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Thoughts for July



2 July. Genesis 22:1-14; St. Matthew 10:40-42

The horrifying story of the call to Abraham to sacrifice his son highlights the horror of human sacrifice. Ultimately this story ends well, and cements God's abhorrence of child sacrifice, common in the ancient near east at that time.

9 July. Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67; St. Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Today's readings teach us that we can never be satisfied, save for putting our whole trust in the Lord. In the Old Testament, the story of Abraham & Isaac continues, demonstrating their faithfulness to the promises of God.

16 July. Genesis 25:19-34; St Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

One of the best known parables of Jesus, the parable of the sower has relevance for any and all of us. In the Old Testament, we learn of the birth of twins Esau and Jacob, whose rivalry and trickery will teach us much in forthcoming chapters. Today, we learn of the problems that can arise when we feed a short term desire at the expense of our future.

23 July. Genesis 28:10-19; St Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The Parable of the weeds among the wheat is one to which all gardeners will relate! Jesus' teaching is pertinent for Christians in the modern age, where extreme views & polarisation threaten Church unity.

30 July. Genesis 20:15-28; St. Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The Old Testament presents a challenging text for 21st century readers, as Laban's daughters are treated as property. How can we search for the lessons within such stories? The Gospel presents a series of short parables, which may help shed some light.

Services

Wicklow: July 2nd -8.30 & 9.30 am Holy Communion Family Worship Killiskey: 11.15am Service of Worship

Wicklow: July 9th -8.30 & 9.30 am Holy Communion Family Worship Killiskey: 11.15am Service of Worship

Wicklow: July 16th-8.30 & 9.30 am Holy Communion Family Worship Killiskey: 11.15am Service of Worship

Wicklow: July 23rd-8.30 & 9.30 am Holy Communion Family Worship Killiskey: 11.15am Service of Worship

Wicklow: July 30th 8.30 & 9.30 am Holy Communion Joint Service Family Worship



Joint Service

As there are 5 Sundays in July, there will be a joint service on the 5th Sunday (30 July). It is Wicklow's turn to host the joint service, and we look forward to gathering as one parish community.

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.



Parish Badminton Club

The parish badminton club will soon be re-established! Keep an eye out for more information....

Baby & Toddler group

The baby & toddler group will stop meeting for July & August, and will recommence in September.

Prayer Nights

There will be times of informal prayer on Thursday evenings throughout the summer, beginning on 29 June, 7.30-8.30pm. A small group of people will meet to pray for the needs of the parish / wider community, and anyone is welcome to drop in & out if you are around. Please feel free to ask for prayer yourselves, or send any prayer requests to Jack.



Wicklow vestry open for young children during services!

We have cleared some space in the Wicklow Vestry for anyone coming to church with small children!
We're delighted to see small kids in church, but understand it can be a bit stressful for parents at times! Please feel free to drop in & out of the Vestry during services, where there will be some toys & a playmat. There is also a speaker in there, relaying the service.
And please keep bringing your kids to church!

· Help needed!

We need volunteers to help with three areas of church life:

- 1. Coffee rota for after church on Sundays.
- 2. Church cleaning rota.
- 3. Flower rota for fresh flowers in church. Perhaps sign up for a Sunday near the anniversary of a loved one, or of a special occasion



Wicklow coffee rota

Thanks to those who have signed up so far, to help provide tea / coffee after the 9.30am services. Please let Jack know if you are able to help with this occasionally.

Fundraising

Any and all ideas are welcome, so please let us know if you have an idea for a fundraising or social event.





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 and Killiskev, the Panel members are: Rev Jack Kinkead (0861727654), Allyson Minion, Tony Mulrain (0871171066), (0868597423), and Daphne Smith (0879152777). If you have any concern regarding child safety, please contact one of the panel without delay. https://www.ireland.anglican.org/about/sa feguarding. Since the last Select Vestry meeting, there have been no incidents reported to the Safeguarding Trust Panel.

