

**Coolkenno GAA Lotto:** Last week's numbers: 2,11,14,25

No Winner. This week's jackpot €3,600. Next Draw: 7<sup>th</sup>. February in Club House  
Lucky Dip Winners: Roan Murphy, Hayley Kane; Patrick Dalton; Mary Corcoran.

## *Thought for the week*

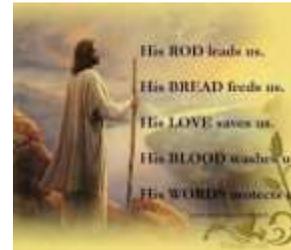
ST. BRIGID - ABBESS AND SECONDARY PATRON OF IRELAND By  
Fr Billy Swan

At a time of increasing secularism, the imperative for a stronger Christian unity that translates into a greater unity of mission and purpose, appears all the more urgent. In a culture of multiple identities, now is a time when the scandal of division among Christians appears less tolerable and the need greater to show the world the Trinity at a time of global uncertainty and fragmentation. In 1963, President John F. Kennedy paid tribute to Ireland as 'a maker and shaper of world peace...no larger nation did more to keep Christianity and western culture alive in their darkest centuries...You have something to give to the world' (Address to Joint Houses of the Oireachtas, Dublin, 28th June 1963). These words remind the Irish Churches not to preserve all our energies in resolving theological differences between the traditions, important as this work is. It is a call to commit ourselves to a joint mission in the service to humanity. Joint mission to the world saves the Church from being too 'self-referential' and shows how 'unity of action leads to the full unity of faith'. As Pope Francis explains: 'To do something together is a high and effective form of dialogue'. In this light, St Brigid invites Irish Christians to see the universal nature of their Christian vocation that extends to the whole of humanity and beyond their own locality and denomination. Lastly, this Brigidine principle taps into the vitality of our joint missionary heritage and the immense contribution that Irish Christian missionaries of all denominations have made around the globe. It keeps the energies of the ecumenical movement focused outwards with the hope that differences of doctrine and tradition will be resolved in the context of our joint missionary efforts. With a renewed missionary commitment, the hope arises that the future will be marked not just by historical reflection but remembered for its legacy of real progress in unity among Irish Christians. On this feast day of St Brigid, we pray through her intercession that, in the words of St Therese of Lisieux, that there be 'love at the heart of the Church'. We ask her to pray for all Christians at this time of pandemic, that we might be united in charity and loving mercy towards all the people of God. We ask her to pray for a great renewal of the faith in the Church in Ireland beginning now but coming to fruition in the future. St Brigid, pray for us!

*Have a Wonderful Week*

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

13<sup>th</sup>. February - Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Parish Office will be open: Tuesdays  
and Fridays from 9.30 - 1.30.

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## How Happy

What's so great about being poor, or hungry, or sad? On the surface, these Beatitudes of Jesus seem very strange: 'How happy are you who are poor'. Surely it is better to be wealthy, to be well fed, and to enjoy good times - or to at least be comfortable and content? But Jesus is not interested in comfort, or in maintaining the status quo. The Jesus of Luke's Gospel is something of a revolutionary. He has come to turn the social order on its head: last becomes first and least becomes greatest. His concern is always for the poor and marginalised. Jesus' vision is of a world where the unjust structures that cause poverty, hunger and oppression are swept away. Sadly, as we hear on the news every day, inequalities in our world with regard to wealth, education, health and opportunities remain as stark as ever. Speaking about how we can tackle injustice today, Pope Francis has offered six 'new Beatitudes' for the modern Christian. Like the teachings of Jesus, they remind us that the task of the Christian is to tackle injustice and to act in solidarity with those on the margins of society. Pope Francis' 'new Beatitudes' include: Blessed are those who renounce their own comfort in order to help others. Blessed are those who look into the eyes of the abandoned and marginalised and show them their closeness. Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home , and disputes. And let us ask him for the grace to send us forth, in humility and meekness, along the demanding but enriching path of seeking peace'. (Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, 254

## Christian Motivational Phrases

The Cross means there is no shipwreck without hope, there is no darkness without dawn, no storm without a haven. St. John Paul II

## Anniversaries - with love we remember



### Ballyconnell 12<sup>th</sup>. February 7.30.

Lyla Nanasy, Months Mind; and her brother Denis O'Reilly Killinure and her sister Kathleen Carey (New York) Patrick Fitzharris, Ballyconnell & James & Ann Moran, Ballyconnell, also Imelda Whelan (nee Germaine) Baltinglass who was interred during the week.

### Kilquiggan 13<sup>th</sup>. 9.00

Edward Dempsey and his son Christy, Mullinacuff.

### Kilquiggan 20<sup>th</sup>. 9.00

Simon Timmins, Boley

P.J. Hunt, Ballyconnell who passed away during the week.

Collections: Weekend: 5/6 February

Envelopes: €465 Baskets: €516. Envelopes returned:

Bingo: € Lotto: €

## Mass Schedule

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>. February: Mass at 9.30.

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>..: Mass at 9.30

Friday 18<sup>th</sup>..: Mass at 7.30 in Ballyconnell



Ballyconnell Bingo: There will be bingo

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>. at 2 pm. Please spread the word; and thanks for your support.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>. – 17<sup>th</sup>. April 2022.

Further details form Duffy Coach Hire: 087-2543235; 059-6471681

**PARISH LOTTO:** Kildare & Leighlin Co-Op Lotto Results for Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>. February 2022 Numbers: 8, 13, 23, 29 - No Winner. Next week's Jackpot €13,000. 16 Match 3s win €63 each

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.

## Synod News: A Listening Lent, across Kildare and Leighlin

Pope Francis wants to hear from the whole Church about the reality of being part of the People of God right now. He wants us to have a conversation about how we are journeying together and with God in our local parishes. He wants us to dream dreams together about our future. And he wants everyone's voice to count. During Lent 2022 there will be many opportunities for people to take part in our listening phase of the synod. In the coming weeks look out for details of parish based listening sessions as well as the online survey and a dedicated email address where anyone is welcome to make their own submission. *Why not make attending one of these listening sessions in person part of your Lenten journey this year?* [www.kandle.ie/synod/](http://www.kandle.ie/synod/) will continue to be updated as we get closer to Lent.

Level 5 QQI Palliative Care Module starts 7<sup>th</sup> March at Colaiste Eoin Hacketstown for 6 Monday evenings. Contact 059 6471198/ [info@ceh.ie](mailto:info@ceh.ie) for details. (Places are limited)