

PARISH NEWSLETTER

Wicklow & Rathnew

RCN 20016166

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

18th January 2026



John testifies that Jesus is the Lamb of God, God's own Son.

Background on the Gospel Reading

This Sunday we break from our reading of Matthew's Gospel (the primary Gospel for our current liturgical cycle, Cycle A) to read from John's Gospel. We heard Matthew's account of Jesus' baptism last Sunday, on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Today, we hear John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus as found in John's Gospel. John's Gospel differs from the other Gospels because John does not describe Jesus' baptism by John the Baptist. Instead, John the Baptist announces that he knows that Jesus is the Son of God.

In today's reading, John the Baptist sees Jesus approaching and cries out, giving witness about who Jesus is. In John's testimony he says that he saw the Spirit descend upon Jesus. By this sign, John the Baptist knew that Jesus was the one who is to come after him.

John the Baptist uses two titles for Jesus that are familiar to us. John calls Jesus the "Lamb of God" and the "Son of God." By using these titles, John the Baptist identifies Jesus' ultimate purpose: to redeem sinful humanity.

John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus clearly distinguishes John's baptism from the Baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John baptizes with water; Jesus will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John also puts his practice of baptism in the context of Jesus' ministry. The purpose of John's baptism was to make Jesus known to Israel.

John the Baptist's sense of purpose is clearly identified in this reading: he baptized in order to prepare for and make known the ministry of the One who was to follow. John's witness is an excellent example of what it means to be a disciple. By our Baptism, we are called to make Jesus known to all the world by our words and by the witness of our lives.



*Sincere sympathies to the families of
Oliver O'Reilly Wicklow Town and formerly
Cavan
Liam Sinnott Crinion Park, Wicklow Town
formerly Wexford & Barndarrig, Co. Wicklow.*

Mass Intention List

This Weekend ~ 17th & 18th January 2025

6.00pm Thomas Byrne - M.M
Michael Cullen (A), Pat Heraty
Ena Doyle (née Keddy) (A) and her grandson Mark
Dunne, John Catherine, Mary & Thomas Carr

9.00am **NO MASS**

10.30am Tom Murphy (former sacristan) 1st Anniversary
John & Eileen Nolan (A), Kit Byrne (A),
Bridget Byrne B.R

12.00pm Katie & Joe Carr, Mary, Patrick, Mary, John &
Catherine Carr. Catherine & Damien Doyle
Katie Conway (A) Mary Bradley (A), May Rice (A),
Seamus McCarthy

19th ~ 23rd January 2026

Monday Pacheco & Fonseca Family, Molly Power
Kathy & Eileen Connolly

7.00pm Christmas Novena Mass (8)

Tuesday Bert Vickers (Newtown) (A)

7.00pm Yvonne Snell 1st Anniversary
Margaret & Christopher Murphy (A),
Kathleen Jameson (A), Eddie Kenny (A),
Paddy Farrell (A), Phyllis Farrell (A)

Wednesday Eithne Wright R.D

Thursday Roger Kavanagh R.D

Friday Mitzi Brady R.D

Next Weekend ~ 24th & 25th January 2025

6.00pm Bride Coffey

9.00am Josie Marah & Joan O'Brien (A)

10.30am Kara O'Mahony 1st Anni. Jim & Kathleen Conway

12.00pm Philomena O'Dowd 1st Anniversary,
William & Ann Carr, Patrick, James, Ellen &
Monica Carr, Norman Mason (A), Maria Smullen
Anne Carney & deceased members of Carney Family

If you would like to reflect on next Sundays Readings,
please check...

FIRST READING: Isaiah 8: 23 - 9:3

PSALM: PS. 26:1,4,13-14

SECOND READING: Corinthians 1:10-13,17

GOSPEL: Matthew 4:12-23(or 4:12-17)



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Ashford: 1st Friday after Mass

Wicklow: Mondays and Thursdays after Mass

Kilbride: 1st Thursday at 7pm (Divine Mercy)

Brittas Bay: Tuesdays at 9am



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 12th February at 8pm in the De La Salle Pastoral Centre and on Thursday 22nd January at 7.30pm in The Parochial House in Ashford- which needs to be confirmed with the Parish Office.

Congratulations to all couples planning their marriage.

Don't forget to give 4 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 4 months before the date of the proposed wedding.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS FOR WICKLOW & RATHNEW

11th January 2026

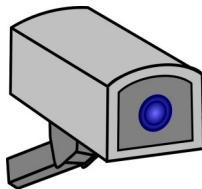
Here is where your donations go to.

Many thanks for your continued support.

