

# ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year  
(World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly)

27th July 2025

RCN 20016166

### Donal Neary S.J. Gospel Reflection ~ Trust in prayer

Often I pray to St Anthony and I find what I was looking for. I can't understand why but it brings up the question of praying for what we want and need. People pray hard for an intention; some pray for ages and are answered, some are not.

We often pray for what may be outside God's control: that someone may give up drink, when the person may not want to; that children will be kept safe on the roads, but they are killed or injured with the careless and dangerous driving of someone else, maybe under addictive influence.

We are encouraged always to pray with hope and persistence, believing that we always get something. In the asking is the receiving, and we never leave prayer worse off than when we began.

For any time we give to prayer, we get something. We are transformed. St Ignatius of Loyola speaks of the effect of prayer - *an increase in faith, hope and love*. We may not get the specific intention but we always get the Holy Spirit. I have never left prayer the poorer than when I began. In the knocking at the door itself something is opened. In asking and seeking we get something. The first gift of prayer is the love of God. Other gifts follow.

Prayer increases our trust in God, that he wants our good and is with us in love.

So we pray for what we need and then leave the prayer with God, to be answered as he can. This is one of the greatest faiths of all.

*Our Father,  
holy be your name,  
your kingdom come and  
will be done within me and  
in earth and in heaven.*



*Sincere sympathies to the families of*

*Lola (Bridget) Kavanagh Nee Murphy,  
late of Mt Alto, Ashford*

	This week we remember	Next week we remember
<b>SATURDAY</b> 6.00pm ASHFORD		
<b>SUNDAY</b> 10.30am GLENEALY	<b>NO MASS</b>	

## ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH

### 20th July 2025

<b>ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION</b>	- goes towards maintaining our parish	- €115
<b>1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND</b>	- pays salaries of Priests of Diocese	- €260
<b>2ND COLLECTION/SHARE</b>	- goes towards Diocesan Administration	€170
<b>MAINTENANCE</b>	- goes towards Parish upkeep	- € 10

*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: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23**

**PSALM: 94:1-2, 6-9**

**SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11**

**GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21**



The death of a loved one can be an overwhelming and isolating experience but you don't have to face it alone

The Bethany Bereavement Support Group offers a safe, compassionate space where you can share your grief and find comfort among others who understand.

Our trained listeners provide emotional, practical support to help you navigate this difficult time.

Whether you need to talk, to be listened to or simply be present, Bethany is here for you.

Our help is confidential and free

You are very welcome to join us at one of our meetings. We meet at 8pm on the last Tuesday of every month in the De LA Salle Centre in Wicklow. You can call or text us at 086 8359148

You are not alone – we are here for you.



## Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

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

## WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

In recent years the Sunday closest to the Feast of Ss Joachim and Anne has been designated  
**World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly**  
This year that Sunday falls on **July 27**.

### Prayer for the Fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

*How beautiful are these words of yours, Lord!  
Help us to continue our pilgrimage through time,  
animated by the hope that comes from You!  
Help us in this divisive world, to bring the hope of communion.  
Help us in this world, wounded by wars,  
to bring the hope of peace.  
Help us in this world, which is dehumanizing,  
to bring the beauty of an ancient smile.  
Help us to be, for our grandchildren, for our loved ones and  
for everyone we meet, the memory of your tenderness.  
Help us to bring, in a world distracted from You,  
the Hope of a new life that only You can give!  
For in You, Lord, nothing is lost  
For in You, Lord, everything begins again!  
Amen*

**Next Ashford Baptism Meeting is on Thursday, 24th July at 7.30pm in the church. Please ring the Parish Office (0404-61699) to confirm your attendance at this meeting.**



**As part of the Jubilee Year - Pilgrims of Hope 2025,  
The Pockets of Hope will be on display in Glenealy Church for the  
month of July. Everyone one is invited to make there own  
mini-pilgrimage as they review the Pockets of Hope and consider  
what message they get from them.**



Hopelessness can often be a characteristic of many lives today. This is not difficult to believe as with increasing secularism, war, violence, lack of social cohesion, the lack of care for our planet and general brokenness, it can be a real challenge to be a person of hope. In response to our plight Pockets of Hope is a project created by Fr. Alan Hilliard and designed by Mary-Aoife Ong which is based on the writings of Pope Francis in the document *Spes Non Confundit* (Hope Does Not Disappoint) which is the theme for The Jubilee Year of Hope 2025. Pockets of Hope draws on the imagery of the Burren Landscape on the western shore of Ireland. The display aims to highlight how hope can be discovered even amidst the most bleak of landscapes.

You are invited to complete your own mini pilgrim journey as you contemplate each message of hope and let God speak to you through the reflections. This is a selection from the complete set of forty-two posters which are on display in the Dublin Churches. It allows the pilgrim journey though the document, contemplating its rich and life-giving narrative for today's world. It is the desire that many people in Ireland can be filled with the gift of Hope through this project!

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.....

.....

Dear Lord, fill my heart with  
hope and my mind with peace.  
In the face of uncertainty,  
help me to trust in Your plan and  
to remain steadfast in my faith.  
Guide me through the darkness  
and into the light of Your love.

