

PRAYER FOR A PARISH CHURCH

Lord keep this church the right kind of church that it is. Keep it from being the wrong kind, the Church of the cold shoulder or the Church of the sharp tongue or the Church of the closed mind. Let it be always the church of the open mind, a Church of care for the broken heart, a Church of mercy for the faltering step, a Church that morros God's love for his people and the timeless compassion of Mary, God's mother, help of the half defeated. May this Church be a Church that understands: "we must love one another or die". Fr. Ronan Drury RIP

Thought for the week

Seeing your life through the lens of the gospel

1. The news of the death of John the Baptist prompted Jesus to go off and be alone, but the crowds followed him. Despite his personal sorrow, he was able to reach out in compassion to the crowd. Perhaps there have been times when you have put personal preferences and desires to one side, in order to reach out to another. What was it like for you when you were able to do this?
2. When Jesus saw the crowd, he recognised their need and responded to them. Who has been a Jesus-person for you, someone who recognised your need and reached out to you? For whom have you been a Jesus-person?
3. The scene symbolises the Eucharist, reminding us of the sacred meal to which all believers are invited, in order to receive nourishment from the Lord. How has the Eucharist been a source of nourishment for you?
4. When the disciples became aware of the problem, they wanted to send the crowd away, but Jesus told them: 'You give them something to eat.' They thought what they had was insufficient, but Jesus used the little they had to feed the crowd. When we give the little, we have to a situation, the results are often beyond our expectations. Have you had this experience? John Byrne OSA

Have a Wonderful Week

PARISH NEWSLETTER



31st. July Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Parish Office will be open on Tuesday and Friday from 9.30 - 1.30.

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Have you ever felt like you have nothing left to give? We all have times when we feel as though we do not have 'enough' to offer, whether it's time, money, energy, or even love. When work is busy, we don't have enough time for family. When we are physically or emotionally exhausted at the end of a long day, we might not have the energy to play with our children or visit a friend. In the face of suffering in our own society and around the world, we often feel helpless - whatever small amount of time or money we can give will never be enough. But where we see 'not enough,' God sees potential. What we see as a small contribution is not small to God, if it is all we have to give and it is given with love. 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish,' say the disciples to Jesus - a tiny offering when faced with a giant task. But Jesus takes what they have, blesses it, and uses it to give sustenance to thousands. In the face of human limitations, God can do plenty. We are told at the start of today's reading that Jesus 'took pity' on the large crowd that followed him. They have been out all day and are hungry, not to mention tired. They are so engrossed in listening to Jesus that time has slipped away. They are running on empty, and I'm sure they would be dismayed if, as the disciples suggest, they had to hike to the nearest village to buy food. Jesus understands their exhaustion and hunger, their limitations and their 'not enough.' What they have to give is inadequate, but he can do more with it than they could ever have imagined. We too are limited in what we have to offer. But whatever we can give - to our families and friends, to those in need - God sees and blesses and multiplies. 'Give something, however small, to one in need. For it is not small to one who has nothing. Neither is it small to God, if we have given what we could.' ST GREGORY OF NAZIANZUS

Christian Motivational Phrases

"Being a disciple means being constantly ready to bring the love of Jesus to others, and this can happen unexpectedly and, in any place, on the street, in a city square, during work on a journey".
Pope Francis

ANNIVERSARIES - WITH LOVE WE REMEMBER



Saturday 30th. Ballyconnell 7.30

Mary (Ciss) Keogh, Ballyconnell
Eddie O'Brien and deceased family members.

Sunday 31st. Kilquiggan 9.00

Andy O'Toole, Ballyconnell, Tom Doyle, Seskin who was laid to rest in Kilquiggan during the week.

Mass Schedule



Friday 5th. Ballyconnell at 7.30.

Fr. John will bless the graves in the old cemetery Kilquiggan after the mass.

Friday 5th. First Friday: Fr. John will attend the sick and the housebound.

Collections: Weekends: 23/24 July

Envelopes: €445 Baskets: €340 Envelopes returned: 73

Bingo: € Lotto: €

Ballyconnell Bingo

There will be bingo Sunday 31st. July @ 5.00 PM. Please spread the word; and thanks for your support



FACEBOOK - FAKE NEWS.

At least once a week, I find myself taking to Facebook to ask those in my timeline to 'please stop sharing fake news.' Fake news can range from people sharing a Happy Birthday message to Pope Francis in July (his birthday is in December) to those sharing a story about how clicking and liking a photo will see Facebook donating a dollar or a euro to support a family with a sick child (they won't). From the silly to the serious, I see fake news in my timeline every single day. I try to do my bit to gently correct, or in some cases to clearly call out, the person posting the fake news. I also find myself having to block chain messages that come into my inbox on Facebook Messenger. People share these messages and forward them without questioning where they have come from or considering how the content might affect the person receiving them. Facebook in particular seems to be perpetually in the grip of an epidemic of fake news and foul chain messages. Facebook feels more like Fakebook every day. This type of fake news sharing happens all the time within personal Facebook pages, but increasingly I am seeing fake news being shared without question on official pages belonging to parishes and other organisations. This is an unacceptable trend that we need to be mindful of if we are looking after social media pages for a parish, diocese or other church organisation.

To be continued next week.

Ms. Brenda Drumm

Coolkenno GAA Lotto

Last week's numbers: 3,7,15,30 No Winner.

Next week's jackpot €6,100. Next Draw: Monday 1st August in Clubhouse
Lucky Dip Winners: Jacinta Wash, Eamon Healy, Donal Deegan, Dave Carton.

PARISH LOTTO: Kildare & Leighlin Co-Op Lotto Results for Wednesday 27th. July 2022 Numbers 17,21,23,25 -
No Winner - Next week's jackpot €15,000 - 9 Match 3's - €112 each.