



Mass Intentions
Saturday 29th November
6.30pm

Brendan Canavan (Anniv)
William Byrne (Anniv)
Michael & James Sheehan (Anniv)
Kathleen McDonald (Anniv)
Annie Fitzpatrick (Anniv)
John Sweeney (Anniv)

Sunday 30th November
11.30am

Johnny Ebbs (Month's Mind)
Aidy Doyle (Month's Mind)
Rosemary Brennan (Month's Mind)
Ben & Kitty Coburn (Anniv)
Stephen Lane (Anniv)
Ann Holt (Anniv)
Bridget & Seamus Kavanagh (Anniv)

Monday 1st December
10am

Patrick Kelly (1st Anniv)

Johnstown
Sunday 30th November
10am

Margaret (Maggie) Condren (Anniv)

With Sympathy
Sympathies are extended to the family and friends of
Christina McGrath
Karl Mulally
&
Fr Patrick (Pat) Reilly
May they rest in peace.

Dates for the Diary
December is a busy month for the Arklow Parish

Sunday 30th November
First Sunday of Advent

Presentation of Parish Finance Position at the end of Masses
New Holy Water Vessel in Front Porch will be Blessed at 11.30am Mass
Blessing of the Advent Wreath

Wednesday 3rd December
Arklow Cancer Support Ecumenical Service
St Saviour's 7.30pm

Sunday 7th December
Second Sunday of Advent
St Vincent De Paul Church Collection

Polish Mass 10am
Chat N Cha after 11.30am Mass

Monday 8th December
The Immaculate Conception (Holy Day)

Arklow Mass 10am
7pm with Blessing of Outdoor Crib and Lights followed by Rosary & Benediction

Johnstown 11am
Castletown 8pm

Thank you to the kind person who donated €500 to Trócaire the money has been sent to Trócaire. Thank you.

Wednesday 10th December
Mother Kevin Charity Concert 7.30pm

Thursday 11th December
Scoil Íosagáin Coolgreany Carol Concert

St David's Johnstown 7pm

Saturday 13th December
Family Mass 6.30pm

Sunday 14th December
Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)

Monday 15th December
Ss Michael & Peter Junior School Carol Concert 11.30am
Advent Penance Service Wicklow 7.30pm

Tuesday 16th December
Advent Penance Service Rathdrum 7.30pm

Wednesday 17th December
St John's Senior School Carol Concert 1.30pm

Advent Penance Service Arklow 7.30pm

Thursday 18th December
St Mary's College Carol Service 2pm

Sunday 21st December
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Parish Carol Concert 3pm

Parish of Sts. Mary & Peter, Arklow
with St David's Johnstown
First Sunday of Advent
30th November 2025

First Sunday of Advent, Today we bless the Advent Wreath
The Advent Wreath

The Advent wreath tradition involves four candles around the ever-green wreath. A new candle is lit on each of the four Sundays before Christmas. Each candle represents something different, the first, second and fourth candles are purple; the third candle is rose-coloured. The first candle symbolizes **hope** and is called the "Prophet's Candle" The prophets of the Old Testament, especially Isaiah, waited in hope for the Messiah's arrival.



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SURVEY – HAVE YOUR SAY
The Department of Education survey on the future of patronage in the primary sector is important in that it will shape the discussion on primary school divesting for the years to come throughout the Republic of Ireland. The survey is school specific and **needs to be responded to by all parents and prospective parents locally**. It is important that those who wish for a change in patronage would have their voice heard. It is equally important that those who wish for a Catholic education for their children, and the support for sacramental preparation available in Catholic schools, would have their voice heard also. For those reasons and to ensure that an accurate picture emerges, **please participate in this survey if you are a parent or a prospective parent of a Primary school student. The survey can be accessed at www.gov.ie/primaryschoolsurvey/**. It closes on Tuesday, December 16.

Liturgical Calendar December	
Wed 3rd	St Francis Xavier
Thursday 4th	St John Damascene
Saturday 6th	St Nicholas

Advent Calendar of Prayers are available on the Altar Rails. These are lovely little booklets of Prayers for every day of Advent. Please take one home.



Gathering Hymn
O Come, O Come Emmanuel
To free your captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appears.
Rejoice, Rejoice O Israel,
To you shall come Emmanuel,
O come great daystar, radiance bright,
And heal us with your glorious light,
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice, Rejoice, O Israel,
To you shall come Emmanuel.

Recessional Hymn
When creation was begun,
God had chosen you to be,
Mother of his blessed son,
Holy Mary full of grace.
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.
When Creation was restored
You were there beside the Lord,
Whom you cherished and adored
Holy Mary full of grace.
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.
Lead us to your child above
He will teach us how to love
How to pity and forgive
Holy Mary full of grace.
Ave, Ave, Ave Maria.

The Pope's Intentions December 2025
For Christians in areas of conflict
Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.