

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Wicklow & Rathnew

RCN 20016166

Second Sunday of Advent - Year A

7th December 2025



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.*

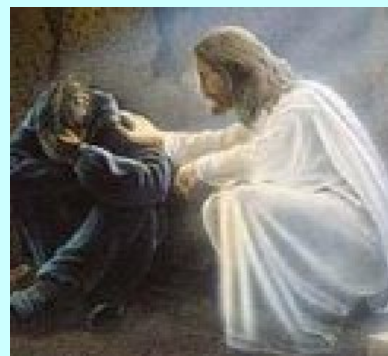
John was the man of desert food and desert dress; he took time out to find what the biggest thing in life was and then kept following it, often not knowing where it would take him.

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.

*Sincere sympathies to the families of
Colette Byrne née White of Gorey Co Wexford and
formally Rathnew Co Wicklow*



Mass Intention List

This Weekend ~ 6th & 7th December 2025

- 6.00pm** John Casey (A), Helen Russell (A) Ben & Maureen Mahon. Jenny Earls, Alice & Pat O'Rourke
Jim & Ann Doyle (A), Larry O'Sullivan BR
Mary & Gerry Reynolds & Deceased members of
Reynolds & Gaughan family
- 9.00am** Catherine Vickers 1st Anniversary
Joseph Michael Hennessey, Terry Corkish & his son Carlos
Thomas & Christopher Corkish
- 10.30am** Jack Nolan (A) Jack & Eileen Kinsella, Annie Byrne,
Siobhan & Eamon Doyle, Helen, Jack, Jean & Thomas
Murphy, Tom & Molly Cummins, Henry and Mai
Smith, Bridie & Tommy Cleary
- 12.00pm** Anslem Fidgeon 1st Anni., Jim & Gay Brennan (A)
Thomas Philip Corkish (A) Michael (Mick) Bunn

8th December ~ 12th December 2025

- Monday Feast of Immaculate Conception** Jackie Byrne (A)
Rosaleen Phillips & deceased members of Phillips family
- 7.00pm** Margaret Murray R.D
- Tuesday** Margaret Conway R.D
- 7.00pm** Martha Doyle (A)
- Wednesday** Caroline O'Toole R.D
- Thursday** Noeleen Nolan R.D
- Friday** Kathleen Reburn (A), Stephen Deegan

Next Weekend ~ 13th & 14th December 2025

- 6.00pm** Leo Dover M.M, Valerie Quinn (A), Jack, Nellie, John
& James Flynn, Noeleen Nolan, Rosaleen Earls & Evelyn Kelly
Mary & Patrick Hendrick, John, Sheila & Jim Beamish
- 9.00am** Matt, Mary & Michael Hynes & Shane Rabbitt
Maura McCoy
- 10.30am** Bernadette Waldron, Ned, Rose, John & Eddie Hanlon,
Bridie Moody
- 12.00pm** Pat Kavanagh (A) & Anna & Noel Murphy & their
daughter Carmel Wyatt, Frank Duignan (A)
Joseph (Joe) Parle, Anna-May Phillips, May Kavanagh
Rose Barlow

**WEEKLY COLLECTIONS FOR WICKLOW & RATHNEW:
30th November 2025**

ENVELOPE/CHURCH COLLECTION - goes towards maintaining our parish **€1990**
1ST COLLECTION /COMMON FUND - pays salaries of Priests of Diocese **€1325**
2ND COLLECTION/SHARE - goes towards Diocesan Administration **€975**

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

PARISH NOVENA CHRISTMAS CARDS

Are now available at the Parish Office. These cards are suitable for both the living and the dead, and they cost €5.

There are various designs of the Wicklow & Rathnew Parish.

They are a perfect way to remember and pray for family and friends over the Christmas season, and also a lovely way to remember our deceased family & friends.

There will be nine Masses offered within the Parish during the holiday period.



Society of St Vincent de Paul

The Annual Church collection will be held this weekend, the 6th & 7th of December, this replaces the normal SHARE collection. The Society are very dependent on this collection, and your generous support, as normal, would be very much appreciated.



St. Mantan Pastoral Area Baptism Details

Wicklow	First Saturday	2.00pm
	Third Sunday	1.00pm
Rathnew	Fourth Saturday	2.00pm
Ashford	First Sunday	12 noon
Glenealy	Third Saturday	12 noon
BBK	Second Saturday	2.00pm

Please note :

*The next meeting will be on
Thursday **8th January** at 8pm in
the De La Salle Pastoral Centre
NO MEETING IN DECEMBER*

**Congratulations to all
couples planning their
marriage.**

**Don't forget to give 3 months
notice to the parish where you
live.**

**Your local parish is responsible
for organising the paperwork
necessary for the Sacrament of
Marriage irrespective of where
the wedding will take place.**

**Be sure to get in touch with the
Parish Office to make
arrangements to complete
wedding papers at least 3 months
before the date of the proposed
wedding.**



#HaveYourSay about your local Catholic school

Participate before 16 December 2025 in the
Department of Education and Youth's
#PrimarySchoolSurvey

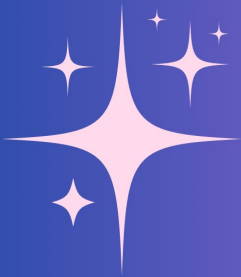


www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey/



**CATHOLIC EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP**

St. Mantan's Partnership of Parishes
invites you to:
*An Advent Message
of Hope*



Wednesday 10th December
7.30p.m.
St. Patrick's Church,
Wicklow Town,
A67 AE37

AN TAIRSEACH

SOLAS

Winter Solstice Ceremony

THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER 6.30PM TO 9PM



• REST • RESTORE • REPLENISH •
SONG • SOUND HEALING • PRAYER

Homemade organic soup & soda bread on arrival

A cosy evening
of communal
ritual hosted in
our beautiful
chapel



Tickets: €20 Booking Essential
0404 61833 info@antairseach.ie www.antairseach.ie
Accommodation available on request