PARISH ENVELOPE & STANDING ORDER DONATIONS	1ST COLLECTION COMMON FUND & DUES ENVELOPES	2ND COLLECTION - SHARE
<p>The Envelope/Standing Orders are what funds the Parish. This money stays locally and is vital to sustain our Parish.</p> <p>The money from these envelopes and Standing Orders maintain the Churches, Parish Centre, Houses, general maintenance and administration expenses.</p>	<p>The Common Fund account is funded by all the loose notes & coins in the First Collection</p> <p>It is used to provide suitable and equitable remuneration and support for all priests serving in the diocese, including active, sick, and retired clergy.</p>	<p>The Share account is funded by all loose notes & coins in the Second collection.</p> <p>It is primarily used to finance central support services for all parishes, and to provide financial assistance to low-income parishes.</p>
<p>The money received in these envelopes is lodged directly to the Parish account.</p>	<p>This loose money is lodged directly to the Diocesan Common Fund Account</p>	<p>This loose money is lodged directly to the Diocesan Share Account</p>
€1520 (100 envelopes received)	€1155	€1136

If you would like to help support your parish, please get in touch with the Parish Office to set up a box of weekly envelopes or through monthly Standing Order. Your support would be very much appreciated.

Spiritual Exercises: 5 Day Silent Ignatian Retreat for Men
Led Benedictine monks from St. Joseph Abbey, in France.
Starts Thursday 30th April (3pm). Benburb Priory, Co. Tyrone (1.5 hrs from Dublin). €450 (all meals & single room included).
Daily Mass - Ordinary Form (Latin & ad orientem).
Discover the strength that only comes when you stop running and let God speak.
Book at: <https://soutenir.clairval.com/retreat-benburb-priory>



Don't forget that all Masses in Wicklow can be viewed live on the pastoral area website, during the weekdays and weekends.

www.stmantan.ie

Mass leaflets are available in all the churches even if there is no Mass in a church on a particular weekend.

Anam Cara, the charity organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on Monday 19th January 2026 at 7.30pm in the Parkview Hotel, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow.

This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance.

We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

Local History Talk at Wicklow Library Branch

"A brief history of Icehouses with some Wicklow examples" by Peadar Curran
Thursday 29th January @7pm

Before the advent of modern refrigeration, icehouses played an essential role in preserving food, drink, and even medicines, forming a vital part of the domestic economy on large estates. In his upcoming talk, historian Peadar Curran will explore the fascinating history of icehouses, with particular attention to examples found on historic estates in Wicklow and South Dublin. The talk will examine how these structures were built, how they were used, and the reasons for their eventual decline.

This talk takes place in Wicklow Town Library Branch on Thursday, January 29th, starting from 7pm.

All are welcome. This event is free, however spaces are limited.

To book your place

Contact Wicklow Town Library Branch on 0404 67025 or
email Wicklib@wicklowcoco.ie

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, grave candles & ornaments. Drop in and have a browse, baptism candles, small baby gifts, angel gifts, rosary beads, car medals, visors 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.

29
DAY
01
MONTH
26
YEAR

Thank you

GIVEAWAY COMPETITION TO WIN

Answer a call from 'Our Fundraiser' after 7pm and correctly answer the question:

What is the first month of the year?

- (a) January
- (b) December
- (c) February



This nationwide competition is open to all participants who have a ticket in a fundraiser run by our service provider 'Our Fundraiser'.

DON'T MISS OUT!

Visit our website
to support



www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/wicklow

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

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr Aquinas Duffy : 0404 67196//Fr Gerard Deegan : 0404 67133

Parish Office: 0404 61699

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

Office opening times

Monday - Friday: 10am – 12.30pm

WICKLOW CANCER SUPPORT

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 -
All our services are free of charge**

0404 32696 or 086 821 6694

Email info@wicklowcancersupport.ie

Open: Mon-Fri: 10.00-5.00.
Closed for lunch 1-2p.m.



Are you stressed, depressed or just in need of some real self-care?



Join Rozel for gentle Yoga and Meditation sessions in:

**De la Salle Pastoral Centre, Wicklow.
Fridays at 10.00am.**

With an emphasis on breath work and deep relaxation, these sessions will help you to relax, renew and cope with life in the present moment. The sessions are subsidised by Social Prescribing in County Wicklow Partnership

Tel: 087 2485905 for more information



**Wicklow
Lions Club**

**Sincere
THANKS**

for all the
wonderful
support
during
December



**ON MONDAYS in the
DE LA SALLE CENTRE &
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS in
ST BRIDGETS HALL - BOTH
AT 8PM. STRICTLY OVER 18s.**

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 15/01/2026

No jackpot won this week

5

6

14

15

The winner of the €50 weekly raffle prize is:

Miriam McGrath

Next Week's Jackpot will be: €1,200

**Please encourage friends and family to support this Parish Fundraiser from as little as €2 per line or €5 for three lines. (The price of a coffee) Its quick and easy to sign up.
More information from the Parish Office or ourfundraiser.ie**

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.....

Faith is not a light which scatters all our darkness, but a lamp which guides our steps in the night and suffices for the journey.

- POPE FRANCIS