Select Vestries

Both Select Vestries met towards the end of January, and both discussed the practicalities around Rev Jack now having sole responsibility for both Wicklow and Killiskey parishes. Both vestries are engaging in processes of looking towards a sustainable future for the parish community, and welcome the input of the wider parish family. Although overall outgoings have reduced, finance continues to be a perpetual worry, and the vestries appeal to parishioners to consider planned giving for financial contributions either standing order or donation envelopes. Any donation over €250 per year will be eligible for an additional tax rebate contribution from the government. Our bank details are as follows: Wicklow Parish Church. BIC: AIBKIE2D; IBAN: IE23 AIBK 933619 09248084 Killiskey Parish: BIC: BOFIIE2D; IBAN: IE16

Killiskey Parish: BIC: BOFIIE2D; IBAN: IE16 BOFI 906734 11025991

Sports Extra Camp



SPORTS EXTRA IRELAND

A week of specialist sports coaching and team competitions for young people who are serious about sport and play regularly in a club or team

It's the perfect way to improve in your sport, while exploring more about the Christian faith and what it means to be a Christian sports player.



SPORTS

Young people choose one sport to specialise in for two hours every morning. The options are:

- Hockey
- Rugby
- Soccer

Cost

Sports Extra Ireland costs €300 for each young person, with a reduced rate of €150 also available. The reduced rate is subsidised by a bursary fund and is accessible for families to which the full cost is not affordable.

Age

Sports Extra Ireland is for young people in 6th Class to 5th Year in the 2022/23 academic year.

Contact us

For more information please visit the website, contact the team on +353 83 127 0941 or email sports.extra@christcitychurch.ie

BOOKING IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT: CHRISTCITYCHURCH.IE/SPORTS-EXTRA

July News - Killiskey



Killiskey Churchwardens - Urgent!

We only have a small amount of official churchwardens at the moment, we need some parishioners to volunteer to undertake warden duty as part of a rota. Please let Jack know if you can help (0861727654).

Planned Giving

Please consider renewing or beginning your financial commitment to Killiskey Parish by way of Planned Giving. By doing this you can maximise the amount of money received by the Parish and greatly assist the Parish to meet its financial commitments. Planned Giving is making a pledge to donate an amount of money regularly over the course of the year whether weekly, monthly, quarterly or by a single donation. Under the tax regulations, the Parish, as a registered charity, can obtain a tax refund from the government for recorded donations from tax payers (PAYE and Self-Assessment)

who contribute a minimum of €250 in the tax year. This is the equivalent of €4.81 per week. The parish can claim a further approx. 45% of the amount donated from the government. Cash donations on the plate, while very gratefully received, are not eligible for a tax refund. If you are contributing more than €250 over the course of the year through this method, you might like to consider Planned Giving.

The Hub

Ashford Charity Shop has a wide range of goods for sale, Opening hours are from 11am-3pm Mondays to Saturdays.

If you know of anyone who has been unemployed for a year or more and would like to earn some extra income, please ask them to contact Lesley Rue on 087-2766590

Table Tennis

The Table Tennis club meets in East Glendalough School on Thursdays from 7.30pm—9pm

July News - Killiskey



Eco Tips July 2023 The Joys of Growing Vegetables

Not so long ago, we used to grow many of our own vegetables in Ireland - however, owing to cut price offers for "cheaper" overseas food in supermarkets, most of the commercial growers here have gone out of business. Currently, Ireland imports a huge amount of fruit and vegetables from Spain, but a long-term drought, water shortages and soaring temperatures there are making much of the land inhospitable. This will almost inevitably result in food shortages in Ireland, similar to that experienced in the spring, when tomatoes, for example, became temporarily unavailable. It would seem logical for Ireland to encourage commercial growers to return to

production and for them to be paid a fair price for that produce. Meantime, the Irish populace at large could copy their forebears and start growing their own fruit and vegetables again. Not so long ago, most households had their own potato and cabbage plot. Clearly that is not possible for urban dwellers today, but virtually everyone could grow something, even on a windowsill, patio or in a small back garden. The joy of experiencing the enhanced flavour of freshly picked, home-grown produce might even encourage some folk to grow more. The more time you invest, the more you gain. There is a need to have more allotments and community gardens in urban areas. At a time when food prices are causing hardship for many, growing even a small amount of one's own food would help alleviate this burden. Grandparents can pass on their gardening knowledge to children, who often love sowing seeds and getting mucky in gardens - and they certainly enjoy the produce, especially if fruits such as strawberries are grown! Why not give it a try?

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

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 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 **Dear Father**

Thank You for the gift of summertime,
For the long evenings,
For family time,
For holidays
For adventure.

We ask that You help us to look beyond ourselves,
To seek out those in need,
And to be a blessing to our community during this season.

We give thanks and rejoice, and worship You, Ancient of Days, And marvel at the beauty in Your creation, Knowing that this season will lead to harvest-time, As ordained by You at the beginning of time.

Amen