

For Masses
Next Weekend



Readers



Eucharistic
Ministers

Ashford

Des Tully 1st Ps
Maureen Stockdale 2nd GA

Marie Togher
Lucy Molloy

Vigil –6:00 pm

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Children Readers

Ann Clarke
Gary Dowling

Glenealy

Rosie Cooney

Pat Ferguson

Vigil-7:30 pm

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Lizzie McElhinney

Eleanor O’Neill



Welcome to The Parish of Ashford & Glenealy

www.ashfordparish.com

Second Sunday of Advent



TWO REASONS TO HOPE

When God first agreed to be our ancestors’ God, by signing the covenant, he said it would be based on two things: “hesed and emeth”. These two Hebrew words mean “steadfast love and faithfulness”.

Even a fool can see that our ancestors didn’t take long to break their side of the agreement. They soon forgot that their “special relationship” with God depended on how they behaved, how they responded to God’s favour by the way they treated him and other people.

So you might think that God would have torn up the covenant and declared it null and void. But God remembered his part of the bargain, those two things: steadfast love and faithfulness. God never stopped being loving and faithful, whatever his people got up to. No matter how far people strayed, God remained steadfast and faithful. This dual characteristic of God, steadfastness and faithfulness, is the reason why Christians trust God. It is the basis of Christian hope.

Our Advent liturgy today invites us to deepen this sense of hope. Don’t be miserable, says the prophet Baruch, don’t go around sad and distressed because your God is coming to set things right. Advent looks forward to the fulfilment of the promises that God has made to us. And God is steadfast and faithful.

But Christian hope is not merely about the future. It’s not like the vague hope that one day we might win the lottery.

It affects how we live our lives today, because the seeds of the future are based on my relationships here and now.

Hope shines a new light on this reality. It’s a dynamic gift that stops us from closing in on ourselves and instead spurs us on to new beginnings, to new challenges and to new life. We live by faith; we continue through charity; we flourish in hope.

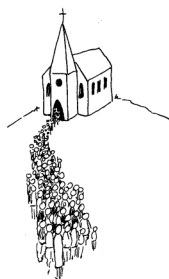
The hope we entertain is not simply an optimism that Jesus will return at the end of time, but is a conviction that here and now he can come into our lives as Messiah and can set us free from whatever weighs us down. And come he will if we invite him. For he is steadfast and faithful.

LAST WEEKEND’S COLLECTION

Offertory: € 1015
Share: € 575
Planned Giving: € 320
Maint. & Devel € 175

MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEK

Ashford Dec 7th 9am No Intention
Ashford Dec 8th 10 am No Intention
Ashford Dec 9th 9am No Intention
Ashford Dec 10th 9am Vera Woods
Ashford Dec 11th 9 am No Intention
Ashford Saturday Vigil Billy Timmons
Ashford Sunday 11:00 am Eileen Quinn
Glenealy Vigil Mass Peggy Russell
Glenealy Sunday 9:30 am Michael & Catherine O’Reilly, Sally Heatley, Peter & Edward O’Reilly



PARISH

PENITENTIAL SERVICE



SMOOTHEN
THE PATH
FOR OUR GOD

Parish Penitential Service will take place in Glenealy church on Tuesday 15th December at 8:00 p.m.

We encourage you to use this opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of forgiveness before Christmas.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION DECEMBER 8TH HOLY DAY

OF OBLIGATION

December 8th is a Holy day of Obligation and Mass will be at 7:30 pm Dec 7th in Glenealy and 10:00 a.m. in Ashford on Dec 8th.



“Parish Newsletter sponsored by McDonnell Properties Ashford”

Parish Information

Fr. Kevin Rowan Adm.
Telephone: 0404 40540
revkev@eircom.net

Fr Edward Barry CC
Telephone: 0404 40224
edwardgbarry@eircom.net

Sacristans:

Ashford –Brendan Devine –brendandevine@eircom.net -0879705916
Glenealy- Eleanor O’Neill 0404-44469

Baptisms: Ashford 1st Sunday each month after 11:00 am Mass. 3 Weeks notice required.

Glenealy 3rd Saturday each month at 12:00 . 3 weeks notice required.

Marriages: Three months notice required by Church and the State . N.B. New Civil law Regulations require that all couples present themselves to the priest in the Church before a marriage date can be booked into the Church Diary.



The Annual Collection for St. Vincent de Paul Will be taken up at all masses next weekend.

Next weekend the Annual Collection for St. Vincent de Paul will be taken up, this collection will replace the usual share collection.

Please give as generously as you can because the society depends on this money to continue their good work through the Christmas season and throughout the year. As we are all well aware this has been an extremely trying time for many and they have turned to the SVP for help in even greater numbers than ever .

Please be generous in answering this appeal!!

CHRISTMAS EXPERIENCE FOR YOUNG AND OLD

This concert will feature the Choral Society and Bray Youth Choir; under the direction of Frank Kelly.



It will be held in Ashford Church on this Sunday evening Dec 6th. Doors open at 7:30 pm! The

programme will include Carols Old and New as well as readings of relevant material from literature about the Christmas Experience for Young and Old.

Any available tickets will be on sale at the door on the night!!

Tickets cost € 10.00

Don't miss out on what promises to be a wonderful pre Christmas celebration for all the family!!

ASHFORD CHILDREN'S CHOIR PRESENTS

GIVE A CHILD A GIFT AT CHRISTMAS AND CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

In Aid of Our Lady's Children's Hospital Crumlin.

Holy Rosary Church , Friday 18th December 2009 Ashford, Co Wicklow

Doors opening at 7.30 pm

In return we are asking people to please bring a wrapped gift for the Children at Our Lady's Hospital, Crumlin (No Furry Toys please)

Thank you for your support - Santa will be there to receive the gifts .



ASHFORD ADULT CHOIR PRACTICE

On Tuesday Dec 7th there will be Adult choir practice in Ashford Church at 7:30 pm.

New members very welcome!!

BRAY CHORAL SOCIETY



The Society under the direction of Frank Kelly will present Handel's Messiah at the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer in Bray on Saturday Dec 12th at 8:00 pm.

Tickets €20, Concession € 15 and Family€50. Full details of the event are outlined on the poster placed at the main door in the Ashford Church

Irish Catholic News Paper



At the Masses this weekend , a complimentary copy of the Irish Catholic News is being offered to all who wish to receive one. If you are interested in making a subscription to the paper there are necessary forms contained in the paper which you are welcome to complete and return to the sacristy during the week.

This paper has been a strong voice for our Church in Ireland for approximately 125 years!

Could make a lovely Christmas gift for a loved one!!

ASHFORD COMMUNITY GROUP

At the most recent draw the following were the winners:

€ 300 Angus Jameson
€150 Oliver McDermott
€100 Tom Byrne
€50 O'Brien Boys

Congratulations to all the winners. And for the "hopeful" the next draw will be held on Dec 19th in the Woodpecker.

A lovely Christmas gift