

Gathering Hymn

CITY OF GOD

Awake from your slumbers;
arise from your sleep.
A new day is dawning,
for all those who weep.
The people in darkness have
seen a great light,
The Lord of our longing has
conquered the night.

**R/ Let us build the city of God.
May our tears be turned into dancing,
For the Lord our light and our love,
Has turned the night into day.**

We are sons of the morning;
we are daughters of day.
The one who has loved us has
brightened our way.
The Lord of all kindness has called us to be,
A light for his people to set their hearts free.

Recessional Hymn

SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
And his righteousness.
And all these things will be
added unto you;

**R/ Allelu, alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
Allelu, alleluia.**

Ask and it shall be given unto you,
Seek and you shall find,
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you,

Allelu, alleluia. R/

Mass Intentions

Saturday 6.30 p.m.	28th January Reggie Gleeson, May Gleeson, Maisey Gleeson Aidan Forde Kathleen Hall Patrick & Bridget McGuire Margaret McGuire Alex Dunne Kevin Byrne
Sunday 8.30 a.m.	29th January Maggie Murray and Danny Murray James Kenny
11.30 a.m.	Myles Doyle Eileen Dempsey (Months Mind) Margaret & Thady Loftus Marcella & Patrick Kavanagh Edward & Christina Dempsey
7.00 p.m.	William, Essie & Sheila Breslin Helena Murphy (Months Mind)
Monday 8.00 a.m.	30th January -
10.00 a.m.	-
Tuesday 8.00 a.m.	31st January -
10.00 a.m.	-
Wednesday 8.00 a.m.	1st February -
10.00 a.m.	Mary & Henry Stone
Thursday 8.00 a.m.	2nd February -
10.00 a.m.	Daniel (Saca) McDonald
Friday 8.00 a.m.	3rd February Altar List of the Dead
10.00 a.m.	Altar List of the Dead
Saturday 10.00 a.m.	4th February -

Weekly Notices for the Churches of Sts. Mary & Peter, Arklow and St. David, Johnstown - Sunday 29th January 2017

The annual **Mass for all Engaged Couples** where engagement rings will be blessed will take place on Saturday 4th February 2017 at the 6.30 p.m. Mass. If you know of any engaged couples who would like an invite to this please contact the parish office or Fr. Michael.

Sincere thanks to everybody who has returned their **Christmas Dues**.

The Irish Catholic Newspaper will be on sale in the Church Porches after Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses.

The Queen of Peace Prayer Group meet every Friday evening at 7.45 p.m. in Árus Lorcáin to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood. All are very welcome.

Restart A Heart: Public Access Defibrillator Information Evening will take place in Árus Lorcáin on Monday 6th February from 8.00 to 9.30 p.m. The night will consist of an opening introduction, a series of power point slides, CPR and Defibrillator demonstration and a questions and answers session followed by refreshments. There will be representatives from the National Ambulance Service and the Irish Heart Foundation coming. Ken O Dwyer from Flashpoint Medical System who will be very generously donating a Rotaid Cabinet and Defibrillator to the Arklow community will also be attending. Admission is Free.

PARKING

It is great to see the large numbers attending the principal weekend Masses, unfortunately this also creates a difficulty around the area of parking.

The Parish in conjunction with the Gardaí would encourage people to use the parking spaces available in the car parks located in **Castle Park**, the **Main Street** (to the rear of the band stand) and also in the grounds of **St. Peter's N.S.** (the old junior boy's school) beside Árus Lorcáin.

In the interest of safety for all, we would appeal to people to be mindful of where they are parking, ensuring that they are not blocking entrances, parking on corners or in any place that may cause an obstruction.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Fr. Martin Cosgrove,
Moderator, Arklow Group of Parishes

Wednesday February 1st

St. Brigid, Secondary Patron Saint of Ireland

People came from all over Ireland to talk with Brigid when they had problems and worries. Poor people always received a welcome and were given food and clothing. She also made sure that people received religious instruction. These were early years for the Church in Ireland. There is a story that she was helping an old pagan chieftain who was dying to understand who Jesus was and how he had died on the Cross. She took up some straw from the floor and made a simple cross. Even today people like to make St. Brigid's Cross and put it on a wall somewhere in their house.

Thursday February 2nd (World Day for Consecrated Life)

The Presentation of the Lord – Blessing of the Candles

Today the Church celebrates the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and is also known as Candlemas day, since the blessing of candles is included in today's liturgy. According to the 1962 Missal of St. John XXIII the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite, today is referred to as the "Purification of Mary." This is known as a "Christmas feast" since it points back to the Solemnity of Christmas.

Candles will be blessed at 8.00 a.m. and 10.0 a.m. Masses.

Friday February 3rd

St. Blaise

Since the eight century he has been venerated as patron of those who suffer from disease of the throat. The Blessing of St. Blaise is a sign of our faith in God's protection and love for us and for the sick.

Throats will be blessed at 8.00 a.m. and 10.0 a.m. Masses.

Catholic Schools Week 2017

Catholic Schools: Learning with Pope Francis to Care for Our Common Home

Thank you to all primary schools involved with this weekend's Mass marking the beginning of Catholic Schools Week 2017. During this week we aim to celebrate the unique contribution that Catholic schools, both primary and post-primary, make to the mission of the Church in our local faith communities and throughout the wider church. This year's theme is Catholic Schools: Learning with Pope Francis to Care for Our Common Home. We are reminded of the beauty of the world God has created for us and our responsibility to care for the home we share.

Arklow & Johnstown Parish

2017 Annual Parish Social

In the **Arklow Bay Hotel** on
Friday 17th February 2017
at 8.30p.m.

Music by 'The Wanderers'
(Dave Canavan)
Door Prize – Tickets €20

Available from the
Parish Office.

