

For Masses  
Next Weekend



Readers



Eucharistic  
Ministers

### Ashford

Maureen Stockdale  
Des Tully

Marie Togher  
Lucy Molloy

Vigil –6:00 pm

Paddy Andrews  
Tom McHugh

Brendan Devine  
Denise O'Connell

Sunday 11:00 a.m.

### Glenealy

Margaret O'Neill

Pat Ferguson

Sunday 9:30 a.m.



# Welcome to The Parish of Ashford & Glenealy

www.ashfordparish.com

## Baptism of Our Lord

### EMPOWERED



**T**he baptism of Jesus marks the beginning of his formal mission on earth. It's the moment when he takes his first steps in response to his Father's commission and begins to preach about the kingdom that God wants to establish here on earth and for all eternity.

In future times of hesitation and difficulty Jesus would look back at his baptism and see it as the moment he was anointed to bring comfort to the afflicted and challenge to the affluent. It was the touchstone of his ministry.

It's easy for us to make the mistake of looking at our own baptism as simply a past event. We can imagine that it's something over and done with, something that was done to us as a child. This is because we tend to view baptism as being officially enrolled in the Church, as having our name written among those who are Christians. Baptism does indeed enrol; but more than that: it empowers.

Because we are baptised we have certain rights as Christians; we can take part fully in all that the Church celebrates, we can be baptised, married, buried etc. Along with these rights go certain responsibilities. We agree to live as members of God's people, to support each other and all those who are in need, to deepen our relationship with God and to become mouthpieces for the Good News of Jesus Christ.

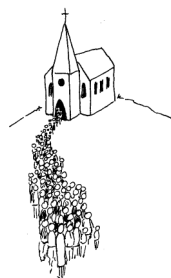
As one of the sacraments, baptism needs to be lived out each day or else it will wither. It's a dynamic thing. The grace of baptism empowers us to become witnesses. We claim that Christ's message offers us the chance of living life to the full, of getting the most out of life, and our baptism fires us up to spread the news to others rather than keeping it to ourselves. It makes us official spokesmen and women.

So if you're tempted to think that spreading the Good News is something for the professionals, for catechists and missionaries, then think again. You've been empowered by the grace of your baptism to be an effective witness to the force of God in your life. Make sure you do your baptism proud!

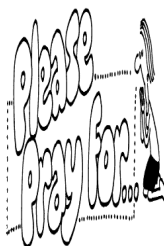
### LAST WEEKEND'S COLLECTION

<b>Offertory:</b>	€ 705
<b>Share:</b>	€ 485
<b>Planned Giving:</b>	€ 1720
<b>Maint. &amp; Devel</b>	€ 95

### MASS INTENTIONS NEXT WEEK



Ashford Jan 11th 9am Peggy Byrne  
 Ashford Jan 12th 9 am No Intention  
 Ashford Jan 13th 9am Estelle Devine  
 Ashford Jan 14th 9am No Intention  
 Ashford Jan 15th 9 am No Intention  
 Ashford Saturday Vigil Kathleen Kearns  
 Ashford Sunday Jan 17th 11:00 am John Carolan  
 Glenealy Sunday Jan 17th 9:30 am Anna King



### Word of Thanks



**O**n behalf of Fr. Edward and myself I would like to say a big thank you to all who gave of their time and talent to make the Christmas celebrations such an enjoyable celebration. Many thanks to all who gave( or will ) of their time for the unglamorous task of taking down the decorations and returning the church to ordinary time.

Thank you also for your gifts and cards and for your generous contribution to the Christmas Dues.

We take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy New Year.

*"Parish Newsletter sponsored by McDonnell Properties Ashford"*

## Parish Information

Fr. Kevin Rowan Adm.  
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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 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday each month after 11:00 am Mass. 3 Weeks notice required.

**Glenealy 3<sup>rd</sup> 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



By the power of the Spirit  
give to the water of  
this font the grace of your  
Son

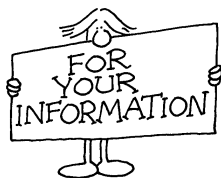
**T**here were two baptisms celebrated over the Christmas Season. On Dec 26, Fr. Edward baptized Mia Marah during the vigil Mass in Ashford Church.

On Jan 2nd, Fr. Seamus Monaghan baptized Ruben Smith. We offer their parents and relatives our sincere congratulations.

## RECENT WEDDINGS

There were three weddings celebrated over Christmas In Glenealy Church, John Burke and Sharon Fannin were married at their wedding on Dec 19th.

On Dec 29th Conor Ryan and Sinead Healy were married in Ashford Church and on Dec 30th, Stephano Coppola and Michelle Farrell were married in Ashford Church. We extend to these couples, their families and friends our sincere congratulations. *May they all experience only joy and happiness in the years ahead!*



## COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION 2010

These sacraments will be celebrated in both of our Churches later in the year.

**First Communion in** Glenealy on Sunday the 25th April 2010 at 11:30 a.m. and in Ashford on Saturday 8th May 2010 at two celebrations the first at 10:00 a.m. the second at 12:00 noon.

**Confirmation will be celebrated in** Ashford on Saturday 21st May 2010 at 11:00 a.m. and in Glenealy on Sunday 23rd May 2010 at 11:30 a.m.



## RECENT DEATHS

On Dec 23rd, funeral Mass was offered for Eileen McHugh and on Tuesday December 29th, there was a funeral mass offered by Fr. Michael Hender for his brother Willy who passed away on December 26th. We extend to the families and relatives our sincere condolences on this very sad occasion *May they rest in peace*



## CHANGE IN MASS TIMES

**A**s was announced some time ago the mass times in our parish changed from the first weekend of the New Year. This means that some people are having difficulty booking Month's Mind and First Anniversary masses on the dates they desire. It is for this reason that preference will be given to Month's Mind and First Anniversary masses over the weekend masses, I'm sure you agree that these important milestones in the grieving process should be given preference however this means that booked anniversary masses may have to be moved or become a shared intention at a particular mass. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause and appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

## TAX REFUND TO ELIGIBLE CHARITIES 2009

**W**e are in the process of writing 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 82 parishioners have according to our records are eligible to participate in the scheme which can be an important source of revenue to the parish. 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.



## PLEASE HELP US TO KEEP OUR PARISH REGISTER UP TO DATE



**A**s 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](http://www.ashfordparish.com/forms)