

WICKLOW PARISH

Monthly Newsletter

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Thoughts for October



4 October - Matthew 21:33-46 Today we celebrate the harvest thanksgiving – even in a global pandemic, the earth still produces enough for our daily needs. Today's Gospel begins a series for the next few weeks, that make for some uncomfortable reading.

Today's is entitled: The Parable of the Wicked Tenants. How do we cultivate the message of God's love in the modern church?

11 October - Matthew 22:1-14 In the parable of the wedding banquet, we are left with a feeling of uncertainty, and questioning whether or not we might be considered worthy of God's interest. The world can be a rough place at times, and we can often be surprised at the responses we might get to a gracious invitation. This Gospel acknowledges how it can be tough to engage with society, but essential that we do so.

18 October - Matthew 22:15-22 Once again, the religious leaders seek in their malice to trap Jesus, by asking him about the legitimacy of taxes paid to the Emperor. It is always sad when there is division and a breakdown of relationship within the community of the church. We are called in humility to work together.

25 October - Matthew 22:34-46 As Jesus shares the greatest commandment, we gain the closest insight yet into the way God's kingdom functions. Whatever guidelines we follow, or attitudes we hold, they are best experienced when we live according to the greatest commandment: to love God and to love people.

Services

Oct 4th -
Pre-Recorded Service

Oct 7th - 7.30pm
Service on Zoom

Oct 11th - 10am
Pre-Recorded Service

Oct 14th - 7.30pm
Service on Zoom

Oct 18th - 10am
Pre-Recorded Service

Oct 21st - 7.30pm
Service on Zoom

Oct 25th - 10am
Pre-Recorded Service

Oct 28th - 7.30pm
Service on Zoom



Church and Level 3

As of 5 October, the whole country has been placed into Level 3 of Covid restrictions. This means we cannot hold services of worship open to the public. The pre-recorded services will continue, as will the Wednesday evening services on Zoom. Please don't hesitate to contact Jack regarding any pastoral needs. We hope and pray that the situation will improve soon, and that we will be able to safely reopen.

October News



Youth

The youth group will be meeting on Zoom again during this term. The next meeting will take place on Sunday 18th October at 6.30pm. The meeting will be over by 7.30pm. The Zoom details are to be sent out later in the month.



Girls' Brigade

Wicklow Girls Brigade are reopening in an exciting new venue!

Spotlight Studios, Wicklow Town

They have loads of activities for young girls including, Dance, Singing, Musical Theatre, Games, Crafts and So Much More!!

Friday 7:30pm -8:30pm

Brigaders (14 Years +)

Saturday 2:45pm -3:45pm

Tiny Tots & Explorers (3 -8 Years)

4:00pm – 5:00pm Junior/Seniors
(9 -13 Years)

Contact Lesley Sheppard on:

0876290696

or

email: 1stcowicklow@girlsbrigade.ie

October News



Parish Endurance Thank You

Thanks to everyone who supported the Parish Endurance. We raised €1,020, this financial support will help us keep the church open for private prayer and worship, while safeguarding the safety of all who enter. We will also be able to support the children of the Glebe. Well done to everyone who took part!



Church Music Dublin

Rev Jack along with Tom Maxwell, organist at St Brigid's Church, Stillorgan are planning a huge collaboration to bring together as many churches in Dublin and surrounding areas for a massive virtual recording of carols. The plan is to start with four congregational carols and one choir piece, with the option to do more if time allows. More information will follow in the coming week



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Sunday Club Online

While we can't meet for Sunday Club at the moment, we're going to continue with an online version! Please let Jack know if you have children of primary school age & would like Sunday Club resources. We'll send out a video & some resources each week, and we may arrange occasional 'live' meetings online too.

Parish Finances

The Parish Treasurer is in the process of preparing a report on parish finances, and we will include this in the November newsletter. 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



Parish Finances Continued

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

October News



Nun's Cross News

The Hub

The Hub is now open six days a week, mostly in the mornings. All being well, a Tús worker will join the team during October, enabling additional afternoon openings. If you have not frequented it recently, why not make a visit? It has many new and good as new items for sale.

John Headley

John Headley will celebrate his 100th birthday (D.V.) on 30th October. He has been a great supporter of the parish over many including 33 years as Killiskey Treasurer. He was also a choir member.

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

'Heavenly Father, Lord of all creation

We thank you for the coming of the harvest

And for those who maintain the provision of food.

Enable us to become better stewards of your creation,

Thinking always of our legacy to future generations.

Mindful of the unequal burdens borne by the old and the sick in this emergency Inspire us also to be

unsparing in giving ourselves in the service of our neighbour

And in support of all who continue to work on the frontline

In government, in hospitals and care homes, and in the community.

All this we ask in the Name of your Son, the servant of all. Amen.'

**A prayer from the
Archbishops of Armagh, and
Dublin and Glendalough**

