

Coolkenno GAA Lotto

Last week's numbers: 13, 15, 21, 25 No Winner. Next week's jackpot €9,400. Next Draw: Monday 20th. March. in Club House. Lucky Dip Winner: Paula Haskins; Brian Plunkett; James Wilson; John Somers.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

FUNNY ISN'T IT?

- Funny how a €5 note take it to church, but to the shopping
- Funny how big an and how small 60 watching TV, playing a lunch break.
- Funny how we get game goes into 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 cannot fit a community meeting into our schedule with yearly planner, but we can schedule for other events at a moment's notice.
- 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 we can't think of anything to say when we pray, and don't have any difficulty thinking of things to talk about to a friend.
- Funny how small our sins seem, but how big others peoples sins are.
- Funny how we are so quick to take direction from a total stranger when we are lost, but are hesitant to take God's direction to be found.
- Funny how it is okay to blame God for evil and suffering in the world but it is not necessary to thank him for what is good and pleasant.
- Funny how everyone wants to go to heaven provided they don't have to believe, or to think, or to say, or to do anything.
- Funny how we all need to read this.



looks so big when you so small when you take it centre.
hour serving God looks minutes are when spent sports, sleeping or taking thrilled when a football overtime, but we complain

PARISH NEWSLETTER



19th. March 2023

Fourth Sunday of Lent

The Parish Office will be open on Tuesday and Friday form 9.30 - 1.30. [Tel:059-9156890](tel:059-9156890) Email: clonmoreoffice.parish@gmail.com
Fr. John: 086-2403787. Email: frjohn51@gmail.com

The Elder Son

Sometimes we can be so familiar with a Gospel passage we tend to switch off after the first few sentences. That would be a shame, especially when the Gospel is one of the great blockbuster parables. The real challenge in today's Gospel is what happens after the lost son returns. The elder brother has 'worked like a slave' all those years and is understandably upset. The Father's welcome of the younger son would have been considered extremely foolish by those listening to this story. However, the Father makes it clear that his outreach to the younger brother will not change his love for the older brother. It will cost the elder brother nothing to reach out. We have nothing to lose in welcoming home the lost. Today, we can try to place ourselves somewhere in this narrative: where do you stand? This Gospel shows us that God returns the lost to the community, regardless of the boundaries that we might put in place. Jesus teaches us a lesson in radical hospitality. No matter how far we wander from home, God is still a loving God. The elder brother has a choice: to come to the party or to sulk in the corner. Luke, excellent story-teller that he is, leaves the reader to decide the outcome. 'God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight. Enlighten those who possess power ... that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live' (Pope Francis, Laudato Si, 246)

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK

Christian Motivational Phrases

"Every time you smile at someone it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing" Mother Theresa

ANNIVERSARIES - WITH LOVE WE REMEMBER



Sunday 19th. Clonmore 10.30

Patrick Tompkins, Coolkenno, 1st. Aniv.
Daniel & Monica Tompkins, Clonmore.
Elizabeth Kavanagh, Knockatomcoyle

Sunday 26th. Kilquiggan 9.00

Nora Kearns

Sunday 26th. Clonmore 10.30

Andy Byrne, Gould.



Mass Schedule

Friday 24th. Mass in Ballyconnell at 7.30 pm.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting: on Friday 24th. March
in Ballyconnell Church after 7.30 pm Mass.

Collections: Weekend: February, 11/12

Envelopes: €401 Baskets: €304 - Bingo: €300. Lotto €185.

Envelopes returned: 66

Bingo in Ballyconnell hall on Sunday @ 8 PM. The jackpot this week is €750 if you check on 50 numbers.

Copies of our balance sheet - income and expenditure – for 2022 are available in the back of the church. Keeping in mind that fewer people are attending mass, we are in a very comfortable position. Once again thank you most sincerely for your generous support, without this help we would be unable to keep our parish functioning.

PARISH LOTTO: Kildare & Leighlin Co-Op Lotto

Results for Wednesday 15th. March: Numbers: 10, 15, 16, 27 - No Winner
Next week's jackpot €13,000 - 10 Match 3's - €100 each

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

We hope to leave on Wednesday 7th. October and return on Wednesday 14th. October. Price is €795 per person sharing. This price includes: Return flights Dublin to Dubrovnik, 20kg baggage allowance, return transfers to Medjugorje accompanied by a guide, 7 nights accommodation in Exclusive Marian pilgrimages houses close to St. James's church; full religious programme operated by Marian pilgrimages, full assistance of Marian pilgrimages guides and representatives; sightseeing and admission fees, daily mass, daily breakfast and evening meal, free wifi in guest houses, special invite to an evening of prayer through song with David Parks, Pilgrimage insurance. Registration forms will soon be available in the Parish centre, please get your names in asap.

Family Carers Ireland's March 2023 support group meetings for carers will take place as follows

Carlow Carers Support Group meeting on Tuesday, 21st March from 11am to 1pm in the Cathedral Parish Centre.

Please contact the Family Carers Ireland Kilkenny/Carlow office on 056 7721424 with any queries. Looking forward to meeting new and old friends.

Silver Screenings: The IMC cinema, Fairgreen, Carlow are running a weekly over 60's club on Thursdays @1.30pm. Latest releases, reduced volume, raised lighting and special rate of €7.