

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

## Wicklow & Rathnew

RCN 20016166

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Year A

21st December 2025



### Donal Neary S.J. Gospel Reflection ~ The Call to Joseph

In religious terms we would call Joseph 'a faithful type of guy', observant in religious thought and practice. The visit from the angel tests his faithfulness to God and to Mary. He doesn't let them down. He was called to be the carer of Jesus and Mary and to find a new openness to the mystery of God.

A temptation of religion is to tie things down too much. The law in Joseph's time was strict - if a woman was pregnant the man would cancel the betrothal, and she might be stoned to death! Joseph went beyond law to love and the mystery of God's call. Good religion is open to the mystery of life, however life challenges us and calls us. Some of the most open-minded people I have met have been very religious, and some of the most narrow-minded people have also been religious! Like good and bad medicine, there is good and bad in religion.

True religion is open to mystery. We need a church lit with the light of God, as Joseph was. His burden was lifted when he was open to God, to take Mary home as his wife, no matter what others might think. This is the annunciation to Joseph - the word of God from the angel to Joseph in a dream. It opened him to a huge new meaning in life. We accept this word as a central part of our lives, and the next time we meet the word, it will be made flesh.

Look to your own house, and all who live in it. Imagine the light of Christ in each room and on all the family.



*Lord, you are the word of God, made flesh, have mercy on us.*

### 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**

# Mass Intention List

*This Weekend ~ 20th & 21st December 2025*

- 6.00pm** James O'Brien M.M, Nick & Margaret Healy, Frank & Mary Newsome & deceased members of Newsome & Marah family Deidre O'Reilly, Dymphna, Oisín, Christy, Grainne & Roisín Cooney, Edward O'Neill, Eileen Byrne (A), Pat Byrne (A), Michael Gleeson (A), James & Jimmy Murphy, Des Doyle & his son Adrian,
- 9.00am** Mary Jameson - nee Vickers (A), Michael, Esther, Kate & Paul Doyle
- 10.30am** Michael & Mary Knowles (A), Liam Heffernan (A) Evelyn Kelly nee Flynn (A), Mary Jameson Thomas & Hannah Nolan, John & Eileen Nolan John, Ellen & Agnes Malone
- 12.00pm** Betty & Patsy Byrne (A), Michael (Mick) Merrigan (A), Liam, Tess, Des, Muriel & Matt Whyte, Mike and Beth Malone (A), Tommy & Margaret Hogan (A), Iris, Bill & Alice Stephens, Special Intention, Michael & Anne Hanlon, Betty & Peter Kenny, Willie & Jasmine Stephens, Mary Heaney & Her Mother Betty Higgins Pat & Monica O'Rourke B.R, Michael White Christmas Remembrance

*22nd December ~ 26th December 2025*

- Monday** Paddy & Evelyn Kelly (A)
- 7.00pm** Neil Agnes & Gaye McGettigan Patrick McGettigan who died in US recently & Georgie Connor, Sheila Olohan
- Tuesday** Jordan Giannikis (A)
- 7.00pm** Tony & Bridget, Liam & Kevin Kelly
- Wednesday** Christmas Eve
- Thursday** Christmas Day
- Friday** Tom & Delia Murphy, Ned, Rosanna, John & Eddie Hanlon

*Next Weekend ~ 27th & 28th December 2025*

- 6.00pm** Everett Kavanagh 1st Anni. Sheila Maddock (A)
- 9.00am** Doreen Russell (A), Nancy Ronan (A) & Remembering her Husband Paddy
- 10.30am** Henry Tobin (A)
- 12.00pm** Phillip and Nell Healy (A), Jackie Teevan R.D, Gerard Cullen & Martin Carr, John King & Susan Ward (A)



**WEEKLY COLLECTIONS FOR WICKLOW & RATHNEW:  
14th December 2025**

**ENVELOPE/CHURCH COLLECTION** - goes towards maintaining our parish **€1515**  
**1ST COLLECTION /COMMON FUND** - pays salaries of Priests of Diocese **€1380**  
**2ND COLLECTION/SHARE** - Goes towards Diocesan Administration **€1165**

