

PARISH NEWS

The Nativity of St. John the Baptist:

Sunday 24th. JUNE 2018

Today we celebrate the birth of John the Baptist and listen to Luke's account of his nativity. John's story is one of sacrifice and humility. His parents know there will be something very special about this child. The circumstances surrounding his birth already have people amazed. Jewish historians account that John was a preacher around the time of Pontius Pilate who went around calling people to renewal! He spent a lot of time in the wilderness, eating wild things and wearing sackcloth. He must have been a very interesting and attractive figure as we are told in the gospels that people flocked to the River Jordan to be baptised by him; a sign of their repentance or renewal of relationship with God. John gathered so many followers around him that he was considered a threat to Herod Antipas who feared he might begin a rebellion. John was a preacher, a prophet, a signpost pointing people in the right direction: towards Jesus of Nazareth.

We can pray today for all those people who acted as a signpost in our lives and brought us closer to God in some way, those who guided us and pointed us in the right direction when we needed it. We too are also called to be signpost for others.

'Lord, we thank you for the people who guided us but did not try to possess us: parents, teachers, spiritual guides, friends. For a time we stood with them. Very simply, like John the Baptist, they said to us, "Look, there is the one you should follow," and hearing this we followed that person.'

Collections: Envelopes parish account €538. Baskets €604.34.

Envelopes Clergy account €883. Baskets €710

Bingo €680. Lotto: €515.

Envelopes returned: 157

Winners: Jim Dunne, Liscolman.

Practical way of supporting your church. Some weekends you may find it inconvenient to drop in your envelopes, standing order request forms (standing request forms are available in the back of the church or from the Parish Office).

We would encourage you to use your parish envelopes as we can claim back tax on your generous contribution, if you did not get a chance to leave it in at mass, you can drop it into the Parish office.

Our thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish.

MASS SCHEDULE

Wednesday: Holy Hour 9.30- 10.30. Mass @ 10.30

Thursday: End of the year mass for Ballyconnell N.S. @ 9.45 all are welcome

Friday Mass @ 7.30 pm

ANNIVERSARIES

Ballyconnell: 23rd June 7:30pm

No anniversaries

Clonmore: 24th 10.30am

No anniversaries

PARISH CENTRE

Opening hours from 9.30 am to 1.30 pm. Tuesday, Thursday.

Phone 059 9156890; email: clonmoreoffice.parish@gmail.com

Rev. Fr. John O'Brien: 086-2403787; email: frjohn51@gmail.com

If anyone wishes to be added to the Weekend Readers Rota for Our Lady of the Wayside in Clonmore, please contact Mary 086 8528754.

Clonmore Parish Lotto: Last week's numbers: 9.14.7.22 No Winner
€40 prize winners: Sinead Staunton, Theresa Douse, Bridie Doyle, Andy O Toole, John Hasney.
Next week's jackpot €900 – Jackpot plus bonus €1,900

Coolkenno GAA Lotto: Last week's numbers: 5.15.19.25. This week's jackpot €16000. No Winner
4 Lucky Dip Winners: €25.00 each- Elanor Lee, Eamon Dolan, Stephan Kacpersski, Ann Harper,
Jay Byrne, Jamie Knocktor, Michael O' Donoughue, Sharon Doyle.
Next Draw: Monday 25th June In the Crab Lane.

Altar society in Ballyconnell Church on 30th. June: Ann Whelan
Kilquiggan Church July 1st: M. Doyle

Collectors for July in Ballyconnell: W. Whelan/ L. Hendrican **Kilquiggan:** M. Byrne/ M. Keogh
Clonmore: M. Nolan/ L. Hickey

Annual three nights pilgrimage to knock

The annual three nights pilgrimage to knock takes place on Sunday 8th of July- Wednesday 11th July. Further details from Duffy's Coach Hire: 059- 6471681

World Meeting of Families

Those who have already booked ticket for the Phoenix Park via the RDS Pastoral Congress booking system do no need to book tickets for the Phoenix Park on Monday next as they are already in the WMOF system and will automatically receive their ticket for the Phoenix Park.

The Fete in the Ardeen Cheshire Home

The Fete in the Ardeen Cheshire Home in Shillelagh is on Sunday 1st of July from 1pm to 6pm. The funds raised from this event will go towards the Cheshire Home and the development projects around the village.

Baltinglass Parish Fun Day

Baltinglass Parish Fun Day is on Sunday 22nd July 2-5pm in St Joseph's Parish Centre Grounds. There will be entertainment, face painting, fun activities etc. Bring a picnic. All are welcome.

June Retreat Days at Glenstal Abbey

Tuesday 26th - One Day Silent Retreat for Women. Wednesday 27th - Annual one Day Retreat for Women (not silent). Thursday 28th - Day Retreat for Men. Reflect, relax and pray in the peaceful and beautiful surrounds of the Abbey. Guided by monks of the monastery, the day will include a number of talks, Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Meals and Refreshment breaks are included. Cost €45. For more information; 061-621005 / events@glenstal.com

Evening of Love Songs & Arias in St Mary's Church, Castle Hill, Carlow on July 3rd @ 7.30pm. Night will feature works by Brahms, Mozart, Donizetti, Wagner and many others. Local soprano Kathleen Nic Dhiarmada will be joined by Sarah Kilcoyne, Oisín O' Dalaigh, Kevin Neville and pianists Aoife O' Sullivan and Aoife Moran. Tickets €20 available on the door. **Proceeds to Carlow County Hospice Committee**, please support.

Carlow Regional Pioneer & Total Abstinence Association will hold their Monthly Meeting in Ballyconnell Hall on Saturday June 30th, after 7.30pm Mass. All are Welcome, any inquiries contact Mary 086 8528754.

Thought For The Week

This is just a short note of appreciation, and an expression of my gratitude the community of the Parish for a memorable celebration of Fr. James' Golden Jubilee on last Saturday. Thank you for inviting us to be part of the occasion, it was a lovely evening, organized with great thought and detail. I know Fr. James and all of his family were appreciative of the thoughtfulness and the planning that went into the celebration, and the welcome, kindness and hospitality that they experienced on Saturday evening.
Many thanks again Fr. James Family.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK

