

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, Website: 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, Dympna, Oisin, Christy, Grainne & Roisin 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 / sacredspace.ie / 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



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

De La Salle Pastoral Centre

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

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



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

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



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.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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



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.....

