

For Masses
Next Weekend



Readers



Eucharistic
Ministers

Ashford

John Holly
Celia McWatt

Carmel Grant
Marie Togher

Vigil –6:00 pm

Michael Noone
Eileen Byrne

Denise Collis Lee
Pat Ferguson

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Glenealy

Bill Donnelly

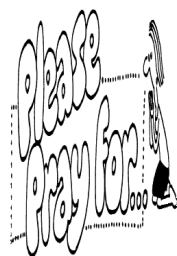
To be determined at Mass

Sunday 9:30 a.m.

MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEK



Ashford Jan 24th 9 am No Intention
Ashford Jan 25th 9am No intention
Ashford Jan 26th 9:45 am No Intention
Ashford Jan 27th 9am No Intention
Ashford Jan 28th 9am No Intention
Ashford Jan 29th Saturday Vigil -Billy Clarke-----
-----Ashford Sunday Jan 30th 11:00 am Patrick & Statia Behan
Glenealy Sunday Jan 30th 9:30 am



**ACCORD ANNUAL COLLECTION
12TH AND 13TH FEBRUARY**



CATHOLIC MARRIAGE CARE SERVICE

The Diocesan Agency for Marriage and the Family,
will be made at all Masses on the weekend of
12th and 13th February 2011

The Collection for ACCORD will replace the usual
Share Collection.

ACCORD Dublin throughout the diocese offers:

- * Marriage Preparation Courses
- * Counselling for couples and individuals experiencing difficulties in their relationships.
- * Marital Sexual Therapy.
- * A Relationship and Sexuality Programme in Schools.

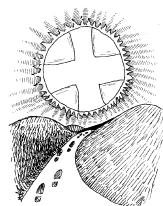
“Parish Newsletter sponsored by McDonnell Properties Ashford”



Welcome to The Parish of Ashford & Glenealy

www.ashfordparish.com

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



QUITE A SURPRISE

We all have our own prejudices. Some of us wouldn't touch a German white wine if it were on prescription. Others would always go for a week's bed and breakfast at Mrs. Higginbottom's boarding house in Eastbourne rather than a luxury holiday abroad in the sun.

A new fashion design business would have an uphill struggle if it opened in Scunthorpe and a gourmet restaurant would have to prove itself to survive in West Bromwich. (Apologies to anyone who lives in these towns!)

The same was true in Jesus' day. Of all the chic places to be found, the land of Zebulon and Naphtali, in northern Palestine, was not exactly at the top of the list. It had been attacked by the Assyrians and many people had been deported. So it's with a sense of irony that Matthew remembers Isaiah's prophecy about how God would make these places great. And now the eyes of the world look to Zebulon and Naphtali as the place from which God's promised Messiah has come.

We have to fight against letting our prejudices get the better of us. For our God is a God of surprises. Just when we think we have got it all sewn up and we know what to expect, God pops up in the most unusual of circumstances and makes a nonsense of our best predictions. The pages of religious history are littered with the underdog proving victorious.

That's because God doesn't march to the same beat as we do. God is bigger than we can ever imagine and he chooses to work things out in his own way and not in ours. It's only our puny expectations that prevent us from doing great things. We have learned not to expect much, even of God. And although God tells us to pray for the Holy Spirit in our lives so that we will accomplish wonders and marvels, we sometimes need some convincing.



As this year of Matthew's gospel unfolds we will be invited to set no limits on what God can do in our lives, to expect the un hoped for, to await more than we could ever dream of. Alternatively we could put our faith on hold and try another week at Mrs. Higginbottom's. There are no surprises there.

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Offertory:	€ 756
Share:	€ 462
Planned Giving:	€ 375
Maint. & Devel	€ 155

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.



RECENT BAPTISMS

There were two baptisms celebrated in Glenealy Church recently. Baptized were Grace McNabb and Daniel Grant. We offer their parents and relatives our sincere congratulations.

OPPORTUNITY TO VOLUNTEER



Over recent weeks a number of parishioners expressed an interest in volunteering in some way so as to help with the maintenance and cleaning of our Church in Ashford. Up until now all

the cleaning has fallen on Brendan and this we do not feel is fair.

As we know there are any number of extra tasks which must be carried out so as to keep the church looking welcoming and clean.

For those who want to help, they are requested to provide their names and contact numbers to Fr. Kevin or Fr. Edward.

Based on the response, we could arrange a Rota system so that for one hour one afternoon a week those interested could assist in completing those extra tasks which take so much time to complete.

Many thanks for your help

TAX REFUND

TO ELIGIBLE CHARITIES 2010



During this past week we sent out letters to all who qualify for the Tax Refund scheme, to qualify you have to donate a minimum of €250 to the parish in any given tax year. This year 62 parishioners are according to our records eligible to participate in the scheme which is an important source of revenue to the parish. Last year the parish received €5,549 from Revenue in relation to this scheme. We ask those who receive notification to please fill in the required forms and return them to Fr. Kevin as soon as possible so that the claims can be processed. Many thanks for your help in this matter and your continued support of our parish.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES



The Ashford/Glenealy Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place this year from 16 June for 5 nights at a cost of € 730. Anyone interested in going can give their name and deposit by March 1st to Marie Cowman .You may contact her at mobile 086 3543020

Enrolment Masses- Confirmation



The children to be confirmed in our parish this year will celebrate their enrolment masses on the 30th of January at the 9:30 a.m. mass in Glenealy and at the 11:00 a.m. mass in Ashford. We pray that they continue to grow in their faith



PLEASE HELP US TO KEEP OUR PARISH REGISTER UP TO DATE

As you may be aware, the New Year calendars and envelopes were delivered to all those who have registered their families on our parish data base. If your calendar was not delivered and you would like to be registered you may complete a registration form which can be found at the back of the church or you can use the form found on our web site www.ashfordparish.com/forms