

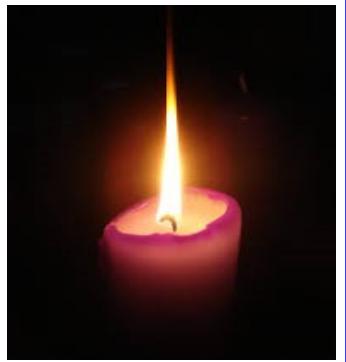
# PARISH NEWSLETTER

## Wicklow & Rathnew

RCN 20016166

**First Sunday of Advent - Year A**

**30th November 2025**



### Donal Neary S.J. Gospel Reflection ~ Light for the journey

In faith and in hope we begin **Advent** this week with its first candle. With Mary and Joseph we wait for **Christ**. The candles are lighting the way for them - and for us! The coming light of **Jesus** lights both our waiting and our journey in life. May it shine the light of Christ into the darknesses of the year since last Christmas - bereavement, illness, depression, disappointments?

We prepare best for **Christmas** by spreading this light. The way to celebrate Christmas is rooted in our following of the gospel. Among our ways are caring more for the poor, some focused daily prayer, and the wish to forgive more and be forgiven.

**All** the different images of Christmas prepare us for this birth

- the carols we hear and sing,
- the lights in the streets,
- the star over the church and our Christmas trees and the ways we pray with anticipation and remember other Christmas days with joy.

Everything of this month can remind us of **God**. The Christ-mas trees, lights, cards, carols, parties, Santa hats, the houses lit up with reindeer and all the things we see about Christmas, all remind us that **God** is near.

We welcome the lights in the spirit of Pope Francis:

*'Those who have opened their hearts to God's love, heard his voice and received his light, cannot keep this gift to themselves. Since faith is hearing and seeing, it is also handed on as word and light'* (The Light of Faith, 37).



Spend a little time this **Advent** remembering some people or family memories that make you grateful for **Christmas**. Thank **God** for these in your own words.



*Sincere sympathies to the families of  
Breda Vickers née Mahon of Wicklow Town and  
formerly Co Laois  
Margaret Weir née Vickers of Ballyguile and formerly  
St. Bride's Road Wicklow Town  
James (Jim) O'Brien Brooklands, Marlton Road and  
formerly Ocean View Wicklow Town*

# Mass Intention List

## This Weekend ~ 29th & 30th November 2025

**6.00pm** Marie Kenny (A)

A.I Zachariah (A), Rosaleen Earls

Sean Flood (A), Rory Attley (A)

John O'Brien (A), Anna-May Phillips (A)

Joe Dickenson (A), Patrick & Elizabeth O'Brien (A)

**9.00am** Mary Malone R.D

**10.30am** Agnes Malone (A), Mary Hayes (A)

Fred Schweppes, Jim Burke (A)

**12.00pm** Michael & Betty Mooney (A)

Thomas & Brigid Whyte

## 1st December ~ 5th December 2025

**Monday** Eamon O'Sullivan (A)

**7.00pm** Tom Crean B.R

**Tuesday** Deceased members of the Active Retirement Association

**7.00pm** Stan O'Reilly R.D

**Wednesday** Joseph Doran

**Thursday** Special Intention

**Friday** Altar List of the Dead

## Next 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

**9.00am** Catherine Vickers 1st Anniversary

Joseph Michael Hennessey

**10.30am** Jack Nolan (A) Jack & Eileen Kinsella, Annie Byne, 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)

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS FOR WICKLOW & RATHNEW:

**23rd November 2025**

**ENVELOPE/CHURCH COLLECTION** - goes towards maintaining our parish **€2125**  
**1ST COLLECTION /COMMON FUND** - pays salaries of Priests of Diocese **€1120**  
**2ND COLLECTION/SHARE** - goes towards Diocesan Administration **€1025**

*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: Isaiah 11: 1 - 10**

**PSALM: Ps 71:1-2,7-8,12-13,17**

**SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-9**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 3: 1 - 12**

## 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.

The Annual Church collection will be held next 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.



Society of St Vincent de Paul



## 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



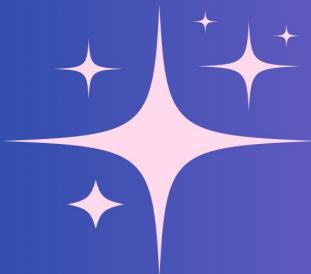
[www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey/](http://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey/)



CATHOLIC EDUCATION  
 PARTNERSHIP

St. Mantan's Partnership of Parishes  
invites you to:

## An Advent Message of Hope



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

### ADVENT AT AN TAIRSEACH

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

**Sacred reading of the**  
**Sunday Gospel**

**November 26<sup>th</sup> -**  
**December 17<sup>th</sup>**

**FREE  
SERIES**

**Contemplative Prayer**  
**Thursdays 12-12.30pm**

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

**November 27<sup>th</sup> -**  
**December 18<sup>th</sup>**

**[www.antairseach.ie](http://www.antairseach.ie)**

## 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 [in-](mailto:info@wicklowcancersupport.ie)  
[fo@wicklowcancersupport.ie](mailto:fo@wicklowcancersupport.ie)**

