

**Coolkenno GAA Lotto:** Last week's numbers: 2, 10, 16, 22

No Winner. This week's jackpot €4,200

Next Draw: 21<sup>st</sup>. March in Club House

Lucky Dip Winners: Sharon Nolan; Ellie Fitzpatrick;  
Teresa Doyle, David Butler

## Thought for the week

### FUNNY, ISN'T IT?



- Funny how a €5 note looks so big when you take it to church, but so small when you take it to the shopping centre.
- Funny how we get thrilled when a football game goes into overtime, but we complain when a sermon is longer than the regular time.
- Funny how we believe what newspapers say, but question what the Bible says.
- Funny how people scramble to get a front seat at any game, or concert but scramble to get a back seat at church service.

- Funny how we need 2 or 3 weeks to fit a church event into our schedule, but can adjust it for a social event at the last minute.
- Funny how much difficulty some have learning a simple gospel well enough to tell others, but how simple it is for the same people to understand and explain gossip about someone.
- Funny how small our sins seem, but how big others people's sins are.
- Funny how we all need to read this.

*Have a Wonderful Week*

# PARISH NEWSLETTER



20<sup>th</sup>. March Third Sunday of Lent

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

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## 'IT MAY BEAR FRUIT NEXT YEAR'

Today's Gospel brings a thorny question for Jesus, as the people ask why a number of Galileans were killed by the Romans as they made sacrifices to God. The basic question is why do bad things happen to certain people? Some Jewish leaders at the time viewed the Galileans as second-class Jews, and so they are raising more than a question about meaningless suffering here. They want to know if the Galileans suffered because they were not really 'Jewish enough.' Jesus responds with a sharp question about a recent tragedy involving those killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them. Were they worse offenders than others in Jerusalem? No. Jesus responds further by focusing on those who are still living. In the parable of the fig tree, we hear that the tree is not producing any fruit and probably should be cut down. However, the owner of the vineyard agrees to one more year, during which it is given special attention. Jesus' response to the difficult question on suffering is to focus on the living. We are still alive and therefore should be producing much fruit. Perhaps those who are questioning Jesus' need, like the fig tree, much fertiliser, nourishment and growth so that they can focus on producing fruit for the world. The fig tree is blessed, and has received much grace in terms of time and care. The parable is a reminder to all of us of the nourishment and time we have been given; it is a call to examine the fruits that we produce in this world, in our communities, our families and in our church.

## Christian Motivational Phrases

Father, help me to see this holy season of Lent as a time of spiritual renewal, rather than a time of deprivation. Motivate me to reach a new level of experiencing your grace.

## Anniversaries - with love we remember



Ballyconnell Saturday 19<sup>th</sup>. 7.30

Patrick Tierney, Ballyconnell

Clonmore Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>. 10.30

Elizabeth Kavanagh, Knockatomcoyle

Ballyconnell Friday 25<sup>th</sup>. 7.30

Patsy Walsh (nee Cahill) 1<sup>st</sup>. Anniversary

Theresa Cahill

Kilquiggan Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>. 9.:00

Nora Kearns, Ball7ynultagh

Clonmore Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>. 10.30

Andy Byrne Gould, 1<sup>st</sup>. Anniversary

**Collections: Weekend: 12/13 March**

**Envelopes: €341 Baskets: €313. Envelopes returned:62**

**Bingo: €350 Lotto: €110**

## Mass Schedule



Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>. March Mass at 9.30

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mass at 9.30; Mass in

Friday 25<sup>th</sup>. Mass at 7.30 in Ballyconnell.

## Ballyconnell Bingo:

There will be bingo Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>.  
at 2 pm. Please spread the word; and  
thanks for your support



**PARISH LOTTO:** Kildare & Leighlin Co-Op Lotto Results for  
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>. March 2022 Numbers: 2, 14, 20, 28 - One Winner.  
Next week's Jackpot €10,000. 20 Match 3s win €50 each.

**Persevering and Listening in Lent:** In his Message for Lent 2022, Pope Francis reminds us of these words in St Paul's letter to the Galatians: 'Let us not grow tired of praying; let us not grow tired of uprooting evil from our lives; let us not grow tired of doing good in active charity towards our neighbours.' This year, as we seek to embrace the Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving we do so in the midst of our slow emergence from a global pandemic and the terrible events in Ukraine. Let us remember these words of scripture and persevere. We know that God is with us and listens to us. This Lent may we have ears and hearts to listen to God through one another, through our prayers and actions of love, and through God's word to us in the scriptures.

**Listening Lent - Synod News:** 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. Listening sessions are taking place across the diocese in these weeks of Lent. Look out locally for details. You can preview the questions being asked on [www.kandle.ie/synod/](http://www.kandle.ie/synod/). If you can't make a local meeting, you can complete the online survey.



## Special Collection for Ukraine 26/27 March 2022

As you will know, the Irish Bishops have asked for a Special Collection for Ukraine to be taken up at Masses on the weekend of 26/27 March 2022. I would suggest that you place your contribution into an envelope and place it in the box at the back of the church, and write on the envelope Ukraine collection.