

Many thanks to the sponsor of our newsletter
McCrea's Funeral Home, Dublin Road,
Phone 0404 69000, 24 hours
www.mccrea.ie - info@niallmccrea.com

WEEKLY PARISH LOTTO RESULTS

Congratulations

Patrick McElwee

30th November, 2023: €50 raffle winner
Weekly winning numbers: 6, 13, 14, 23

Please call into the office to collect your prize.

JACKPOT €3,550

Remember...if you aren't in you can't win!

Join by texting the word WICKLOW to 51444

or go to the website : www.ourparishfundraiser.ie/parish/wicklow

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.....
.....
.....

One day it just clicks.

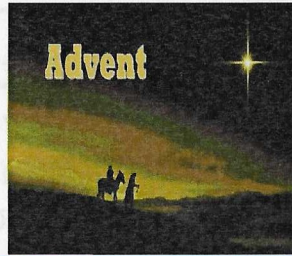
You realize what's important and what isn't. You learn to care less about what other people think of you and more about what you think of yourself. You realize how far you've come and you remember when you thought things were such a mess that you would never recover. And you smile. You smile because you are truly proud of yourself and the person you've fought to become.

tinybuddha.com

PARISH NEWSLETTER

3rd December 2023

First Sunday of Advent - Year B
Wicklow & Rathnew
RCN 20016166



Fr Donal Neary, S.J ~Gospel Reflections for the Year of Matthew
The Invitation

I like these words of the late Cardinal Hume: "There are times when I can visualize Our Lord at the break of day standing by my bed and saying: "Get up, follow me." Whether I am conscious of it or not, in effect that invitation, that loving but insistent command, is given to me every day. Each new morning is the opportunity to start again. Yesterday there may have been inadequacies and failures but today Christ renews his call: "Follow me. I have chosen you. I need you." Who can fail to respond to the thought that God needs our willing collaboration."

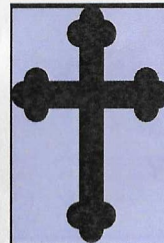
We are carers of creation and of his people. Take this seriously, it is our world. God has made himself so vulnerable and this gospel reading is just before the passion. An area or parish improves if enough people do something. We look at areas in a locality which are now clean of drugs, more prosperous and just. This has been the work of people co-creating the world with God. Making it a better place. Doing the world a world of good.

Gospel today says – Don't give up. God is always near! Live in hope and preparation. Stay awake to the season – the ways we can deepen and grow in our faith - maybe do a retreat, do something good for others with your time or finance, notice God in the events of the next few weeks, pray a bit every day, make time to be awakened to the centre of our world who is God, and to his central action in creating the world each day, sending Jesus Christ his Son.



*A question for the first week of Advent:
How can I help someone today?*

Lord, send me, use me, create me for your work in the world.



*Sincere sympathy to the families of
Anna May Phillips late of Kilmantin Rd*

Mass Intention List



This Weekend ~ 2nd & 3rd December

- 6.00pm** Michael Quinn - Months Mind Mass
Helen Russell - 1st Anniversary,
Rory Attley, Patrick & Elizabeth O'Brien, Mary & Gerard Reynolds & dec members of the Reynolds & Gaughan families
- 9.00am** Kay Malarkey RD
- 10.30am** Liz Farrell, Helen, Jack, Jean & Thomas Murphy,
Tom & Molly Cummins, Henry & Mai Smith,
Bridie & Tommy Cleary, Kitty & Johnny Condley,
deceased members of the McWalter Family
- 12.00noon** Betty Mooney - 1st Anniversary, Merci Ryan, Joseph (Joe Parle), Deceased members of the Goucher & Corkish families

4th - 8th December

- Monday** Joseph Doran (A)
7.00pm Colm Doyle In Rem
- Tuesday** Mary Geraghty In Rem
7.00pm Joseph Hennessy (A)
- Wednesday** Michael Delaney In Rem
- Thursday** Jacqueline Blood (A)
- Friday** Jackie Byrne (A)

Next Weekend ~ 9th & 10th December

- 6.00pm** John Casey, Jenny Earls, Alice & Pat O'Rourke,
Jim & Nancy Doyle, Valerie Quinn
- 9.00am**
- 10.30am** Bridget Turner
- 12.00noon** Tim O'Sullivan—Months Mind, Jim & Gay Brennan,
Dick Kavanagh (BR), Pat Kavanagh-Murphy,
Noel & Anna Murphy, Carmel Wyatt-Murphy

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr Aquinas Duffy PP : 0404 67196
Fr Gerard Deegan CC: 0404 67133
Parish Office: 0404 61699
parishofficewicklow@gmail.com

BBK Website: work
in progress

Office opening times
Monday - Friday:
10am - 12.30pm
For all enquires and bookings

The Pope's Intention for December

For persons with disabilities
We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.



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

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 - 14TH DECEMBER
AT 8PM IN THE DE LA PARISH CENTRE

Advent Scripture

Christmas is coming!

It can be a very busy time. So, you are invited to come to a 'mini' Advent Retreat on Wednesday evenings to prepare for this wonderful feast of the birth of Jesus. There will be time to reflect on the beautiful Advent Gospels quietly & mindfully.

