

PARISH NEWSLETTER

27th December 2020

Wicklow & Rathnew

Fourth Sunday of Advent



Welcome

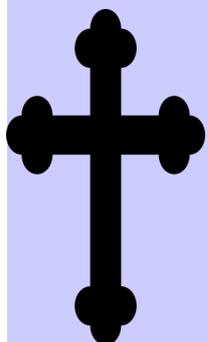
to our online Mass and a very warm welcome to everyone joining us on our parish radio.

Happy Christmas to all our Parishioners



Sincere sympathy to the families of -

Eddie O'Neill late of Darragh Park



Mass Intention List



This Weekend ~ 26th & 27th December

10am Mass Ned, Rosanna, John & Eddie Hanlon

NO VIGIL MASSES ON ST STEPHEN'S EVENING

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8.00am Christmas Novena (1)

9.00am Mary Duffy, Mathew Duffy & Caroline Hayes, Nancy Ronan

10.00am Christmas Novena (2)

11.30am Pat Murphy - Months Mind, Tom & Delia Murphy, Jim & Jo Desmond, John King, Susan Ward, Nell & Phil Healy, Nancy Ronan

## 28th December ~ 1st January

Monday - Jimmy Cleary, Terence Mulligan

Tom & Mary Malone - 65th Wedding Anniversary

7.00pm Charles, Philomena & Patrick Evesson

Tuesday -

7.00pm

Wednesday -

Thursday

Friday

## Next Weekend ~ 2nd & 3rd December

6.00pm Oliver (Stan) Lalor, Gerry O Reilly both 1st Anniversaries  
Sean Connolly, Billy Brady, Patrick Cahill & special Intention

7.00pm

8.00am

9.00am

10.00am

11.30am Kathleen Connolly

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS FOR WICKLOW & RATHNEW: 20/12/2020

|                                     |                                        |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>1ST COLLECTION / COMMON FUND</b> | - pays salaries of Priests of Diocese  | - € 1180 |
| <b>2ND COLLECTION / SHARE</b>       | - goes towards diocesan administration | - € 530  |
| <b>ENVELOPE/ CHURCH COLLECTION</b>  | - goes towards maintaining our parish  | - € 2592 |

*Many thanks for your continued support.*

### *A Message for Christmas*

*As we approach Christmas 2020, and we realise how much our world has changed and our lives have been disrupted since this time last year, I know that many of our parishioners will find this a very trying and difficult time. Our family gatherings will be smaller; many of our loved ones will not be with us around the table this year. It has been a hard year for everyone.*

*Lives were lost and livelihoods were put under enormous pressure. Many families are grieving the loss of loved ones and there is economic hardship for those whose businesses were closed for much of the year. It has been a difficult time for young people who missed out on so many important milestones in their lives. Grandparents being unable to see their families were particularly badly hit. And yet, despite all this, I look back on 2020 with a sense of gratitude for all the goodness I encountered. It was a time of slowing down, being less busy, having more time to reflect and just 'be' rather than be always doing.*

*I look back and think of the great many people who served the public and their communities with extraordinary generosity and cheerfulness this past year. To the many who work in healthcare and nursing homes, to the supermarket staff and delivery drivers, the teachers and emergency services, we owe a massive thank you for looking after us so well this year. There was great goodness to be seen in the parish with countless acts of kindness from people looking after elderly neighbours, making sure they had all they needed. To all of these and to everyone who went out of their way to ease the burden of another with acts of kindness or words of encouragement, we should say a massive thank you.*

*Another great blessing of this year has been the way we were able to embrace modern technology to reach out in new ways. For all of us in the parish we have discovered new ways of being church. Masses on Webcam have become the norm and, while they are no substitute for being actually gathered together, they have been a real lifeline for the housebound and helped us to discover (or rediscover) the domestic church of the home.*

*Because of the restrictions we will only be able to welcome a limited number of parishioners for Christmas Masses this year but if you are unable to attend in person, why not join us on webcam instead and make a visit to the church to pray at the crib sometime in the Christmas season. As we look at the beauty and simplicity of the crib scene, we are reminded of the only thing that really matters in this world. The Christian liturgy tells us that Mary bore the child in her womb 'with love beyond all telling'. That same love is what we celebrate this Christmas and every Christmas. God loves us with a love beyond all telling, giving our lives meaning and dignity. Let us share that love with those near and dear to us and express our gratitude for all the ways they brighten our lives with acts of kindness and care.*

*A happy and peaceful Christmas to all  
Fr Donal*



# PARISH WEEKLY LOTTO



**Congratulations to  
SIOBHAN TEEVAN**

**Winning numbers for this week  
1, 2, 26, 28**

**Who won the weekly lotto raffle.  
Prize of €50 in the Parish Lotto!**

**Next weeks jackpot will be €5,000  
If you're not in, you can't win!!**

**PARISH OFFICE will be closing on Tuesday 22nd at 1pm and will re-open on Thursday 7th January 2021 at 10.00am.**

## CHRISTMAS ARRANGMENTS

**Please see the Christmas schedule leaflet at the doors of the Church with the full details on it. Unfortunately all places for our Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses have been fully booked up, but they will be available live online on [www.wicklowparish.ie](http://www.wicklowparish.ie).**

### COVID-19 Support Line for Older People

**ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm by calling 0818 222 024, and will remain open over the Christmas period.**

### **PARISH CONTACTS**

**Fr Donal Roche : 0404 67196**

**Fr Pat O Rourke: 0404 67133**

**Wicklow Sacristy: 0404 69031**

**Parish Office: 0404 61699**

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Email: parishofficewicklow@gmail.com

Website: www.wicklowparish.ie

Office opening times -

Monday - Friday : 10am - 12.30pm

Your contribution to the Church is your appreciation for your parish. If you would like to become a regular contributor to the Parish, please fill in this slip and return to Parish Office or Sacristy

Name..... Contact Number.....

Address.....