ADVENT AT AN TAIRSEACH

Lectio Divina with Sr. Pauline - Wednesdays 7.30-9pm

Sacred reading of the Sunday Gospel

November 26th - December 17th

**FREE
SERIES**

Contemplative Prayer - Thursdays 12-12.30pm

Space to cultivate your contemplative
prayer practice. Try new techniques to
deepen your prayer life.

November 27th - December 18th

www.antairseach.ie



Our Fundraiser

WICKLOW & RATHNEW PARISH LOTTO

We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone who has supported the Parish Lotto since it began in December 2019. It has been a great fundraiser for the parish amounting to just over €106,000 (after all costs – eg: prize money) which has been used for necessary maintenance in both churches. For example - St Joseph's has had some necessary repair works done to windows and some new necessities such as linens, oil candles etc, have been purchased for the Altar. St Patrick's has had a few issues with dampness and water, and lotto money was also used towards solving that.

Over the past number of years, we have held 311 draws, with 303 weekly winners of €50 amounting to €14,425 and 8 Jackpot winners with a total of €22,625 in prize money being won.

We have noticed recently, that we have lost some of our supporters and we are appealing to them to re-consider joining again. In a lot of cases, we lose people because their bank-card has been recently renewed and they just forgot to re-do their ticket. If this is the issue, can we please encourage you to login again or get in touch with the parish office, whereby we would be very happy to help you out.



If you do not have a ticket please support us by scanning the QR code or visiting our fundraising

website www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/wicklow

If previously Registered - click on the 'Login' button and enter your mobile number and password. Once logged in, click on the 'Play' button.

Not Previously Registered - click on the 'Join' button and follow the steps, it just takes a minute!

There will be a special Christmas Draw this year, both from the 'Our Fundraiser' group (please see the details in the newsletter) & also more Christmas raffle prizes on a local level

1st prize €250, 2nd prize €100 & 3 prizes of €50 each.

The prize money in the draw will also be increasing by €75 a week until it rises to €1000 and then it will continue increasing by €50 per week, until it reaches the limit of €5000. We would also be grateful if you could encourage family members and friends to become involved.

Cost is €2 per line or 3 lines for €5 per draw and every single euro is vital.

Remember - if you aren't in, you can't win!!!



**WICKLOW TOWN SET DANCERS
CHRISTMAS PARTY
CEILÍ
SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER
FROM 2:30 - 5:30 PM
VENUE: THE BRIDGE TAVERN (UPSTAIRS)
WICKLOW TOWN
EIRCODE: A67 C792
MUSIC BY: CATRIONA, LIZ & PAT
REFRESHMENTS SERVED
ADMISSION €10**



WICKLOW MALE VOICE CHOIR
Presents
"Music for Christmas"
Introducing our new Musical Director: Richard Takacs
Justin McCann, Pianist
Special Guests
Jacq Herbots, Tenor
Justin McCann, Piano
Sunday 7th December 2025 at **7.30p.m.**
Venue: St. Patricks Church, Wicklow.
Tickets available in Earls Newsagents or from any Choir member €20
Bring a small cushion for your comfort.

Wicklow & Rathnew Lotto



**Wicklow & Rathnew Parish
CHRISTMAS PRIZE
SPECTACULAR!
18TH DECEMBER 2025**
Support our weekly fundraiser draw this Christmas and you could win BIG!
Enter now for a chance to win.....
€250 MUST WIN CASH PRIZE
€100 MUST WIN CASH PRIZE
€50 MUST WIN CASH PRIZE
€50 MUST WIN CASH PRIZE
€50 MUST WIN CASH PRIZE
PLUS!
You're entered into the national Christmas Giveaway Competition. See next page for details.



**CHRISTMAS GIVEAWAY
COMPETITION
18TH DECEMBER 2025**
This nationwide competition is open to all participants who have a ticket in a fundraiser run by our service provider 'Our Fundraiser'.
TO WIN
Answer a call from 'Our Fundraiser' after 7pm and correctly answer the question:
What is traditionally hung by the fireplace at Christmas?
(a) Hats
(b) Jumpers
(c) Stockings
DON'T MISS OUT!
Visit our website to support.
1st Prize
Disneyland Paris
€5,000 Holiday
2nd Prize
Your Christmas Covered!
€3,000 Cash Prize
3rd Prize
Mondello Park
Adrenaline Supercar
Experience x2
4th Prize
Take That
The Circus Live
Premium Tickets x2
5th Prize
Luxury
Christmas
Hamper

www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/wicklow

Terms and conditions apply www.ourfundraiser.ie/terms-and-conditions

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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

Parish Lotto Results for 4/12/2025

No jackpot won this week

6

20

25

29

The winner of the €50 weekly raffle prize is:

Dervela Earls

Next Week's Jackpot will be: €650

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr Aquinas Duffy : 0404 67196 // Fr Gerard Deegan : 0404 671

Parish Office: 0404 61699

Email: parishofficewicklow@gmail.com, Website: www.stmantan.ie

Office opening times

Monday - Friday: 10am – 12.30pm

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.....

"**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