

**Coolkenno GAA Lotto:** Last week's numbers: 6, 22, 27, 31

Winner: No Winner. This week's jackpot €3,200.

Next Draw: 10<sup>th</sup>. January in Club House

Lucky Dip Winners: Mary Nolan, Peter Roberts; Martin Cole;  
Frank Bailey

*Thought for the week*

### SEEING YOUR LIFE IN THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

1. The people were searching and John pointed them in the direction of Jesus. On your life's journey who have been the John the Baptist people for you, people who have pointed you in the right direction?
2. The Baptism of Jesus was a very special moment for him that affirmed him in his identity as Son of God and in his mission. Recall the experiences that affirmed you - either in your sense of who you are, or in relation to the direction you were taking in life.
3. The Baptism of Jesus marks a transition point in his life, and the start of his public ministry. Recall the transition points in your own life. Where did you see the grace of God at work in those times?
4. This experience of Jesus occurred when he was at prayer. What part has prayer played in opening you to being aware of God in your life? What part has prayer played in helping you through a transition point in your life?

*Have a Wonderful Week*

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

9<sup>th</sup>. January - The Baptism of Our Lord



### PARISH CENTRE

The Parish Centre will be open on Tuesday and Friday  
9.30 - 1.30. Tel. 059-9156890

[clonmoreoffice.parish@gmail.com](mailto:clonmoreoffice.parish@gmail.com)

Fr. John: 086-2403787; email: [frjohn51@gmail.com](mailto:frjohn51@gmail.com).

Website: [www.clonmoreparish.ie](http://www.clonmoreparish.ie)

## The Baptism of the Lord

*Today's Gospel tells us that the people were 'filled with expectation'. It sounds like a very exciting time as they wonder who this prophet John could be. John must have been a very dynamic and inspiring preacher as the people speculated if he were the one, they had been waiting for. He uses all of this attention for one purpose: to point people to Jesus. There are many people in our own lives who have pointed us towards Jesus, perhaps by an invitation to an event or a retreat or by sharing a reflection with us at just the right time. In them, we see something special and interesting that makes us wonder in our hearts and seek a little further. They are the John the Baptists in our lives, pointing us towards the Lord like signposts along the way. John humbly responds to the people by saying: 'One who is more powerful than I, is coming.' He emphasises that it is He who will really set their hearts on fire. While the words concerning 'winnowing forks' seem harsh, we might interpret them as speaking of God's power to transform our lives through Jesus. When Jesus enters into the narrative, Luke emphasises that He is at prayer, and it is then that this powerful experience of God occurs. A nice meditation for today is to repeat the last sentence of today's Gospel, imagining God speaking these words to you: 'You are my Daughter/Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'*

## Christian Motivational Phrases

I lied and said I was busy. I was busy but not in a way most people understand. I was busy taking deeper breaths. I was busy silencing irrational thoughts. I was busy calming a racing heart. I was busy telling myself I am okay. Sometimes this is my busy and I will not apologise for it.

B. Oakman

## Anniversaries - with love we remember



Clonmore 9<sup>th</sup>. January 10.30

Cecelia Gahan, Ballaghaclay  
Margaret Dowling, Minvaud

Ballyconnell 15<sup>th</sup>. January 7.30

Josie Keogh, Ballyconnell  
Sarah Bowes, Killinure

We pray for Ted Hickey, Cronalea who was buried during the week.

Collections: Envelopes: € Baskets: € Envelopes returned -  
Bingo: €. Lotto: €

## Mass Schedule



Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>. January: Mass at 9.30  
Ballyconnell

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup>. Mass at 9.30

Friday 14<sup>th</sup>. Mass at 7.30 in Ballyconnell

Saturday and Sunday 15/16 normal mass  
schedule.

**PARISH LOTTO:** Kildare & Leighlin Co-Op Lotto Results for  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup>. January 2022 Numbers: 9, 14, 17, 20 - No Winner. Next week's  
Jackpot €16,000. 15 Match 3s win €67 each (one local winner)

1. Every ticket we sell we get €1 for the Parish
2. We don't have to pay out the prizes
3. We don't have to have a team in place to organise the Lotto.
4. We don't have to organise the printing of the books.
5. The only work we have to do is to update the list every week and send in the numbers for the draw on Wednesday.
6. It is a **win-win** situation for the Parish. We appreciate your support for the Lotto.

I would encourage you to support our Lotto. At this time of the year some of your subscriptions have expired. The lotto is a very welcome support for our parish finances. For you personally, it is also an opportunity for you to win some money. If you are not in you can't win. Next week's jackpot is €16,000. If you want to know that status of your subscription, contact the Parish office or Fr. John

## 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

**COLLECTIONS BOXES:** A sincere thank you to all the volunteers who have helped distribute the collection boxes for the coming year, your support is greatly appreciated. If you have not received a collection box, please let us know.

A sincere thank you to all of you who contribute by direct debit or by using the diocesan website: kandle.ie  
Just to remind you that the Parish can claim tax back on your generous contributions that you make during the year, if they exceed a set threshold.