

Christian Motivational Phrases

'God will meet you where you are, in order to take you where he wants you to go'.

Tony Evans

Covid-19 Support Line for Older People

Alone manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties to the outbreak of Covid-19. Professional staff are available reassurance where necessary. The support line is one seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024

Thought for the week

SEEING YOUR LIFE IN THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

1. Jesus speaks of himself being lifted up, a term that can mean a physical lifting, or also exaltation. By this play on words the evangelist explains to us that Jesus' gift of himself in the passion was a glorious revelation of love, despite all its injustice and brutality. Bring to mind occasions when the love shown by Jesus in his passion was a sacrament of God's love for you.
2. It would be very cushy for us if we could be a source of life to others without cost to ourselves. True life-givers know that they need the generosity of being lifted up by giving their lives so that others may have life. Recall when you have had that generosity and give thanks for others who have been like that for you.
3. We receive life from God when our faith enables us to trust in God's love for us. We give life to one another when the love between us is trustworthy. Recall memories of that kind of trustworthy love. For whom have you been able to be a 'Jesus person' and give a love that another could trust? Who has shown that kind of love to you and been for you a sacrament of God's love?

Have a Wonderful Week

PARISH NEWSLETTER

14th. March Fourth Sunday of Lent



PARISH CENTRE

The Parish Centre will be open on Tuesday and Friday morning from 9.30- 1.30

clonmoreoffice.parish@gmail.com

Fr. John: 086-2403787; email: frjohn51@gmail.com.

Website: www.clonmoreparish.ie

Out Into the Light

Today, the 'middle' Sunday of Lent, is known as Laetare Sunday - Laetare means 'Rejoice!' We tend not to think of Lent as a time to rejoice, but signs of joy are central at Mass today, such as the use of flowers on the altar and rose-coloured vestments for the priest instead of the usual Lenten purple. The shadow of the cross still looms large, but we look forward with hope to Easter, when light will conquer the darkness. We are offered an opportunity today to pause and reflect on our Lenten journey. In our gospel we hear that 'the [person] who lives by the truth comes out into the light'. On the other hand, Jesus says that those who 'prefer darkness to the light' live in fear that their actions will be exposed. We hear a lot of talk these days about transparency. We have seen the damage caused by those whose private actions gravely contradict the message they proclaim in the public sphere. Some questions we might ask ourselves this Lent are: Am I living a truthful life 'in the light'? Am I honest in my dealings with others, trying always to choose what is right and just, or are there things I do in secret that are unkind or dishonest? Am I attentive to the needs of others or am I more inclined to think of myself? Lent offers us the opportunity to step out into the light, to allow the light of Jesus to sweep away any darkness or destructive habits and to begin again. 'We proclaim the resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our existence, and we are able share it with others;

when we know when to smile with those who smile, and weep with those who weep; when we accompany those who are sad and at risk of losing hope; when we recount our experience of faith to those who are searching for meaning and happiness... and there - with our attitude, with our witness, with our life - we say 'Jesus is Risen,' with our soul.' (Pope Francis). **Triona Doherty**

Anniversaries - with love we remember

Sunday 14th. March: Patrick Tierney, Ballyconnell



Following HSE guidelines we will have mass online via our Parish Webcam on Sundays at 10.30 in Ballyconnell.

Anniversaries will be prayed for at this mass.

Wednesday 17th. St. Patrick - Principal Patron Saint of Ireland. Mass will be at 10.00 on our Facebook Page.

Our weekday masses will be on our Facebook Page at 10.00

If you would like to receive a weekly email with our Parish newsletter, please provide us with your email address.

PARISH LOTTO

Kildare & Leighlin Co-Op Lotto Results for
Wednesday 16th. March 2021 Numbers: 13,18, 24 28
No Winner. Next week's Jackpot €18,000
9 Match 3s win €112 each.

A wonderful way of supporting our Parish financially is through the Lotto. If you would like to renew your lotto subscription (those are due for renewal) and if anyone wishes to join our lotto, you can get forms in the Parish Centre. If you wish to know when you are due for renewal you can contact the Parish Office or contact Fr. John

St. Patrick - Principal Patron Saint of Ireland.

'I arise today'

We often forget that Patrick was an immigrant - in modern terms we might call him an undocumented migrant. In his Confession he describes himself as a refugee: 'I am first of all a simple country person, a refugee and unlearned. I do not know how to provide for the future.' But Patrick's fortunes were turned around and he embarked on a mission in his adopted homeland that would earn him the title 'Apostle of Ireland'. We are reminded in our gospel today of our mission to 'Go out to the whole world and proclaim the Good News to all creation'. While this might seem a mammoth task, we are reminded of all those who have carried that torch of faith down through the ages, from the apostles, to St Patrick and the saints and all who have been courageous in bringing the Good News of Jesus to the world. Many, like Patrick, would have been considered unlikely disciples and teachers but they embraced the challenge. We all have our part to play in this mission. Through the words we speak, the way we love, the way we work for justice and care for creation, we are participating in God's plan for the world. The faith passed to us through Patrick encourages us to greet each day with joy, hope and courage. Let us be inspired to meet the challenge of each new day with the words of St Patrick's Breastplate:

I arise today, through
the strength of heaven,
The light of the sun,
The radiance of the moon...
I arise today, through
God's strength to pilot me,
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me
God's shield to protect me.

Fourth Sunday of Lent - Some suggestions for this week.

1. Persevere in your chosen resolution for lent and remember that their purpose is to bring you closer to God
2. Think of one habit you can create to help keep Sunday holy in your home.
3. Go for a walk and contemplate the beauty of God's creation,
4. Do a Friday penance.

Stations of the Cross in this time of Pandemic

The Diocesan Commission for Liturgical Formation, with Bishop Denis, has prepared a *video series of Stations of the Cross*. Each week a set of three stations will be uploaded to kandle.ie and other platforms. The stations will be led by Bishop Denis, with a parish reader proclaiming the scripture passages. Frontline workers and people who have been severely impacted by COVID-19 will read the reflections for each station. You are invited to pray these stations each week and pray them in their entirety during Holy Week.

A special *video invitation from Bishop Denis* to these stations can be viewed on www.kandle.ie