

WICKLOW PARISH

Monthly Newsletter

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Thoughts For March

BY REV JACK KINKEAD



1 March - As we enter the holy season of Lent, the themes we are invited to consider today are: temptation, sin, right & wrong, and how we respond to each. In the wilderness experience, Jesus encounters temptation in a

variety of extreme circumstances, without yielding. One point to note, is that we should be careful to avoid temptation to the extent that Jesus experienced, for we would not be able to endure as he did.

8 March - As the journey in Lent continues, the readings today remind us that a crucial element of this season is in the invitation that we have to make a choice. We begin on Ash Wednesday, with the choice of whether or not we even enter into the journey! The choice between blessing and curse is key to the readings today – even when Jesus himself shows the way to salvation, Nicodemus finds it a struggle to accept – we can appreciate this difficulty, as we search for reasons to accept the invitation to discipleship in the modern world.

Services

SUNDAY 1ST MAR

9am Holy Communion
10am Service of the Word

WEDNESDAY 4TH MAR

10.30am Holy Communion

SUNDAY 8TH MAR

9am Holy Communion
10am Family Communion

WEDNESDAY 11TH MAR

10.30am Holy Communion

SUNDAY 15TH MAR

9am Holy Communion
10am Holy Baptism

WEDNESDAY 18TH MAR

10.30am Holy Communion

SUNDAY 22ND MAR

9am Holy Communion
10am Holy Communion

WEDNESDAY 25TH MAR

10.30am Holy Communion

SUNDAY 29TH MAR

9am Holy Communion
10am Joint service with
Killiskey



Thoughts For March Continued

15 March - As we share in the joy of baptism, we are confronted with the reality that the world we bring out children into, is not always easy going. When we bring a child for baptism, the whole church family promises to be part of that child's formation. Once again, the readings remind us that we are constantly presented with choices – in both good and bad situations. The choice freely offered by God, is to place our trust in God, and be guided by the Spirit.

22 March - On this Mothering Sunday, we consider one of Christianity's great flaws – to see God only as male. We always run the risk of reducing God to human standards, and trying to contain God. Today, we will consider how the Scriptures have a much more fluid take on God's attributes and gender, and we will give thanks for those who have given us life.

29 March - The fifth Sunday of Lent was traditionally the beginning of Passiontide – the lead up to the climax of the Gospel story. The readings today all have a theme of life being brought to situations of death, and there is a very definite foreshadowing of the drama that is to come. Today is a 5th Sunday, so we will be glad to welcome parishioners from Nun's Cross Church, as we gather in worship as one parish family.

March Events

Presented by The Vine International Concert Series

Church of the Vine

Church Hill Wicklow Town



JACK KINKEAD – TENOR

KLAAS JAN de VRIES – PIANO

FRIDAY 13th March at 8.00pm

Tickets €20, Students €15 available at the door – Children under 16 are free

Pre-Concert menu available at La Locandina, Wicklow from 5.30pm

087 199 2490 to book a table

The Vine International Concert Series - March 13th

The 13th March will feature the Dutch pianist and organist Klaas Jan de Vries accompanying the Irish lyric tenor Jack Kinkead in a recital of Art songs from the 19th and 20th century featuring the poetry of Thomas Hardy and the music of Gerald Finzi amongst others. This music charms with an ageless beauty the evocative texts of great Romantic poetry.

All the performances in this series will begin at 8.00pm. Tickets will be available in advance from www.gr8events.ie or on the door. Costs are €20, reduced price of €15 for students/OAP, young people (16 or under) accompanied by an adult enter free of charge.

Ticket holders for these concerts may avail of the pre-concert menu at La Locandina restaurant in Wicklow town between 5.30pm and 7.30pm on the evening of the performances. Please contact the restaurant directly to book a table as places are limited; La Locandina, 14 Main Street, Wicklow Town – 0404 53905, www.lalocandina.ie.



March Events



World Day of Prayer - March 6th

On Friday 6 March, there will be a service in Wicklow Parish Church for the World Day of Prayer. This year, the service has been crafted by Christians in Zimbabwe, who are taking Jesus' encounter to be a call to act in love for peace and reconciliation. "The action verbs suggest that we should not be afraid to act on the word of God. God is offering us the steps for personal and social transformation." All are welcome, and tea / coffee will be served in the church following the service.



Friendship Group - March 16th

There is a friendship group within the joint parishes, for people who are retired, and for those who aren't able to get out to meet people as regularly as they would like. The next meeting is on Monday 16th March in the Wicklow Methodist hall. For further details, please contact **Linda Walsh: 086 8228378**

Hymns

Got any favourite hymns? Or want to request a particular hymn around the time of an anniversary? Please let Jack know your suggestions! We can't promise anything but will try to accommodate your choices if possible!

March Events



BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT EVENING

Speaker Mrs Clare Stewart Bereavement Councillor
*Organised by Tallaght Mothers' Union
in conjunction Diocesan Mothers' Union*

**Monday 9th March 2020 at 8pm
In St. Maelruain's Hall, Tallaght**

EVERYONE WELCOME!



Mothers' Union - April 25th

There is a Mothers' Union bereavement support evening taking place on March 9th 8pm, in St. Maelruain's Hall, Tallaght.

The Mothers' Union birthday lunch is on Saturday April 25th, 12.30 for 1pm, at No 11 Ashford House. All welcome, please sign up in church.



Youth

United Youth will take place on Saturday the March 7th. We meet in EGS from 6-7.30pm, for games, stories, crafts, & juice & biscuits! Anyone aged 4th-6th class is welcome to come along. €5 per visit, which covers expenses, the balance being used to fund a trip at the end of term!

The Teen Youth Group will take place on Sunday March 1st and 15th. We meet in EGS from 6.30-8pm. Anyone of secondary school age is welcome to attend. This group aims to support our teens & emerging adults in a Christian context - allowing them to question & analyse the things that are important to them.

March Events



Select Vestry Report

The Select Vestry met on Friday 21 February. It was agreed that a report of Select Vestry meetings should be included in the monthly newsletter, to keep the whole parish informed & involved in the running of the parish. Below is a summary of the items discussed at the most recent meeting

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.
2. Jack updated the Vestry on matters relating to ministry within the parish. The addition of a Youth Ministry Area Co-ordinator is already a huge benefit to the parishes in this area. This youth ministry provision is a pilot project, part sponsored by the dioceses. It is hoped that this position will prove to be financially viable at the end of the pilot scheme, in 2 years time.

3. The financial situation within the parish has improved significantly, though there is still a need for further improvement. A key objective for 2020, is that the parish be in a financial position to make charitable allocations.

4. The Glebewardens reported that the ongoing work in the church grounds is going well, and the grounds are kept to a very high standard. Various items could do with attention over the coming year. Three TY students from EGS recently undertook some voluntary service at the church, and their work is much appreciated. The Rectory refurbishment is complete, and has been done well. Work to the grounds will begin soon.

5. The Fete committee are working hard for this year's fete, which will take place on 23 May. As ever, volunteers will be needed.

March Events



Parish Fete 2020 - May 23rd

The Fête will take place a week earlier than usual on **Saturday 23rd of May**, in East Glendalough School, Wicklow Town.

The committee have been working very hard over the last few months. This years Fete will include an Inter Parish hockey tournament, local trade and craft stalls, dog show, artisan food, hockey matches, local performers, cupcake decoration stand, magic show, face painting, children's game organized by the Glebe PTA, music, clothes, bric-a-brac, toys, flower stall and much much more!

We are looking for volunteers to help out on the day, if you can help even for a few hours, please contact Jack.



Fete Stall Holders and Commerical Brochure

Are you a local talented crafter and would like to sell your crafted products at the Wicklow Parish Fete - one of Wicklow's longest running summer events!

Please contact Jonathon Patton (086 7399591) or reply to this email if you are interested in taking a crafters stall for the day!

