

For Masses
Next Weekend



Readers



Eucharistic
Ministers

Ashford

Joe Kavanagh
Deirdre McMahon

Denis McWatt
Margaret McDermott

Michael Noone
Eileen Byrne

Brendan Devine
Denise O'Donnell

Glenealy

Margaret O'Neill

To be determined at Mass

Vigil –6:00 pm

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Sunday 9:30a.m.



Welcome to The Parish of Ashford & Glenealy

www.ashfordparish.com

3rd Sunday in Advent

RAISING EXPECTATIONS



Non-religious people can be forgiven for thinking that Christians are consumed with a religion of fear. In fact, elderly people sometimes remark that their own religious upbringing was characterized by fear of punishment. “Wait till your father gets home” was transferred into threats about what would happen when God came to judge the living and the dead. If this were true, then

Advent would be a miserable season. It would be the time when we all prayed with our lips for the coming of Christ but in our hearts we hoped that it would not be during our lifetime. Should we be tempted to go along with this in our own practice of faith, then today’s scripture ought to make us think twice. For it forms part of the “Gaudete Sunday” (“Rejoicing”) Advent message: the coming of our God is something to yearn for rather than to dread. We are encouraged to rejoice because our God will come not to condemn us but to set us free. It’s a prize to be grasped, not a plague to be shunned.

Advent is not a palliative against the futility of existence; it’s an endorsement of the very meaning of life. It’s a period of great expectations, for when Christ comes, it is to bring fullness of life. Isaiah tells us that the coming of our God is like an oasis in the desert, like a cure for those who are crippled and struck down. And John the Baptist reminds us that if we want to know whether God really is close by, then we only need to look around us and see the wonders that can happen when the Good News is proclaimed. And this coming of our God is not merely some distant thing in the future that can have no effect on our lives today.

God comes every day. We meet Christ in those whose lives touch ours, both friend and stranger. He looks out on us through the eyes of our smiling grandchildren as much as the tears of the widow and orphan. The coming of our God is nothing to fear. It is something to look forward to eagerly, both now and at the end of time.

MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEK DEC 13TH-DEC 19TH

Ashford Monday Dec 13th 9am No Intention
Ashford Tuesday Dec 14th 9 am No Intention
Ashford Wednesday Dec 15th 9:45 am No Intention
Ashford Thursday Dec 16th 9am No Intention
Ashford Friday Dec 17th No Intention
Ashford Vigil Dec 18th 6 pm Mark Tighe
Glenealy Sunday Dec 19th 9:30am No Intention
Ashford Sunday Dec 19th 11 am Eileen McHugh



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL COLLECTION



The annual collection for St. Vincent de Paul will take place at masses this weekend the 11th and 12th of December. The collection replaces the usual Share collection. *They need your help more than ever this year so please be as generous as you can be.*

PARISH ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE

The Parish Advent Penitential service will take place on Wednesday next 15th of December at 8:00 p.m. We encourage you to use this opportunity to celebrate the sacrament of forgiveness before Christmas. As well the sacrament will be available on Saturday 19th December before 6 pm mass in Ashford and on Sunday December 20th after 9:30 am mass in Glenealy. On Friday 24th December from 12:00 noon to 12:30 pm in both churches.



PREPARE
THE
WAY
FOR
THE
LORD,

SMOOTHEN
THE
PATH
FOR OUR GOD

“Parish Newsletter sponsored by McDonnell Properties Ashford”

Parish Information

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

Fr Edward Barry CC
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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.

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.

CHRISTMAS MASS INTENTIONS

Parishioners are asked to submit as soon as possible the names of loved ones they wish to have remembered at the Masses during Christmas. As well, could you please indicate at which mass you would want your loved one remembered. Closing date for receiving these names is Tuesday 21st December.



RECENT BAPTISMS



During the past week there were two baptisms celebrated in our parish. Fr Kevin baptized Erin Doyle and Fr. Edward baptized Oisín Deehan. We offer our congratulations to their parents and relatives on this very happy occasion!

ASHFORD YOUTH 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
December 17th 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 .

Mass Times Over Christmas in Ashford Parish

Friday 24th Dec. 7:30 p.m. Mass in Glenealy

9:00 p.m. Mass in Ashford

Saturday 25th Dec. 9:00 a.m. Mass in Ashford

9:30 a.m. Mass in Glenealy

11:00 a.m. Mass in Ashford

11:30 a.m. Mass in Glenealy

Sunday 26th Dec. 11:00 a.m. Mass in Ashford

11:30 a.m. Mass in Glenealy

Monday 27th Dec. until Friday 31st Dec.

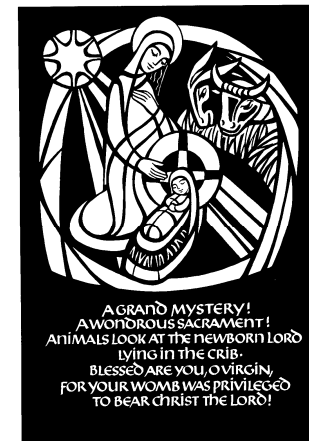
Mass at 10:00 a.m. in Ashford

Saturday 1st January 6:00 p.m. Mass in Ashford

Sunday 2nd January 9:30 a.m. Mass in Glenealy

11:00 a.m. Mass in Ashford

Monday 3rd January 10:00 a.m. Mass in Ashford



NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE



Our Lady's Choral Society: (The Archdiocesan Choir) have a beautiful new CD called "Ring Christmas Bells" with boy soprano and baritone guests. The Festival Orchestra is conducted by Proinsias Ó Duinn. It would be an excellent Christmas present at only €15 Available from Veritas, Golden Discs and the Music Box at the National Concert Hall

Resource from the Council for Marriage and Family: which comprises- A Blessing of the Advent Wreath in the Home.-A blessing of the Christmas Tree in the Home. A Blessing of the Crib in the Home and a Family Table Prayer for Christmas Day. The resource leaflet can be found on www.dublindiocese.ie in the 'noticeboard' section.

PENITENTIAL SERVICES IN NEIGHBOURING PARISHES

Rathnew: Monday 13th December

Glendalough: Thursday 16th December

Roundwood: Friday 17th December

Rathdrum: Monday 20th December

Wicklow: Tuesday 21st December.

Arklow: Wednesday 22nd December

As far as we know all services are at 8:00p.m. but please check with the parish beforehand.

