

WICKLOW PARISH

Monthly Newsletter

Thoughts For February

BY REV JACK KINKEAD



So, how is it we actually relate to God? How do we find out how God relates to us? Throughout February, here are some of the themes we will think about in services in Wicklow Parish...

4th Feb - The readings for today all point towards *renewal*. But, with life with Jesus, renewal isn't a one off thing!

It's something that happens constantly, as we are challenged in our journey in life and faith.

11th Feb - Today, we celebrate the transfiguration - where heaven and earth come as close together as they can in the biblical narrative. This is the Sunday before we start the journey of Lent - a season of reflection on life. The *transfigurations* teaches us about the deeply spiritual relationship we have with God.

18th Feb - The first Sunday in Lent. The theme for today is all about *responsibility*. The relationship we have with God is a covenant relationship, where we have to play our part. In Christian living, this relationship is demonstrated in the sacrament of baptism.

25th Feb - Today's readings are all about the importance of *faith* in our relationship with God. We need to offer ourselves - give of ourselves - to God. We need to trust God, and not try to limit what God is capable of doing and achieving.

Questions? Doubts? Struggling in faith? We've all been there! Everyone is at a different stage in their journey in life and faith, and everyone is welcome at church.

Services

SUNDAY 4TH FEB

9am Holy Communion
10am Service of the Word

WEDNESDAY 7TH FEB *

10.30am Holy Communion

SUNDAY 11TH JAN

9am Holy Communion
10am Family Communion

WEDNESDAY 14TH FEB *

10.30am Holy Communion

SUNDAY 18TH FEB

9am Holy Communion
10am Morning Prayer

WEDNESDAY 21ST FEB *

10.30am Holy Communion

SUNDAY 25TH FEB

9am Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion

WEDNESDAY 28TH FEB *

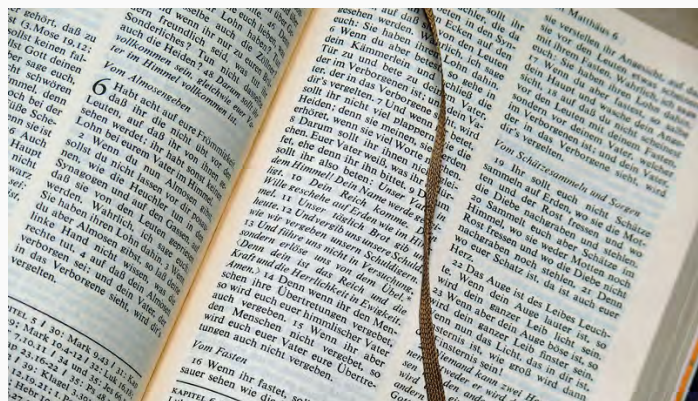
10.30am Holy Communion

* Prayers for the sick



February Events

Have a read of February's Newsletter. The Wicklow Parish is looking forward to some great events during 2018. Keep reading our monthly newsletters to stay in touch with what's going on!



comfortable space in which to meet. Their address is: Seaview, Church Hill – just a few doors away from the church. Just after the entrance to Brickfield Lane (at the top of Church Hill), on the left hand side, there is an entrance to the Van der Fliers' house. We suggest parking outside the Glebe National School. We are very hopeful that as many as possible will join with us for one or more of the sessions, which promise to be extremely fulfilling. Anyone is welcome to turn up to any meeting, but to gauge numbers, please let Jack know if you are interested in attending.

Lenten Bible Study Group

In a time that often sees people becoming entrenched in their own worldview, we want to consider Mission, and how we can bring Good News to the wider world. The Church of Ireland Biblical Association has offered discussion material, to enable parish groups to study this concept. One of this year's contributors is Jack! We will meet on Tuesday evenings during Lent at 8pm, for around an hour. The aim is to meet informally but intentionally, to speak or to listen, to be challenged and comforted, to enjoy fellowship. Dirk and Ollie Van der Flier have kindly agreed to open their home, where there is a large

February's Study Dates

Tuesday 20th Feb. 8pm
Seaview House, Church Hill

~

Tuesday 27th Feb. 8pm
Seaview House, Church Hill



February Events



Sunday Club

On the 1st and 3rd Sundays, the Sunday Club meets, and will learn about some of these important aspects of Christian life and living. Junior Infant to 2nd class age group meet in the 5th class classroom in the Glebe School, while 3rd-6th class age group meet in the 6th class classroom.

Parents with preschool children can bring them to the crèche, in the Junior Infant classroom.



Confirmation

For anyone who is interested in taking part in classes towards confirmation, they will begin just before the school Easter holidays. Confirmation is a serious undertaking, as a public demonstration of Christian faith. Anyone in 6th class or beyond is eligible to join the confirmation classes.

