldn't want to marry her. Her wish was granted, her father caved and she joined the convent. Not only did her beauty return but apparently she was even more beautiful than ever. She called on God's help again to convince her father to give her land in Kildare to set up a convent. Her father said that he would only give her as much land as her cloak could cover. Silly man. With God's help, the cloak grew to cover acres of land.

The story of the Cross

St Brigid was by the sick bed of a dying pagan chieftain, possibly her father, soothing him with stories about her faith and her unwavering trust in God. She began telling the story of Christ on the Cross, picking up rushes from the ground to make a cross. Before his death, the chieftain asked to be baptised. Initially, legend has it, people used to make similar crosses to hang over the door of their homes to ward off evil, fire and hunger. Over time, word spread about St Brigid, her kindness, faith and the making of the cross became synonymous with her and the tradition now bears her name.

Candlemas Day: 2nd February

Candlemas is celebrated on 2 February and **marks the return of light, a symbol of protection and prosperity.** This Christian festival commemorates the presentation of Jesus at the Temple of Jerusalem, referring to him as the light of the people of Israel.

Saint Blaise: 3rd February

Saint Blaise was originally born in Sebastea. He preached Christianity in his home town and was well-known as a healer. He became famous for performing certain miracles such as helping the sick animals and people around his home town.

He is recognised as the saint of throat disease or 'The Blessing of the Throats' in the Roman Catholic Church. Saint Blaise Day is celebrated on the 3rd of February each year by Christians globally.

His most famous and memorable act was when he healed a young boy that choked on a fishbone. The boy was placed at the Saints feet by his mother, and he healed straight away! The governor, however, led him to jail due to his faith. The governor was unsuccessful in encouraging Saint Blaise to renounce his faith and therefore he beheaded him in 316 AD.

Crossed candles are an important part of Saint Blaise Day, they commemorate the mother of the boy who choked on the fishbone. She presented Saint Blaise with crossed candles to light his way to jail when the ruler of Sebastea ordered his arrest. The origin of the blessing of throats uses crossed candles as a symbol.

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

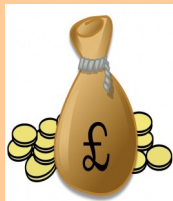
Scoil Mhuire Réalt na Mara on 0404 47488.

Meeting of Visually Impaired People in the Wicklow Town area on Tuesday 31st January in the Wicklow Library at 11 am.

There is no particular agenda for these meetings except to see what we can do to help each other. Earlier meetings have been very successful and all visually impaired people and their carers are welcome.

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 provided and everyone is welcome.

WEEKLY PARISH LOTTO RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS

COLETTE VERDES

26th Jan 2023: €50 winner 12, 13, 15, 19

*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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