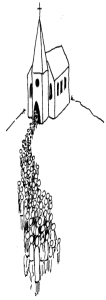


MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEK



Ashford Mon Feb 6th 9 am Mary Walsh
 Ashford Tues Feb 7th 9:00 am Pat Dempsey
 Ashford Wed. Feb 8th 9:45 am. Margaret Hogkinson
 Ashford Thurs Feb 9th:00 am –Mary Walsh
 Ashford Friday Feb 10th 9:00 am Get Well Intention
 Ashford Saturday Feb 11th Vigil Mass Dan & Nicholas Molloy
 Glenealy Sunday Feb 12th 9:30 John & Bridget Byrne Lough Giffrey
 Ashford Sunday Feb 12th 11:00 Caroline Davidson Jennifer Crean



Welcome to The Parish of Ashford & Glenealy

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



SIGN OF THINGS TO COME

'Life is but a breath and my eyes will never again see joy.' We can all sympathise with Job. He feels so downhearted that nothing seems worthwhile any more. And from time to time we can all end up asking what's the point of life and whether it's worth all the effort. We take our fair share of knocks and it's easy to stay down rather than pick ourselves up and dust ourselves down. That's why the cures that Jesus worked came as such a bombshell to a people that had grown cynical about life. St Mark tells us that from the outset of his ministry Jesus attracted large crowds eager to see him perform cures on those who were sick.

Of course, Jesus was no doctor. But it was as if, for the crowd, these miracles validated his preaching claims. Anyone can preach, but someone who can back up their preaching with healing is surely worth listening to. And for Jesus these cures were not the be-all and end-all of his mission. They were signs of something else: the setting up of the kingdom of God.

From the start Jesus never claimed any credit for these miracles. He was up-front about where he got his power from: his Father. And it was his Father who had sent him to inaugurate a new way of life, a new style of living according to the values of the kingdom which was about to come.

Two thousand years on the Church continues this mission of proclaiming the kingdom to a world that is often as weary as Jesus' listeners. In the midst of war, scandal, opposition and sheer human frailty we keep in mind that we are not trying to compete with other agencies, with governments or lifestyle promoters. Our message is radically different from any other. It says that God intends us to live in a way that puts others first, that thrives on self-sacrifice after the fashion of Christ and that has no time for the self-centred idealism of much of what advertisers and spin-doctors present us with today. For Christians are in the world but not of it. That's because, warts and all, they are part of the kingdom of God. And as Jesus' audience found out, despite the problems that each day might bring, the kingdom is very near.

NEXT CELEBRATIONS FOR THE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN



Will be on Sunday next the 12th of February at the 9:30 a.m. mass in Glenealy and at the 11:00 a.m. mass in Ashford. We pray for God's blessing on the children, their parents and teachers in a special year for them.



CATHOLIC MARRIAGE CARE SERVICE

THE ANNUAL COLLECTION OF ACCORD

The Annual collection of ACCORD, the Diocesan agency for marriage and the family, will be made at all Masses on the weekend of the 11th and 12th of February. Accord Dublin throughout the Diocese offers:

- Marriage preparation courses
- Counselling
- A Relationship and Sexuality programme in schools.

ACCORD needs your support. Please give generously next weekend.

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN MASS TIME FOR WEDNESDAY

From Wednesday next until the end of the school year the children from 2nd Class in Ashford school will join us for mass. This is part of their preparation for First Holy Communion. In order to facilitate this the mass will be at 9:45 a.m. and not the usual 9:00 a.m.

We apologise for any inconvenience this might cause.

"Parish Newsletter sponsored by McDonnell Properties Ashford"

LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Offertory: € 1083

Share € 415

Planned Giving: € 445

Maint. & Devel € 173.90

Parish Information

Fr. Kevin Rowan Adm.

Telephone: 0404 40540/0872242230

revkev@eircom.net

Sacristan:

Ashford –Brendan Devine –brendandevine@eircom.net -0879705916

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.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES



Planned giving envelopes are available in the Churches for those who wish to use them. The Planned Giving envelope and the Maintenance envelope are the only money that remains 100% in the parish and are used to cover the costs

for our running Churches. To those that already contribute we say a big thank you to the majority who do not we ask you to Please take either a weekly or monthly set of envelopes and make your donation however big or small to your parish.

SCHOOL ENROLMENT

Enrolment for Junior Infants starting in St Joseph's NS Glenealy in September 2012 takes place in the school on Monday 13th & Tuesday 14th February between 9.30am -2pm. Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate.



VOLUNTEERS TO HELP TIDY TOWNS



Tidy Towns Ashford are keen to continue the work they have been doing over the last number of years and all your support and assistance (in what ever manner and fashion you can offer will be much appreciated!

The next two Monthly Litter Picks are as follows:-

Saturday 18th of February 10am-12 noon.

Saturday 24th of March 10 am –12 noon

They meet at the school at 10 am and finish with coffee

at 12 noon! Please pass the information along to family friends and neighbours to seek their assistance in this community endeavour!

PASTORAL PROGRAMME TO PREPARE FOR THE



50TH INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

In preparation for the 50th International Eucharistic Congress 2012, a workshop will be offered for the Dublin Diocese. The Workshop for Eucharistic Adoration with Lectio Divina and Catechesis will present the Leader's Guide for Eucharistic Adoration with Lectio Divina and Catechesis and will include booklets and guides for Parishes and schools to assist adult and children's Eucharistic Adoration. One of these workshops on Saturday 25 February 2012 at St. Mary & St. Peter's Parish, Arus Lorcaín, Castle Park, Arklow, Co. Wicklow, in the Parish Pastoral Centre from 11am to 2pm. Anyone who is interested in Eucharistic Adoration is welcome. Coffee/tea will be available at both locations. Please bring a packed lunch. There is no charge for the workshop, however a voluntary collection will be made on the day. Contact: Fr. Kevin Bartley Phone Nos.: Home: 2697754. Mobile: 0872755413 Email: kevingbartley@eircom.net

CLOTHING APPEAL

Dochas Nasamu, which is an Irish run and Irish built orphanage, in Nairobi, Kenya, are holding a used clothing appeal of ladies, gents and children's clothes, shoes, household linens i.e. towels, sheets, blankets, curtains, soft toys, handbags etc. This appeal will take place on Thursday 9th February, before 12 noon, at Ashford and Glenealy Church Grounds. For further information, please contact Marie on 087 6890995

IRISH WHEELCHAIR GATE COLLECTION

The IWA will be holding a church gate collection at both our churches over next weekend February 11/12.



Please assist them as generously as you can. Should you wish to assist as a volunteer please contact Olive at 086 85 36 818. *Many thanks!!*

LUISNE CENTRE DELGANY

The centre continues to offer a wide range of very worthwhile workshops. Over the next weeks the following are just some: You may get full details on their website www.Luisine.ie

GENEALOGY for Beginners: Mondays from Jan 30th, 8:00 – 9:30pm . Feb 4th Silent Prayer Practice each first Sat. 11:00 – 1:00pm Feb 4th Art Therapy 1:30 – 5:30pm

Feb 6th Shiatsu* 10:45-12noon

Feb 7th Reflexology* 10:45-12 noon

Feb 11th Divine Food with Dorene P10 10:30 – 3:00pm

Feb 21st Lectio Divina P6 10:45 – 12noon

ASHFORD COMMUNITY GROUP

At the most recent draw, the following were the winners: **€300 Sean Duffy; €150 Marie Cowman; €100 Avril Quinn; €50 C. O'Leary.** The next draw takes place on Sat Feb 25th at the Yew-Tree Restaurant.