

# ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Second Sunday of Advent - Year A

7th December 2025

RCN 20016166

### *Donal Neary S.J. Gospel Reflection ~The Straight Way*

Before motorways a journey took ages, with many twists and turns, corners and hills. Now much has been made straight.

John's message was that we would live along a path where words and actions match, and where kindness matches convictions.

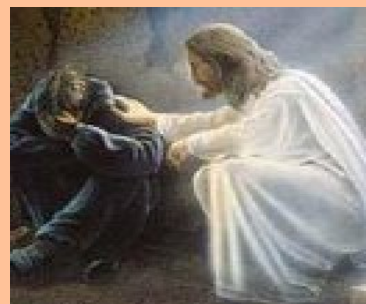
John the Baptist was a man on a mission - *to be the messenger of the one he did not know. His life had a vision and a purpose, like when we are really committed to people or to causes or to the poor or to peace in the world.*

John was the man of desert food and desert dress; he took time out to find what the biggest thing in life was and then kept following it, often not knowing where it would take him.

The human heart is complicated and we know that. We all need that one who will touch our hearts with love and forgiveness and guide us himself in ways that are straight, and whose hand will guide us along straight paths when we need it.

God's guiding is gentle. John found that Jesus was a gentler guide:

no name-calling,  
no bringing of the axe to the tree,  
but calling each of us his friend, and  
nourishing the tree rather than cutting it down.



Our hearts can be melted at Christmas time by the love of God and love of others, if we can just thaw out. Think of, or remember a past Christmas time when you made a decision to allow Jesus do this for you again - maybe it is time to try again this year!

*Lord Jesus, this year, arm our hearts to be like yours*

## ASHFORD & GLENEALY ~ PARISH - CONTACTS

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PARISH OFFICE WICKLOW 0404 -61699

Office opening times Monday - Friday: 10am – 12.30pm

**For all enquires and bookings**

	This week we remember	Next week we remember
<b>SATURDAY</b> 6.00pm ASHFORD		
<b>SUNDAY</b> 10.30am GLENEALY		
<b>Monday 8th December</b> 10:00am ASHFORD Feast of the Immaculate Conception		

## ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH

### 30th November

<b>ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION</b>	- goes towards maintaining our parish	- €285
<b>1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND</b>	- pays salaries of Priests of Diocese	- €435
<b>2ND COLLECTION/SHARE</b>	- Goes towards Diocesan Administration	- €280
<b>MAINTENANCE</b>	- goes towards Parish upkeep	- €45

*Many thanks for your continued support.*

## NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS

To reflect on the readings please check  
[catholicireland.net](http://catholicireland.net) / [sacredspace.ie](http://sacredspace.ie) / [universalis.com](http://universalis.com)

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 35: 1 - 6:10**

**PSALM: Ps 145: 6 – 10**

**SECOND READING: James 5: 7 - 10**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 11: 2 - 11**

**Anam Cara, the charity organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Monday 15th December at 7.30pm in the Parkview Hotel, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow.**

**This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance.**



## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Ashford: 1st Friday after Mass  
Wicklow: Mondays & Thursdays after Mass  
Kilbride: 1st Thursday at 7pm (Divine Mercy)  
Brittas Bay: Tuesdays at 9am

**Next Ashford Baptism Meeting is on Thursday 22nd January at 7.30pm in the church. Please ring the Parish Office (0404-61699) to confirm your attendance at this meeting.**

**NO BAPTISM MEETING IN DECEMBER**

### **ASHFORD COMMUNITY GROUP**

**Providing support & a social outlet for older people**


**DRAW RESULTS November 2025**

		<b>Winner</b>	<b>Seller</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>€300</b>	<b>Caoimhe Byrne</b>	<b>Oona McKiernan</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>€150</b>	<b>Brodie &amp; Ben</b>	<b>Ann Byrne</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>€100</b>	<b>Joey Driver</b>	<b>Catherine Barrett</b>
<b>4th</b>	<b>€50</b>	<b>Lucas Newsome</b>	<b>Ann Lyons</b>

**Thank you for your ongoing support**

Registered Charity Number (RCN) 20200036



**45 Game in Roundwood Parish Hall on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7:00pm sharp in aid of Roundwood Meals on Wheels and Roundwood Parish Raffle and teas. Admission €20**



# #HaveYourSay

## about your local Catholic school

Participate before 16 December 2025 in the Department of Education and Youth's #PrimarySchoolSurvey

[www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey/](http://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey/)



## Advent Reflection

### Reflecting on the beautiful Advent Gospels

**Where?** An Taireseach (Dominican Ecology Centre)

**When?**

1. Wednesday November 26<sup>th</sup>
2. Wednesday December 3<sup>rd</sup>
3. Wednesday December 10<sup>th</sup>
4. Wednesday December 17<sup>th</sup>

**What Time?** 7:30pm - 8:40pm

**Optional 'cuppa' after it with delicious homeade biscuits**

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

Your contribution to the Church is your appreciation for your parish.  
If you would like to become a regular supporter to the Parish, please fill in this slip and return to the Parish Office or Sacristy

Name.....

Contact Number.....

Address.....

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"Advent is a time of waiting for our Lord, who will visit us all in our own hearts.  
The Lord is coming!  
Let us wait for him!"

POPE FRANCIS

[www.universeoffaith.org](http://www.universeoffaith.org)

