

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 **A**dvent this week with its first candle. With Mary and Joseph we wait for **C**hrist. The candles are lighting the way for them - and for us! The coming light of **J**esus 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 **C**hristmas 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 **G**od. 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 **G**od is near.

We welcome the lights in the spirit of **P**ope **F**rancis:
'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 **A**dvent remembering some people or family memories that make you grateful for **C**hristmas. Thank **G**od 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 Schweppe, 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 / sacredspace.ie / 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.



Society of St Vincent de Paul

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.



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



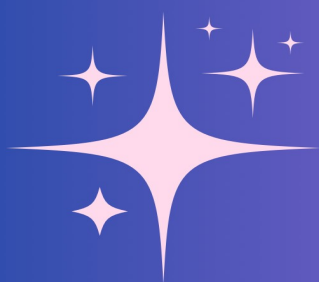
www.gov.ie/en/department-of-education/campaigns/primary-school-survey/



**CATHOLIC EDUCATION
PARTNERSHIP**

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

An Advent Message of Hope



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

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-
fo@wicklowcancersupport.ie](mailto:info@wicklowcancersupport.ie)

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

ADVENT AT AN TAIRSEACH

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

Sacred reading of the
Sunday Gospel

**November 26th -
December 17th**

**FREE
SERIES**

**Contemplative Prayer
Thursdays 12-12.30pm**

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

**November 27th -
December 18th**

www.antairseach.ie



Our Fundraiser

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 lose 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

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

1st prize €250, 2nd 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 5TH & 6TH 7-9PM
MATINEES 6TH 2-4PM & 7TH 3-5PM

VENUE FATIMA HALL,
DOMINICAN COLLEGE

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
WWW.GR8TEVENTS.IE



Rathnew Women's Social Enterprise

JOIN US FOR A
CHRISTMAS MARKET

DECEMBER 14TH 2025
FROM 11AM TO 3PM

St. Brigid's Hall, Rathnew A67 X583

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

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 LIONS INTERNATIONAL

FOR LOCAL CHARTIES

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 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, Website: 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