

WICKLOW PARISH

Monthly Newsletter

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Back to church!

We're really looking forward to our church building re-opening for worship from this coming Sunday! Various steps and procedures have been put in place to allow us to re-open, while following guidelines issued from the House of Bishops & in accordance with state safety guidelines.

What safety measures have been implemented?

- The entrance to the church has been marked out in 2m gaps, for parishioners queuing to enter.
- A non-touch hand sanitizer dispenser has been installed at the entrance to the church.
- Churchwardens will be present to help guide people in.
- A notebook will be used to keep a record of those present, in the unlikely event that the HSE needs to do any contact tracing.
- Every second pew has been closed, to maintain adequate distancing.
- A one-way system has been implemented.
- The congregation will be directed to specific pews.
- A basket for the collection will be at the back of the church.

Will the service be different?

- Yes, certainly initially, in a few key ways:
- No singing by the congregation, as this can spread the virus beyond 2m.
- Shorter service.
- Non-Eucharistic services for the month of July.
- Only one service in church per week, at 10am on Sunday.



Back to church continued!

Do I need to bring anything?

- Please bring a pen, to sign the book.
- Please arrive 10 minutes before 10am, as it will take longer to bring people into the building.
- Wearing of masks / face covering is advised.
- Please take your service sheet home & dispose in your recycling bin.

Anything else?

- Please pray!
- For the Select Vestry & their responsibility in safeguarding the safety of our parishioners.
- For Jack & Klaas, as they prepare to facilitate worship of and connection with God in changing circumstances.
- For parishioners who won't be able to be in church.
- For God's guidance for the future.
- For people's openness to connection with God.

The recorded services for YouTube will continue, for those who aren't able to attend church, or who don't yet feel comfortable being in a public space. The online services on Zoom will continue on Wednesday evenings.

If you have any other questions about coming back to church, or any other issues, please call Jack: 0861727654.

Thoughts For July



5 July. Very pertinent to this time, the Gospel reading today reminds us that the attitude we hold can so easily hold us back. If we approach a person or situation expecting to find a problem, the chances are we will find one. If we search for the good, that is what we will see.

BRIGHAM YOUNG

12 July. In the Parable of the Sower, Jesus teaches us that an open heart is needed for the Good News to make a difference. Just as a plant will not flourish in compromised conditions, faith cannot flourish in compromised conditions. We are reminded that the Gospel is dependent on a two-way relationship between us and God.

19 July. In another horticultural Parable, Jesus teaches of the battle that goes on, between the useful crops and the weeds. In ground that is not cared for, weeds are likely to take over. In a life that is not cared for, negativity and bitterness are likely to choke compassion and openness.

26 July. In three Parables, Jesus teaches that we don't need great faith to make a difference in our lives – what we need is a little faith in a great God, who is able to accomplish many things through us. We need only be open to God's transforming presence.

July News



Rectory News - New Life!

Jack and Rachael are looking forward to the arrival of their first child, sometime from mid-October!

Youth News

The youth groups have continued to meet, via Zoom, over the past few months. We have taken a break now for the summer, but will resume in August, with a youth camp. More details to follow.



Parish Finances

A huge thanks to those parishioners who have set up direct payment to the parish bank account, and to those who have sent contributions to the treasurer. As you can imagine, the parish finances are not in good shape at the moment. Not only have we missed out on regular collections in church services, but the major fundraising ventures have been cancelled for this year. If you are in a position to help out with the finances, please send a cheque to: The Parish Treasurer, c/o The Rectory, Brickfield Lane, Wicklow. Alternatively, the parish bank details are:

BIC: AIBKIE2D

IBAN: IE23AIBK93361909248084

Wicklow Parish Endurance 2020

Swim 4km or Cycle 180km or Walk / Run 42km

Participate: Individuals / Teams / Families / School Classes are all welcome to join!

Be a Sponsor: All proceeds go towards Wicklow Parish Church and the Glebe School PTA.

www.gofundme.com/wicklowparishendurance2020

Starting from now until July 31st!



Register: wicklowparishendurance@gmail.com

Parish Endurance - Get active for the parish!

We have a challenge for you, to get active in July: to either swim or run (walk!) or cycle, to raise money for the Parish. Ask your friends & family for sponsorship – there is a GoFundMe page set up - www.gofundme.com/wicklowparishendurance2020, so it couldn't be simpler! Register by sending your team details to wicklowparishendurance@gmail.com Check out our poster for more details!

July News



Surrounding Parish News- Nun's Cross

Re-opening of The Hub

The

Killiskey Parish Charity Shop in Ashford Village is now open most days of the week

and it is hoped that a rota of volunteers can be put in place to allow for six day opening. Many additional items have been donated since the shop re-opened and trade has been good. Among other safety measures, a

Perspex screen has been installed at the counter to shield volunteers.

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 are about to undertake major renovations to the Parish Rectory, and are looking for financial support from parishioners, whether in the form of donation or loan. . 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 - URGENT UPDATE

The parish finances are currently severely depleted, due to capital works undertaken this year. As it stands, we urgently need an injection of income, in order to meet our financial obligations for this year. If you can make a one off contribution, or are interested in setting up a regular payment to meet ongoing expenses, or can offer a loan to the parish, please contact John Clarke (0874127386) or Shane Fingleton (0862485045).

The Select Vestry will run a stewardship campaign in the coming months, and ask for your patience and help.

If you are unsure about how the parish is funded, or how parish resources are used, please contact John or Shane, and they can explain the system to you.

If you wish to make a contribution or set up a regular direct debit our details are below:

BIC: AIBKIE2D

IBAN: IE23 AIBK 93361909248084

Wicklow Parish Church

AIB Wicklow branch.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

If you have items you want included in the Parish Newsletter, please send to Sinead before the 20th of each month at wicklowandkilliskeycoi@outlook.com

Creator God, not limited by time or space; your Son worshipped in synagogue and Temple, and your Spirit came in power on the disciples as they met in the Upper Room.

By that same Spirit, guide us as we prepare to reopen the church in this Parish.

May they be places of safety, where all feel your welcome, experience your love and are equipped in your service.

We pray for those who through age or vulnerability will continue to worship at home, that together we may all rejoice in your goodness and know your blessing, until we can offer unceasing praise in your heavenly kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