Please note, any potential candidates who are not at least semi regular church attenders will be welcome to attend classes, but will not be put forward to the Bishop this year.

Anyone serious about being confirmed should engage in regular church attendance from now. Please let Jack or Ken know if you are interested to find out more about confirmation, and be included in this year's classes.



February Events



Parent and Toddler Group

Reminder that there is a Parent and Toddler group on Wednesdays, in the Methodist Church hall, from 10am - 12 noon.



Help With The Flower Rota

We are putting a special call out for volunteers to put fresh flowers in the church on a Saturday before church service on Sundays! Any queries to Allyson on 086 8597423.



Fete 2018

There is a general 2018 Parish Fete meeting in room 5 of East Glendalough School on **Monday 5th February** at 8pm. All Parish members are welcome. We would welcome new members with ideas and willing to assist so get your thinking hats on! Contact Allyson on 086 8597423 for more details.

February Events



Youth Groups

United Youth

United Youth will recommence on February 3rd. We will meet in East Glendalough School, from 6-7.30pm. There is a nominal charge of €5, to cover costs. If anyone is interested in helping with the youth club, please contact Jack by phone or email: 0861727654 / kinkeadj@gmail.com.

Teen Youth

Teen Youth Group will meet on February 11th and 25th in EGS, 6.30-8pm. New members and guests always welcome!



Surrounding Parish News

Nun's Cross Parish

Alchemy Music opens its 2018 season on February 3rd, 8pm at Nun's Cross Church. The music series welcomes the coming of Spring with a special concert of Irish, Spanish and Classical music for Brahms Guitar, Fiddle, Concertina and Uilleann Pipes with the award-winning Redmond O'Toole and Scathanna: Carolan, Bach and Traditional. Tickets 15/12 Euro and family ticket (2+2) 30 Euro. Tickets on the door and at Eventbrite. www.alchemymusic.ie email: alchemymusicseries@gmail.com

General Announcements

FLOWER ROTA

Please sign the flower rota sheet in the porch of the church if you are available to help with church flowers. This isn't a big job & doesn't involve fancy arrangements (unless you want to!) but is about having some fresh flowers, in vases, in church week by week.

HELP WANTED!

We always need volunteers to help with parish organisations and events. Could you help with: Children's activities, youth clubs, fundraising events, the Fete, the BBQ, Messy Church, church flowers, crèche? Any time and help, however little, is so much appreciated. Contact Jack for more details

CRÈCHE

It is wonderful to see so many small children coming to church with their parents. We encourage all families to bring your children to church & establish a good routine from an early age. To make it easier for parents to engage in worship themselves, a crèche has started, for children of preschool age. It runs each Sunday during the main 10am service. Contact Jack for more details.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

We have been fortunate in receiving council grants to help in some of the maintenance work required for our church building. However, in order to avail of these grants, we must match the funding offered by the county council. If anyone is in a position to help with financing necessary capital works, please contact a member of the Finance Committee: John Clarke (0874127386), Jim Costello (0867701456) or Shane Fingleton (0862485045).





General Announcements

PRAYERS

We are really keen to involve more people in worship in Wicklow Parish. One way to do this is to involve people in leading the prayers of intercession at services. Would you be willing to help with this, on an occasional basis? If so, please speak to Jack. There is an information pack available, with pointers on how to lead a congregation in prayer.

PARISH FINANCES

As each parish in the Church of Ireland is financially self-sustaining, we can only function financially through the good will of our parishioners. Any parishioners, who have not yet entered a planned contribution scheme, please speak to Philip Hastie (parish recorder) or John Clarke (hon. treasurer - 0874127386). If you have parish envelopes, cash or cheques placed on the collection plate can be recorded. Alternatively, there are standing order forms available in church. If a taxpayer donates €250 or more per year (and we can trace the donations through the envelope scheme or standing order) we can claim a further 45% of the amount through the government's charity tax relief scheme. The details of any person's contributions are kept completely confidential. This income is used to maintain the ministry of a full time Rector, to maintain the beautiful church building, and to provide resources for parish activities, such as Sunday Club, Messy Church and youth clubs, as well as church services. Please consider the parish as part of your financial plan.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

To promote events, post online information or update your details please contact Sinead by email on: wicklowandkilliskeycoi@outlook.com

Dear Lord and Father, as this new year progresses, we pray that You will help us to renew our bodies, our minds and our souls.

Let us reflect on the year gone by and examine how we could have a deeper relationship with You, through Your Word and through fellowship, with You and with friends. Let us think about our baptism, and how we established that covenant through our confirmation. Help us to take responsibility for our part in that covenant, delving deeper in our relationship with You.

And above all, help us to trust in You, to have faith in You, knowing that the plans and purposes You have for us are to prosper us, and not to harm us. And to have that trust in You will enable us to say that 'it is well with my soul'

Amen

