

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
SATURDAY 6.00pm ASHFORD		
SUNDAY 10.30am GLENEALY		
Monday 8th December 10:00am ASHFORD Feast of the Immaculate Conception		

ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH 30th November

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

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 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

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

Thank you for your ongoing support

Registered Charity Number (RCN) 20200036

45 Game in Roundwood Parish Hall on Sunday 14th 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/



Advent Reflection

Reflecting on the beautiful Advent Gospels

Where? An Taireseach (Dominican Ecology Centre)

When? 1. Wednesday November 26th

2. Wednesday December 3rd

3. Wednesday December 10th

4. Wednesday December 17th

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

Optional 'cuppa' after it with delicious homemade
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

