

# 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

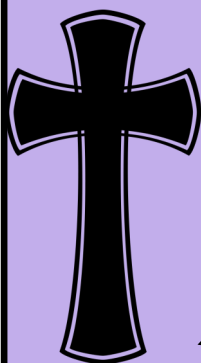
This Sunday we break from our reading of Matthew's Gospel (the primary Gospel for our current liturgical cycle, Cycle A) to read from John's Gospel. We heard Matthew's account of Jesus' baptism last Sunday, on the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Today, we hear John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus 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



## BAPTISM

### 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
	Third Saturday	12 noon
Glenealy		
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**

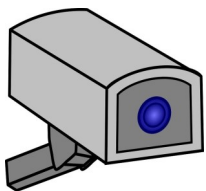
**Here is where your donations go to.**

*Many thanks for your continued support.*

<b>PARISH ENVELOPE &amp; STANDING ORDER DONATIONS</b>	<b>1ST COLLECTION COMMON FUND &amp; DUES ENVELOPES</b>	<b>2ND COLLECTION - SHARE</b>
<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 &amp; 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 &amp; 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>
<p><b>€1520</b> ( 100 envelopes received)</p>	<p><b>€1155</b></p>	<p><b>€1136</b></p>

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](http://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](mailto: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 29<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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

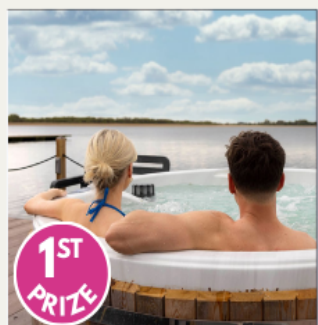
Thank you

# 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



**1ST  
PRIZE**

**ULTIMATE UNWIND GETAWAY  
@WINEPORT LODGE  
(VALUE €1,500)**



**2ND  
PRIZE**

**DYSON  
SPOT + SCRUB  
AI ROBOT VAC**



**3RD  
PRIZE**

**EMERALD PARK  
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP  
(FAMILY OF 5)**

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](http://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/wicklow)

Terms and conditions apply [www.ourfundraiser.ie/terms-and-conditions](http://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](mailto:parishofficewicklow@gmail.com), Website: [www.stmantan.ie](http://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](mailto: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



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](http://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