

For Masses
Next Weekend



Readers



Eucharistic
Ministers

Ashford

Colm O'Doherty
Carmel Grant

Eileen Byrne
Michael Noone

Glenealy

Lizzie McElhinney

Denis McWatt
Margaret McDermott

Denise Collis Lee
Pat Ferguson

Marian Carroll

Vigil –6:00 pm

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

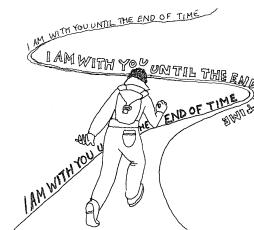
Sunday 9:30a.m.



Welcome to The Parish of Ashford & Glenealy

www.ashfordparish.com
The Ascension

PASS IT ON!



Bill was a barber but wasn't one of the brightest or most tactful people around. But he always took the priest's sermon to heart. One was about the need for every Christian to witness to their faith in Jesus, at home, on the street and at work. So Bill decided to take the plunge. After he had lathered up a customer for a shave,

he stood with the cut-throat razor and said, "Are you ready to meet your maker?" The man fled with his face covered in shaving soap!

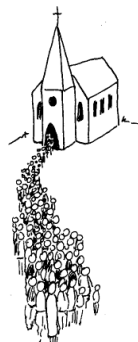
It's amazing the number of people who think that passing on the good news ("evangelising" as it's called) is something that is for the professionals, for those who have trained for many years or those who hold prestigious degrees. Yet today in the Ascension gospel Jesus commands all of his followers to go out and meet people, to teach them, making them disciples and baptising them.

This command of Jesus is sometimes called the Great Commission. It's the most fundamental aspect of Christian life, witnessing to what we believe. If we stop witnessing then clearly we will die out. If there was no one who first introduced us to Christ, or introduced our parents and grandparents, then we would not be Christians ourselves.

Many of us feel uncomfortable about certain types of witnessing to Christ. Groups of hymn-singing Christians in the middle of the market on Saturday morning can do as much damage as good. Yet we each have a duty as Christians to bring the good news to those around us. How do we do it?

The most basic way is by example. People notice. They notice the way we do or don't talk about others, the way we are prepared to volunteer our time to help others, the way we treat others on our street or at work. And if they know that we do this out of our belief in God and our faith in Christ then this attracts others. They may then get to the point of asking us about our faith, why we bother to go to church, why we believe what we do believe. It's then that we have another opportunity to tell people the good news. If there are things that we can't explain we can always offer to put them in touch with people who can. And just in case we think that we can't cope alone, Jesus tells us today that as we undertake this spreading of this good news he will always be at our side.

MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEK MAY 17TH-MAY 23RD



Ashford Monday May 17th 9 am Kitty Kavanagh
Ashford Tuesday May 18th 9am Aidan Stafford
Ashford **Wednesday May 19th 9:45 am A Special Intention**
Ashford Thursday May 20th 9am William & Mary Cullen
Ashford Friday May 21st 9am No Intention
Ashford Vigil May 22nd 6 pm William Bartley
Ashford Sunday May 23rd 11 am Mary Jane Farrell
Glenealy Sunday May 23rd h 9:30am Niall O'Flaherty
Glenealy Sunday May 23rd 11:30 am- Confirmation-Florrie Doyle



SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

The Committee of the 50th International Eucharistic Congress wishes to thank you for the generous response to the national appeal which was held on the Feast of Corpus Christi last year. Preparations are going well and resources are available on our website www.iec2012.ie. A second national appeal will take the place of the Share collection at all masses on the Feast of Corpus Christi this year on Sunday 6th June.



FINAL CELEBRATION FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We congratulate all the children who celebrated First Holy Communion in our parish this year. And we remind them and their parents that the final celebration of the Do This in Memory of Me will take place on Sunday the 6th of June at the 9:30 mass in Glenealy and at the 11:00 mass in Ashford. This is an occasion to wear again your First Communion clothes and to fully celebrate with the whole community.



LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

Offertory:	€ 915
Share	€ 580
Planned Giving:	€ 475
Maint. & Devel	€ 130

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.

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.



OUR PARISH

For the past few weeks you have read an appeal to those who had received tax reclaim forms to return them to the parish however what you might have missed is that the revenue in our parish has decreased by nearly 20% since November. The

amount coming in for the first collection, Christmas and Easter Dues which goes towards the salary of the priests of the parish is down over €10,000 on the same period last year.

The amount coming in the Planned Giving and the Maintenance and Development envelopes which is the only money we have for the day to day running of our parish is also down. Over the coming months we will have to have work done in the Ashford church because of the problem with damp. The estimates to rectify just the external problem is about €18,500, this does not include the cost of plastering and decorating the interior and we will have to find that money ourselves. We know that times are hard but we encourage you to support the collections that stay in the parish. Just to refresh your memory this is the purpose of the collections:

1st Collection, Easter and Christmas Dues: This pays the salary of the priests in the parish and also goes towards the support of sick and retired priests.

Planned Giving and Maintenance and Development Envelopes: This money is used to pay the day to day running costs of the parish.

Share: This money goes in its entirety to the Diocese and is used to pay the administration staff in Archbishop’s house and also a portion is used to support poorer parishes.

So we encourage you to think about where you want your hard earned money to go and hope that you will choose to support your local parish.



WEDNESDAY MASSES ASHFORD

For the remainder of the school year, Wednesday daily Mass will be celebrated at 9:45 so as to allow the children who celebrated their First Communion this year may join in the full celebration of our Mass.

RATHNEW ANNUAL CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

The annual procession takes place on Sunday June 6th beginning at 4 pm. Procession begins at St. Joseph’s Church and proceeds around the village finishing back at the church. Everyone is welcome to take part.



CONFIRMATION DATES

Service of Light:

The celebration in preparation for Confirmation will take place in Ashford on Monday the 17th of May at 7:30 p.m. and in Glenealy on Wednesday the 19th May at 7:30 p.m.

Confirmation:

The celebration of Confirmation will take place in Ashford on Friday 21st May at 11:00 a.m. and in Glenealy on Sunday 23rd May at 11:30 a.m. Please keep our Confirmation candidates in your prayers in the coming week.



RECENT BAPTISM

Last week Fr. Kevin celebrated the baptism of **Hannah Eileen Dempsey** and **Michael Patrick Dempsey**. We welcome them into our Christian family and we wish them and their parents every blessing in the years ahead.



SPECIAL CEREMONY FOR THOSE TOUCHED BY SUICIDE

There will be a special ceremony of light for those touched by suicide. It will be held in the Holy Redeemer Church in Bray on Monday 24 May at 7:30 p.m.. Everyone welcome.



AN TAI SCE NATIONAL SPRING CLEANUP- PHASE 11



INVITATION

Following upon the tremendous success of the April 24th clean up plans are now being made to have another. It will take place in conjunction with the An Taise National Trust.

Volunteers are asked to meet at the Church gates in Ashford on May 22nd at 10:00 a.m.. You are again being asked to give two hours of your time to assist with this extremely worthwhile venture! Bring your work gloves and of course your enthusiasm! For full details of the event contact Pauline at 087 2053775 or website: www.nationalspringclean.org