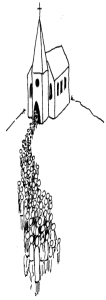


MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEK



Ashford Mon Jan 9th 9 am Dan Brady
 Ashford Tues Jan 10th 9:00 am Andy Plunkett
 Ashford Wed. Jan 11th 9:00 am. Jacob Berg
 Ashford Thurs Jan 12th 9:00 am –Molly Graham & Mick Gaffrey
 Ashford Friday Jan 13th 9:00 am Estelle Devine
 Ashford Saturday Jan 14th Vigil Mass Kathleen Kearns
 Glenealy Sunday Jan 15th 9:30
 Ashford Sunday Jan 15th 11:00 Mary Woolley



**SPECIAL CELEBRATION
 IN PREPARATION FOR
 CONFIRMATION**

Will take place in Ashford Church on Sunday next the 15th of Jan at the 11:00 a.m. mass. We ask you to keep our young people in your prayers in this special year for them.



**NEXT CELEBRATIONS
 FOR THE FIRST HOLY
 COMMUNION CHILDREN**

Will be on Sunday 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.



**VOLUNTEERS TO FORM
 BAPTISMAL AND FUNERAL TEAMS**



While we have had a very strong response to the call to assist in one new initiative, we have not had a similar show of interest with regards to these two ministries.

We can only urge your support as we try to prepare our parish for the future requirements which will see more responsibility for assisting with the parish ministry moving toward the parishioners. Please give these two essential ministries your consideration and should you feel you can help please let Fr. Kevin know of your interest. Or speak with one of the volunteers who will speak about the funeral ministry at masses this weekend.



Welcome to The Parish of Ashford & Glenealy

Baptism of Our Lord



THE BABY AND THE BATH WATER

It might sound a strange thing to say, but baptism isn't really for babies. We baptise them to include them in the household or family of faith. We initiate them into the community of believers where they will have a chance to hear what God asks of them and offers them in return. Our prayer is that gradually they will come to make their commitment to Jesus as we ourselves have done. Although we acknowledge that the faith of a child is a precious thing, we do not equate this with the adult tussle that is required for a Christian to profess belief in Jesus and agree to a radical and alternative lifestyle from that of secular society. But while we put the baby aside for a moment we must not throw out the bath water.

When Jesus was baptised by his cousin John it was no empty gesture intended to make them both look good. It was at his baptism that Jesus took on the task of revealing the good news that would end in his death. The baptism was Jesus' way of accepting his mission and of being sealed by the Spirit for what lay ahead. So if we think of our own baptisms as things that happened years ago when we were babies, then we are missing the point. Baptism is not simply an admission ticket; it's the programme notes that help us enjoy the show. We have to renew and live out our baptismal promises in a fresh way each day.

Nobody can tell you how this is to be done. That's because when God accepted you at baptism he gifted you with a mission that is unique to you. No one else has ever been made in the same mould as you, and God will not ordain it that anyone else will ever encounter the same people and circumstances that you do in your life.

Celebrating the baptism of Christ means renewing our commitment to Jesus so that by our lives we bear unceasing witness to the gospel, no matter how demanding this may be. As we pray for guidance on how God is seeking to use us in his mission on earth, we draw strength from the gifts and promises of our baptism And this is something that only an adult can do.



**LAST WEEKEND'S
 COLLECTION**

Offertory: € 725
 Share € 425
 Planned Giving: €270
 Maint. & Devel € 135

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.

RECENT DEATHS



Over the Christmas season there were funeral masses in Ashford and Glenealy Church for Freddy McGowran, Mick Crean and Pat Dempsey.

We extend to their families, relatives and friends our sincere condolences at this sad time

May they rest in peace

RECENT BAPTISMS

Prior to Christmas there was a baptism in Glenealy Church. On Dec 17th Fr. Kevin baptized Mikie John O'Neill , and during the Christmas season Fr. Harry baptized Brody Anthony Licciardi in Ashford Church. We extend to the families and relatives our sincere congratulations on this happy occasion



MOBILE PHONE LESSONS

Collaiste Chill Mhantain, Wicklow, Friday Mornings 9.20 am to 10.50 am

Course starts 20th January

Dominican College, Wicklow, Tuesday Afternoons 2.10 pm to 3.30 pm

Next course starts Early Feb

One-to-one tuition: Free - Open to adults in the local community of East Wicklow

Bookings are limited to 15 places maximum per course

CALL : Fintan 086 - 8199 752



WEEKEND MASSES JAN 14/15

The masses for the weekend of Jan 14/15 will be celebrated by Fr. Jimmy McPartland of the St. Patrick's parish in Wicklow.

His visit is part of the new plans with respect to parishes becoming more closely associated and sharing of resources and ministries.

We extend a warm welcome to him and look forward to more visits as we move into the future!

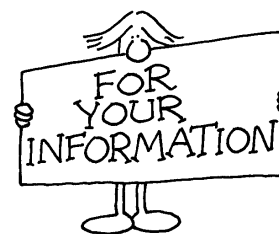


PASTORAL PROGRAMME TO PREPARE FOR THE 50TH INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS (IEC2012)



The 50th International Eucharistic Congress is envisaged not just as a weeklong event but as a spiritual journey of preparation and celebration. To help pilgrims along the way, the IEC2012 have mapped the journey in four stages and have developed a Pastoral Preparation Programme for the Congress, providing resources to help reflection on the Congress theme - "The Eucharistic: Communion with Christ and with One Another". Check out the pastoral resources that are available on the Congress website www.iec2012.ie/pastoral.

ASHFORD COMMUNITY GROUP CHRISTMAS RAFFLE



The following were winners of prizes from the annual Christmas Raffle held in support of the Ashford Community Group to assist them with the many projects they host during the year:

1st € 400 Joe Doyle, 2nd €300 Louise Drumgoole,

3rd €200 Tom Varvoort

4th €100 Leila Taher,

5th Prize Xmas Hamper Babs Kenny,

6th Prize 100 Ana Fayla Mulrooney, 7th €100 Marie Kinsella,

8th €100 Eamon Winsor, 9th €100 Jackie Roche, 10th prize Xmas hamper Mary Shanahan

Congratulations to the winners and best of luck to everyone who purchases tickets for their next draw.