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



## 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 loose 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](http://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

**1<sup>st</sup> prize €250, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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!!!***

WMDS  
WICKLOW MUSICAL & DRAMATIC SOCIETY

# SNOW WHITE

Into The Dark Woods

DATES - DECEMBER 5TH-7TH

EVENING SHOWS 5<sup>TH</sup> & 6<sup>TH</sup> 7-9PM  
MATINEES 6<sup>TH</sup> 2-4PM & 7<sup>TH</sup> 3-5PM

VENUE FATIMA HALL,  
DOMINICAN COLLEGE

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM  
[WWW.GR8EVENTS.IE](http://WWW.GR8EVENTS.IE)



Rathnew Women's Social Enterprise

## JOIN US FOR A CHRISTMAS MARKET

DECEMBER 14 TH 2025  
FROM 11 AM TO 3 PM

St. Brigid's Hall, Rathnew A67 X583

Cosy Quilts, Knitwear, Crochet,  
Handmade gifts,  
Candles, Sensory toys,  
Up cycled creations  
Fresh baked goods and refreshments

RATHNEW CROFT FAIR MARKET



Ríocht na hÉireann Government of Ireland  
Co-investment ag an Eorpachais Foras  
Co-funded by the European Union  
pobal government supporting communities  
SHEAP  
County Wicklow Partnership  
LCDC

"The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) is co-funded by the Irish Government, through the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the European Social Fund Plus under the Employment, Inclusion, Skills and Training (EIST) Programme 2021 -2027."

Christmas Food Appeal

Now till 2nd December

to help those who need some extra help this year.

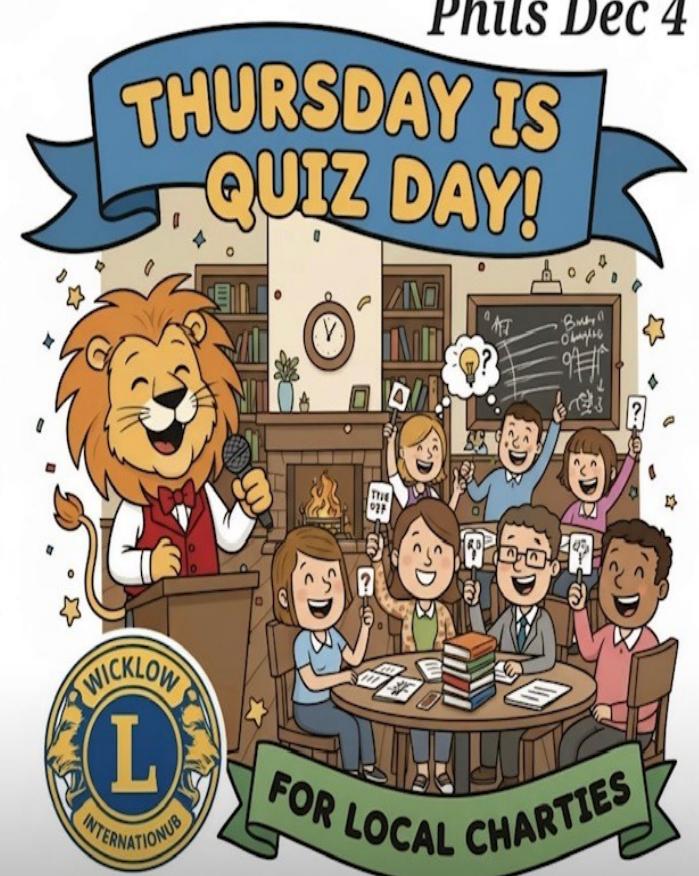
In conjunction with the Wicklow Guide, Brigini & Cygnet group & the local Lions club.

All donations of non-perishable goods and toiletries welcome.

Donations can be left in the Parish Office or Sacristy

Phils Dec 4

## THURSDAY IS QUIZ DAY!



WICKLOW INTERNATIONAL

FOR LOCAL CHARITIES

Many thanks to the sponsor of our newsletter  
**McCrea's Funeral Home, Dublin Road,**  
Phone 0404 69000, 24 hours  
[www.mccrea.ie](http://www.mccrea.ie) - [info@niallmccrea.com](mailto:info@niallmccrea.com)

**Parish Lotto Results for 27/11/2025**

**No jackpot won this week**

**3**

**5**

**15**

**16**

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

**Susan Hill**

**Next Week's Jackpot will be: €575**

## **PARISH CONTACTS**

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

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.....

**PSALMS 37:5**

**COMMIT YOUR WAY  
TO THE LORD; TRUST  
IN HIM, AND HE WILL  
ACT,**

Bibleinspirationalquotesverses