*Many thanks for your continued support.*

**NEXT WEEKEND'S READINGS**

To reflect on the readings please check  
[catholicireland.net](http://catholicireland.net) / [sacredspace.ie](http://sacredspace.ie) / [universalis.com](http://universalis.com)

**FIRST READING: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14**

**PSALM: PS. 127: 1 - 5**

**SECOND READING: Colossians 3:12-17**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 2: 13-15,19-23**

**De La Salle Parish Office**

*Will close on Friday 19th December  
at 12.30pm and re-opens on  
Wednesday 7th January 2026 at 10am.*

*Wishing all our clients  
a very happy and  
peaceful Christmas  
and new year.*



## 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.

## **CHRISTMAS EVE WEDNESDAY 24TH DECEMBER**

5.00pm in Wicklow Family

Christmas Liturgy with Holy Communion

### **VIGIL MASSES**

6.00pm ~ Brittas Bay

6.30pm ~ Ashford

7.00pm ~ Wicklow

8.00pm ~ Barndarrig

9.00pm ~ Wicklow

## **CHRISTMAS DAY: THURSDAY 25TH DECEMBER**

9.00am ~ Rathnew & Kilbride

10.30am ~ Wicklow & Glenealy

12noon ~ Wicklow & Ashford

## **ST STEPHENS DAY: FRIDAY 26TH DECEMBER**

10.00am ~ Wicklow & Ashford

## **SATURDAY 27TH & SUNDAY 28TH**

Normal Weekend Masses



A graphic with a blue and yellow sunburst background. In the center, the word "Bingo!" is written in a large, bold, yellow font with a black outline. Above the text, there are three overlapping bingo cards. The top card is blue and has the word "BINGO" at the top. Below it, there are two more cards, one green and one yellow, both also labeled "BINGO".

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

A notice with a white background and a red tinsel border. The text is in purple. It says "De La Salle Pastoral Centre" in a large font, followed by "Will close on Friday 19th December at 10pm and re-open on Monday 5th January 2026 at 10am." and "Wishing all our Patrons a very Happy & peaceful Christmas." in a cursive font.

**De La Salle  
Pastoral Centre**

*Will close on Friday  
19th December at  
10pm and re-open on  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January  
2026 at 10am.*

*Wishing all our  
Patrons a very Happy  
& peaceful Christmas.*

A festive announcement with a light pink background. At the top, there are five Christmas ornaments: a red and white striped one, a solid red one, a green one with white stars, a solid red one, and a red and white striped one. Below them, the text "Maureens Unwanted gift sale" is written in a large, bold, red font. Underneath, in a smaller green font, it says "On behalf of myself and my fantastic team thank you so much for your generous support in donation and on the day. We have started for next November. Wishing you all a happy Christmas from Maureen and her Team!". The bottom of the image is decorated with three green gift boxes with red bows, flanked by green holly leaves and red berries. There are also red and white striped candy canes and red snowflakes scattered around the text.

**Maureens Unwanted gift sale**

**On behalf of myself and my fantastic team thank you so much  
for your generous support in donation and on the day. We have  
started for next November. Wishing you all a happy Christmas  
from Maureen and her Team!**





# Thank You to all our Volunteers!

*As we celebrate*

*Christmas & New Year*

*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.*

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*“Volunteers aren’t paid - not  
because they are worthless, but  
because they are priceless!”*

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THANK YOU ALL FOR BUILDING  
HOPE IN OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY.

## 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 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**

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

**We would love to hear what is happening in the parish so that we can  
include it in the parish newsletter.**

**If you are organising any event or activity—non-profit—please email us  
with the details at [parishofficewicklow@gmail.com](mailto:parishofficewicklow@gmail.com).**

**We look forward to hearing from you.**



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 18/12/2025**

**No jackpot won this week**

**5**

**24**

**25**

**30**

**The winner of the €50 weekly raffle prize is:**

**Siobhan Hennessy**

**Next Week's Jackpot will be: €850**

### **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, 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.

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.....

