

Gospel Reflections

Donal Neary

Going Out or Going Up?

The feast of the Ascension seems to be more about the apostles going out than Jesus going up! As Jesus goes to his Father, the message is for us now, and to be witnesses to him, sharing what we have received, and heard.

Witnesses to a road accident can often contradict each other. They get mixed up in what they saw or heard. Or they may have only glanced at the event and moved on. We can be witnesses of Jesus who stayed with the event, not just with a glance. We have seen and heard the best story ever told, and the most influential life ever lived.

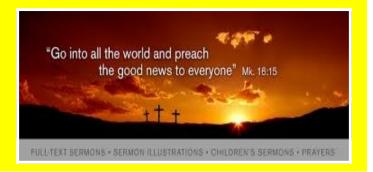
We witness to Jesus in prayer, in reading the gospel and in service of others in love.

Prayer means being in touch with God who is reaching out to us. The gospel is what feeds us, a daily opening to the words and deeds of Jesus. Loving service brings us to witness the care of God as we give and receive care.

This is what we give to the ascended Lord and receive from him. The word of God is the divine word in human words. In our work for him, God is linking heaven and earth, and we are sharers in his divinity as he is in our humanity. Far from being

the absence of Jesus, the Ascension is his presence in a new way among us.

Looking up is a religious gesture. Look up to the skies sometimes this week and make a favourite prayer. Lord, may your kingdom come!



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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	Michael and Kathleen Heffernan	
SUNDAY 10.30am GLENEALY		
1ST COLLECTION / 2ND COLLECTION MAINTENANCE	ASHFORD & GLENEAL 5th May 2024 CH COLLECTION - goes towards mai COMMON FUND - pays salaries of Pr / SHARE FUND - goes towards Dio - goes towards Pari ny thanks for your cont	ntaining our parish - € 360 riests of Diocese - € 507 cesan Administration - € 215 ish upkeep - € 140
	F WEEKEND'S reflect on the readings	
		s please check
	land.net/sacredspace.	
	land.net /sacredspace. First Rea	ie / universalis.com ding: Acts 2: 1-11
	land.net /sacredspace. First Rea	ie / universalis.com

New Appointments in St Mantan Pastoral Area

Fr Eamonn Crosson, current Administrator of Ashford-Glenealy Parish will be reaching the retiring from active ministry age for Priests this year.

He has very generously agreed to continue in Ashford-Glenealy by taking up an appointment as a curate in the parish from the 6th July next.

Fr Aquínas Duffy will be appointed Parish Priest of Ashford-Glenealy in addition to his current appointment as Parish Priest of "Wicklow-Rathnew" and "Kilbride-Barndarrig-Brittas Bay" Parishes.

<u>Building Hope-</u> Novena to the Holy Spirit 2024

We are invited to join once again with every parish in the diocese in a Novena to the Holy Spirit – our dedicated period of prayer, reflection and planning for the renewal of the Church in the Archdiocese of Dublin.

The Novena will take place in the nine days from $11^{\text{th}}/12\text{th} - 20\text{th}$ May beginning on the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord, through Pentecost and continuing to the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church.

Let us join together with other parishes across the Archdiocese, in praying and planning with Archbishop Farrell during this dedicated period 12th – 20th May. May this time of reflection, as we prepare also for the ordination of Bishop Donal Roche and the arrival of Bishop Paul Dempsey to the Archdioceses be blessed and build hope for a new future in partnership and a new way of being Church.

The Novena will be run as part of the Mass each day in Ashford/Glenealy.

Building Hope

Novena to the Holy Spirit

12th - 20th May 2024

for the renewal of the Church in the Archdiocese of Dublin



Archdiecese of Dublin Building Hope through Prayer, Reflection and Planning

Congratulations

Congratulations to the children of Ashford and Glenealy National Schools who made their First Communion recently.

We keep them, their families and their teachers in our prayers.

Easter Dues Envelopes

If you have not returned your Easter Dues envelope yet, you might do that as soon as possible, please.

Thank you for your continued generous support of the parish

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 23rd May at 7.30pm in the Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Ashford

FR DONAL'S ORDINATION AS AUXILIARY BISHOP

The parish will be organising buses to St. Andrew's Church Westland Row, Dublin, on Sunday 26th May to Westland Row for the Mass installing Fr Donal as Auxiliary Bishop of Dublin.

The bus will cost €15 per person payable before travelling. You need to book your seat through the parish office only.

Time & place of departure will be announced closer to date

WICKLOW COPD

<u>GROUP</u>

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

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

World Peace

We pray for peace in our hearts, in our homes, in our community and in our troubled world, especially in the Middle East and in Ukraine. We pray for those who are suffering, displaced and fearful because of war. Make us instruments of your peace and messengers of hope to those who are troubled.



Unit 2, First Floor, Rear of Boots Pharmacy, Abbey Street, Wicklow

Have you, or a famíly member, been díagnosed wíth 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

Walk

with God when your heart needs company.

Turn to God when you need someone to lean on.

Take His hands when you feel alone.

He is there when you need him most.

Chever give up, never back down, never lose faith. *Trust* God, He can do

Kelly's Treehouse

the impossible. -Mar Razalan