The Parish Fete is also offering advertisement space in our Fete brochure, which will be handed out free on the day! its a great way to advertise to your business while also supporting the Fete. If you are interesting in purchasing advertisement space or taking a commercial stand. Please contact Peter Earls on (087 2706616).



March Events



Pastoral Visiting

Is there someone you know who might appreciate a visit from the Rector? Or would you like to talk to Jack, in confidence? Please feel free to call or email, to arrange a time. kinkeadj@gmail.com / 0861727654.

Safeguarding Trust

Safeguarding Trust is the Church of Ireland's child protection policy. Any volunteers who work with groups for under 18s, or with vulnerable adults, must undertake Safeguarding Trust training. Each parish Select Vestry appoints a Panel, to ensure that Safeguarding Trust is being fully implemented, and to meet should any issue arise. In Wicklow, the Panel members are: Rev Jack Kinkead, Allyson Minion, and Stuart Daunt Smyth. If you have any concern regarding child safety, please contact one of the panel without delay.



Confirmation - April 4th

The Archbishop will visit Wicklow on 4 April, to confirm a group of young people. Please pray for all our young people, that they may know they are loved and accepted by God, and that they might grow in the faith they profess publicly.

The Lectio Bible Study

The Lectio bible study at the Dominican convent is moving to the evening for Lent, starting 26th February at 8 pm.

March Events



Car Boot Sales - Save The Dates

The first car boot sale of 2020 will be held in East Glendalough School on Sat 4th April, 9am-2pm. If you are interested in taking a pitch, the cost is €10 per car, or €15 for car with trailer or a van. Tea / coffee is available, and there are toilets open in the school. The car boot sales will run on the first Saturday of each month from April – September and general admission is free. For more information, call Peter Earls (087 2706616) or Lesley Hopkins (087 6091945).

March Events



Advanced Notice - The Vine International Concert Series - April 24th

On the 24th April, the Vine International Concert Series presents Prince Ibukun Tunde Olatunji, a chief from the Ekiti estates in Nigeria. Having grown up in the United Kingdom, estranged from his family of origin; Tunde became an actor, writer and poet producing work for theatre, dance and orchestral performances. Upon being introduced to his tribal home and family, Tunde was inspired to create a series of epic poems celebrating the land of his origin and its extraordinary pantheon of gods and mythology. Tunde will perform selections from his writing accompanied by the exceptional Japanese concert pianist and improviser, Izumi Kimura.

Recognised internationally as a brilliant improviser and composer, Izumi will also be presenting a number of her own compositions as well as her improvised responses to the writings of Tunde Olatunji.

All the performances in this series will begin at 8.00pm. Tickets will be available in advance from www.gr8events.ie or on the door. Costs are €20, €15 for students, young people (16 or under) accompanied by an adult enter free of charge.

Ticket holders for these concerts may avail of the pre-concert menu at La Locandina restaurant in Wicklow town between 5.30pm and 7.30pm on the evening of the performances. Please contact the restaurant directly to book a table as places are limited; La Locandina, 14 Main Street, Wicklow Town – 0404 53905, www.lalocandina.ie.

March Events



Surrounding Parish News- Nun's Cross

Advance Notice of Benefit Evening for Roland Evans (Former Teacher)

Roland Evans was a highly rated and much respected teacher in Nun's Cross National School until about ten years ago. He has been suffering from an incurable disease and his wife, Annette, is also unwell.

Thanks are due to past pupils and parents of Nun's Cross school for taking the initiative to organise a benefit evening of music and the spoken word in appreciation of Roland and Annette. This will take place in Nun's Cross church on Saturday 18th April at 7.30pm.

Tickets cost €20 and may be obtained from Valerie McHugh-Sharkey (086 8349885) or Tony Dunne (086 6014755).

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

Christ Jesus, through you we know that God is love. And so we listen to you when you say to us: Love your enemies, love even those who hurt you. And if we ask ourselves: How is this possible? you reply: I will place my Holy Spirit in you, the Spirit of love, who will enlarge your hearts.

@Taizé, 2020

