

ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Fifth Sunday of Easter Year A

3rd May 2026

RCN 20016166

Donal Neary SJ Gospel Reflections for Year A: Matthew

The Centre Holds

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

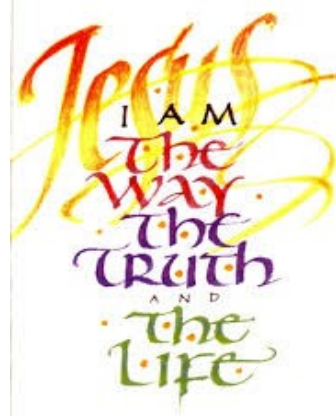
We study his life and times, getting to know the places and events of his life, we become familiar with the Gospels and get to know him in the heart. Prayer is the way of keeping our centre of conviction and motivation strong. Freedom grows and we begin to find him everywhere.

Different types of people/ spiritualities stress different aspects of **J**esus as a sign

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 re-discover 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 **J**esus - 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.



Sincere sympathies to the families of

Peter Byrne Ashford, Wicklow

	This week we remember	Next week we remember
SATURDAY 6.00pm ASHFORD	Patrick Ferguson 1st Anni	
SUNDAY 10.30am GLENEALY		Sarah Dunne 1st Anni.

ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH

26th April 2026

ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION	- goes towards maintaining our parish	- €250
1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND	- pays salaries of Priests of Diocese	- €370
2ND COLLECTION/SHARE	- goes towards Diocesan Administration	- €245
MAINTENANCE	- goes towards Parish upkeep	- €80

Many thanks for your continued support.

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: Thursdays at 9am



If you would like to reflect on next Sundays Readings,
please check...

FIRST READING: Acts 8: 5 - 8, 14 - 17

PSALM: Ps. (Psalm 65: 1-7,16,20)

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3: 15 - 18

GOSPEL: John 14: 15 - 21



**Next Ashford Baptism Meeting - Thursday 28th May at 7.30pm
in the Parochial House. Please ring the Parish Office
(0404-61699) to confirm your attendance at this meeting.**

MINISTRY SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Ministry Sunday is a special time in the life of our church, set aside to celebrate the many ways people serve and to invite others into that shared mission. It highlights that the church is not just a place we attend, but a community we build together through active participation.

Volunteers are at the heart of this, giving their time, energy, and gifts to support everything from prayer and music to outreach and hospitality. Their service strengthens connections, meets real needs, and reflects the spirit of generosity and compassion that defines our faith.

Without our volunteers, many of the church's ministries simply wouldn't be possible, making their contribution not only valuable but essential to the growth and vitality of our wonderful Parish community.

Thank you to every single one of our wonderful volunteers!

As we celebrate Ministry Sunday, we warmly encourage everyone to consider how they might get involved—whether by trying something new or offering skills you already have.

Every contribution, big or small, makes a difference, and there is a place for everyone to serve and belong.

Please see the Ministry booklet at the Church doors and/or contact the Parish Office for more information.



Bethany
Bereavement Support

HAVE YOU BEEN BEREAVED?

You are not alone.

The death of a loved one can be overwhelming and isolating — but **you do not have to face it alone.**

If you are grieving the loss of someone special, or any kind of loss, and would like to talk to someone, Bethany Bereavement Support offers free and **confidential support** to adults in a safe, welcoming and understanding environment.

We hold our meetings in the De La Salle Centre, Wicklow A67 FX65.

Our next meetings are:

Tuesday 28th April at 8.00pm

Tuesday 5th May at 10.45am

You are very welcome to come along, or simply contact us for a chat.

086 835 9148



**SIGN UP
HELP STOP
SUICIDE**

4:15am • May 9th

Register Today
darknessintolight.ie

CHY16913 CRA 20062026

ASHFORD COMMUNITY GROUP

Providing support & a social outlet for older people

DRAW RESULTS April 2026

		Winner	Seller
1st	€300	Harry	Mary O'Brien
2nd	€150	Tony O'Leary	Ann Lyons
3rd	€100	Ann Hanlon	Catherine Barrett
4th	€50	Haley Quinn	Ann Lyons

Thank you for your ongoing support

Registered Charity Number (RCN) 20200036