When: During the four Wednesdays of Advent, Nov 29th, Dec 6th, 13th & 20th
Where: Meditation Room, Dominican Ecology Centre
Time: from 7.30pm - 8.30pm.
Finishing with a chat & cuppa for those who wish - all are very welcome.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS FOR WICKLOW & RATHNEW:

26th November 2023

ENVELOPE/CHURCH COLLECTION - goes towards maintaining our parish €2070

1ST COLLECTION /COMMON FUND - pays salaries of Priests of Diocese €1245

2ND COLLECTION / SHARE FUND - goes towards Diocesan Administration € 960

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 40:1-5, 9-11

Psalm : 84

Second :2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel : Mark1: 1-8

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE BY CANDLELIGHT

*Our annual Christmas Carol Service will be on
Sunday 17th December at 4pm in St Patrick's Church.*

*This has become a very
popular part of our Christmas
schedule and is a lovely way to
lead into Christmas week.*

*Our Hospitality Group will be on
hand in the De la Salle Pastoral
Centre with the mulled wine and
mince pies after the service.*

*Why not take a little time out and join us?
Everybody is very welcome!*



Society of St Vincent de Paul



This year's Annual Appeal is focused on providing help to struggling parents who wonder how they will provide a Happy Christmas for their families. The campaign is entitled "The Wonder of Christmas" and subtitled "Will we have Christmas at all".

The Annual Christmas collection for the St Vincent De Paul will be held on the weekend of the 9th/10th December - it will replace the normal SHARE collection in all Churches. Your support for the Society is always very much appreciated but especially at this time of year with so many needy cases all around us.

*Thank You to all
our Volunteers!*

As we celebrate

National Volunteer Day

on Tuesday 5th December

*We want to thank all the volunteers in
all the churches, who continuously lend
a hand and work so hard to make our
parishes so vibrant and welcoming.*

*"Volunteers aren't paid - not because
they are worthless, but because they
are priceless!"*

THANK YOU FOR BUILDING HOPE
IN OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY.

**8th December
FEAST OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

THURSDAY 7th - VIGIL MASSES

St Patrick's Wicklow at 7.00pm

St Mary's Barndarrig at 7.30pm

St Joseph's Glenealy at 7.30pm

FRIDAY 8th - DAILY MASSES

St Patrick's Wicklow at 10.00am

St Joseph's Rathnew at 7.00pm

Most Holy Rosary Ashford at 10.00am

**CHRISTMAS NOVENA
CARDS NOW ON SALE FOR
THE LIVING & THE DEAD
€5.00 EACH**

CITIZENS INFORMATION SERVICES AND WICKLOW LIBRARY COME TOGETHER TO PROVIDE TRUSTED INFORMATION AND ADVICE SERVICES

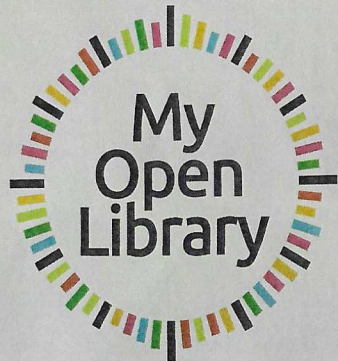
The Citizens Information Board (CIB) has announced an innovative new pilot scheme in Wicklow town.

From 9 November, members of the public can access free, confidential and trusted information and advice online from an Information Officer from South Leinster Citizens Information Service (CIS) in a dedicated private space in Wicklow Library. Members of the public can book an appointment with an expert Information Officer and have a one-on-one online session in a private space in Wicklow Library. The Information Officer will offer expertise and guidance on a range of topics including social welfare, taxation and education.

This new service will be available on Thursday afternoons between 2pm and 4pm by appointment.

This service is open to any member of the public and an appointment can be made by contacting the CIC in Bray on 0818 07 6780 or email bray@citinfo.ie. The public can also drop into Wicklow Library to enquire about the service.

CIB is a State agency under the remit of the Department of Social Protection and funds the Citizens Information Services. CIB was awarded funding to run this pilot project in Wicklow and two other libraries through the Public Service Innovation Fund. This project is supported and funded by the Department of Public Expenditure NDP Delivery and Reform.



My Open Library is a service that allows you to access the Wicklow or Arklow Libraries after hours.

Just bring in your library card and we'll sign you up!

Must be 16 years old and 16-17 year olds must be accompanied by a parent to sign up.

If you don't have a library card it's easy to join.

Just bring in photo ID and proof of address.



Christmas Food Drive

Now till 5th December

to help those who need some extra help this year.

In conjunction with the Wicklow Guide, Brigini & Cygnet group & the local Lions club.

All donations of non-perishable goods and toiletries welcome.

Donations can be left in the Parish Office or Sacristy



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

Have you, or a family member, been diagnosed with 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

GROW mental wellbeing programs

GROW run peer support groups in Wicklow on a Wednesday afternoon at 2.30 to 4.30 in De La Salle Parish Centre.

They are self referral and no charge for anyone struggling with depression, anxiety, low mood or just the stresses of life. They offer a tried and tested method of self help and personal growth.

Experience new hope and meaning through working on issues together in a peer support setting

MEETINGS ARE CONFIDENTIAL.
Ring Trish for further info on 086 0129 082
And see Grow.ie to listen to stories of Hope and Recovery.

Active Retirement Activities & Trips

Now with 105 members, we are one of the largest Groups in Ireland
Tuesday morning meetings 10.45am.

Conversational Irish Tuesdays at 10.00 am

Line Dancing Tuesdays 12.00 to 1.00pm

Walking on the Murrough Wednesdays at 11.00 am

Choir Fridays 3.00pm-4.00pm

trip to the National Concert Hall on Saturday 11th November to see the musical Oliver.

Follow us on our facebook page: **Wicklow Active Retirement**

If you would like to join active retirement or find out more, please do feel free to ring Pauline on 087 227 6760

PARISH SHOP

The Parish shop is situated in the lobby of the parish office. It has been restocked with new candles, cards and some new general stock. Drop in and have a browse, baptism candles small baby gifts, angel gifts, rosary beads, car medals, visor medals, cards and much more. There is also have a wide selection of Mass Cards and ordinary cards available. Shop open same time as office from 10am till 12.30pm. Christmas Novena Cards are now available.

WICKLOW COPD GROUP

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