

Here are some useful Apps to help with prayer and meditation. They are available from the App Store on your phone or other device:-

Pray As You Go - Daily Prayer

This is a lifestyle app which can be downloaded for free. For the past 16 years this app has provided a daily journey and encounter with God for millions of people around the world. It will support your prayer life each day with a short contemplative prayer session and an invitation to go deeper with other prayer tools, series, retreats and resources. It lasts between 10 and 13 minutes and combines music, scripture and some questions for reflection.

Universalis

This app helps you to follow the Mass each day. The "Mass Today" page merges the Order of Mass with the Readings and Prayers for the day, so you can follow the Mass right through without having to jump here and there through a missal. It costs approximately €12.

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.....

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NEW BOXES OF PARISH ENVELOPES

The new boxes of envelopes are now ready for collection from the Churches.

Please note that we are updating the Parish system so numbers have now changed. This will be reflected on the Pastoral Management package that the diocese recommend. If anyone is missing a box of envelopes - we apologise - please ring the Parish Office in Wicklow on 61699 and we will forward you a box of envelopes as soon as possible.

If you would like to receive a box and contribute to the upkeep of the parish, we would be happy to help you out with your request. It is also possible to donate by Standing Order and again we are happy to go through the process with you.

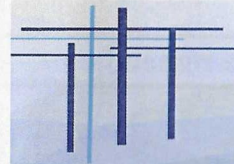
PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR MOBILE PHONE IS SWITCHED OFF WHILE IN THE CHURCH .

Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards.

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SØREN KIERKEGAARD

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ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

28th January 2024

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time~ Year B

RCN 20016166

Fr Donal Neary, S.J Gospel Reflections for the Year B.

The Power of Evil

Jesus was very aware of the power of evil that can be around us. Jesus named the spirit whatever that meant. This gave him power over the spirit. He knew evil when he met it and he overcame it, with love, power and with kindness for this man.

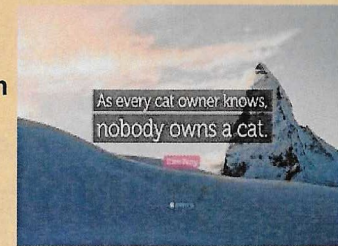
In Jesus the good and the evil of the world met.

One big evil in us is the 'it's mine'. We learn it from childhood. We take the plate of cakes or a packet of sweets and say "all mine". We normally get over this but not always. We need the conversion from *it's mine* to *it's ours*. That's the Christian way. The environment is not ours, but for us. We have no right to kill off livelihood all over the world for our paper, our oil and our greed. Any abuse of people is the 'you are mine' syndrome. Nobody owns anyone in this earth and we belong only to God in a free way.

Evil will never win out to the end. It has been conquered on the Cross, with love.

Somehow this man was possessed. Evil came into him and maybe it was not his fault. He left clean and whole, with a kindness in his heart he would never forget. The people were amazed not just at Jesus but at the change in the man who had been possessed.

*What are evil desires in myself ?
For control of others, for greed,
for whatever leads me away from love.*



ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH - CONTACTS

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PARISH OFFICE WICKLOW 0404 -61699

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

	This week we remember	Next week we remember
SATURDAY 6.00pm ASHFORD	Billy and Joan Clarke	
SUNDAY 10.30am GLENEALY		

World Peace

Our thoughts are with the suffering people of the Middle East and Ukraine. We pray that peace will come to these troubled lands. Remember those who are suffering, displaced and fearful because of war. Enlighten world leaders; make them wise in their decisions. Make all of us instruments of your peace.



The Pope's Intention for January

For the gift of Diversity in the Church

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community and to discover the richness of different traditions and rituals in the Catholic Church



ASHFORD & GLENEALY PARISH 21st January 2024

ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION	- goes towards maintaining our parish	- €220
1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND	- pays salaries of Priests of Diocese	- €577
2ND COLLECTION / SHARE	- goes towards Diocesan Administration	- €350
MAINTENANCE	- goes towards Parish upkeep	- €340

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: Job 7: 1-4, 6-7

Psalm : 146

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

St Brigid Feast-day 1st February

St. Brigid is the patron saint of babies, dairy workers, farmers, Ireland, midwives, nuns, poets, printers, and sailors.

Brigid was born at a time of major transition in 5th century Ireland. She embodies in herself the pre-Christian Celtic and Christian Celtic spirit. It is generally accepted that St Brigid built her double monastery for men and women in Kildare around 470AD. Some scholars credit Brigid with pioneering monastic life in Ireland. Her monastery was acclaimed as a centre of education, pilgrimage, worship and hospitality until the 16th century when all the monasteries were suppressed.



"From the plains of Kildare to the ends of the earth The life of St Brigid speaks." (Intercom '07)

Irish missionaries and migrants carried her name and spirit across the world. Pilgrims and visitors come to Kildare from all over the world seeking to walk in Brigid's footsteps. In more recent years we have noticed a reclaiming of the traditions and customs associated with her.

Why is this so? Brigid's legacy has endured. Her life still speaks to us in the 21st century.

Woman of the Land - Brigid is remembered through the ages as a woman of the land. Her feastday on the 1st February marks the first day of Spring in the northern hemisphere. It is the season when we celebrate new life on earth. In a new hymn, she is invoked "to heal our wounds and green our Earth again. "Many today draw inspiration from the respect which Brigid and our ancestors had for all creation.

Friend of the Poor - Brigid had an extraordinary concern and compassion for the poor people of her time. Her legends challenge us share the goods of the earth with our brothers and sisters especially those who live in desperate poverty in the developing world.

Woman of Hospitality - Brigid's spirit of hospitality is legendary. For Brigid, every guest is Christ.

A Peacemaker - Feuds between clans were commonplace in Brigid's day. She is often referred to as a peacemaker who intervened in disputes between rival factions and brought healing and reconciliation. Brigid is depicted in an icon in the parish church in Kildare with her foot on the sword. She challenges us to be peacemakers and peacekeepers.

Model of Equality - Brigid held a unique position in the early Irish church. Scholars tell us that she presided over the local church of Kildare and was head of a double monastery for men and women. She challenges both men and women today to create a church and a society where men and women are equally respected.

Brigid spread the values of Christ. Her life continues to sing the song of the Gospel. She continues to be remembered as an extraordinary woman of faith and to occupy an important place in the hearts of the people of Ireland and far beyond.

Happy St Brigid's Day !