

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



HOLY WEEK

Monday 3rd. Chrism Mass in Carlow at 7.30

Tuesday 4th. Mass in Ballyconnell at 9.30.

Tuesday 4th. Easter Penance Service, Ballyconnell at 7.30

Wednesday 5th. Mass in Ballyconnell at 9.30.

Thursday 5th. I will visit the sick and housebound.

The Easter Triduum.

Holy Thursday: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper.

Clonmore at 7.30

Good Friday – Day of Fast and abstinence

Celebration of the Lord's Passion: Kilquiggan at 3.00.

Holy Saturday – The Eater Vigil.

9 pm in Ballyconnell.

Easter Sunday: Mass in Ballyconnell at 9.00,

Mass in Kilquiggan at 10; Mass in Clonmore at 10.30.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK

PARISH NEWSLETTER



2nd. April 2023

Palm Sunday

The Parish Office will be open on Tuesday and Friday from 9.30 - 1.30. [Tel:059-9156890](tel:059-9156890)

Email: clonmoreoffice.parish@gmail.com

Fr. John: 086-2403787. Email:

frjohn51@gmail.com

Fair weather Friends

'Now to the gate of my Jerusalem, the seething holy city of my heart, the saviour comes. But will I welcome him? Oh, crowds of easy feelings make a start; they raise their hands, get caught up in the singing, and think the battle own'. So begins Malcom Guite's sonnet 'Palm Sunday' (Sounding the Seasons, Canterbury Press, 2012), capturing the elation of the crowds that line the streets of Jerusalem to welcome Jesus. But their loyalty is short lived, as we discover in our readings of the Passion. Jesus is soon deserted, betrayed, denied and left to face humiliation and death alone. Too soon they'll find the challenge, the reversal he is bringing changes their time. We can all see ourselves in the Passion. There are times, when things are going smoothly, when it is easy to praise God and shout 'Hosanna' There are days when we struggle, when we are confused or upset and do not know what God expects of us. We can even turn our backs on him when the going gets tough, or when we cannot find the courage to stand up for our beliefs. This week we are the disciples walking with Jesus, on a journey that leads to the cross, and beyond. Today we read Matthew's account of the death of Jesus; yes, it is the long Gospel but we should not miss out on the journey that spending time with this account offers. As you read perhaps you might notice the various characters and their roles, their words and actions. A good question to ask as we enter into this text is 'Where do I stand?' Are you looking on as a bystander, are you in the group of disciples or some other character: Pilate? Pilate's wife? Perhaps it is a more difficult journey as you relate to Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, a Jesus who is 'grieved' because of many things: isolation, the disappointment he must feel because of the abandonment of his friends, betrayal, loneliness, mocking, torture? This is not an easy journey. We know the story does not end here, but for this week we enter into the

reality of betrayal, trial, suffering and death. We might remember today those who stand for justice, those who are counter-cultural, those who stand against oppressive systems even though the path is often dangerous and lonely. We might recall times we felt betrayed, abandoned or times we were in despair. Jane Mellet

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



*In Our
Thoughts
and Prayers*

Saturday 1st. April, Ballyconnell 7.30

Joe & Katherine O'Reilly, Killinure. Clair Keogh, Killinure. Eamonn Colemann, Ballykilduff

Sunday 2nd. April, Kilquiggan 9.00

Vincent Blake, Mulinacuffe, and his sister Maureen Clifford, Bunclody. Jim Moran who died recently in Boston (son-in-law of the late Vincent Blake)

Sunday 2nd. Clonmore 10.30

Thomas Byrne Ballykilduff; William Byrne, Clonmore

Sunday 9th. Clonmore 10.30.

Thomas Dowling, Minvaude. Dan Lawlor, Ballykilduff and deceased members of the Lawlor family.

Collections: Weekend: February, 25/26. Envelopes: €344
Baskets: €321 - Bingo: €332. Lotto €224. Envelopes returned: 54

Collections at Easter: The Priests of the Parish do not receive any payment from the offertory or weekly envelopes. These collections are lodged into the Parish account. The priests rely on the contributions from Christmas and Easter. I would encourage you to be as generous as possible this Easter. There is an Easter envelope in your envelope box for this collection. Please place your envelope into the envelope box at the back of the churches. If you do not have an envelope you can use your own envelope. Once again thanks for your generous support.

Bingo in Ballyconnell hall on Sunday @ 8 PM. The jackpot this week is €800 if you check on 50 numbers.

Coolkenno GAA Lotto

Last week's numbers: 4, 9, 21, 30 No Winner. Next week's jackpot €9,600. Next Draw: Monday 3rd. April. in Club House. Lucky Dip Winner: Paul Osborne; Tara Cosgrove; Anne Cloke; Annie Enright.

PARISH LOTTO: Kildare & Leighlin Co-Op Lotto

Results for Wednesday 29th. March: Numbers: 4, 11, 18, 30 - No Winner - Next week's jackpot €15,000 - 21 Match 3's - €48 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.

Daffodil Day collection for Conquer Cancer in Liscolman, raised €234. Many thanks to everyone involved, the money has been forwarded for cancer research.

I wasn't at the match

A friend of mine contacted me after the grand slam rugby match to tell me what it was like being present to see Ireland win the Grand Slam in Dublin. I said I had followed it on the computer from Italy. He was sorry I wasn't with him to experience the whole event fully. Knowing that he has not returned to mass since the pandemic, I asked if he had gone to mass on the Sunday. He said that he had watched it on his computer. He failed to see that while he was sorry for me not being in the Aviva for the rugby match, he saw no contradiction in his being present to follow mass on the computer.

Fr. John Harris, Irish Catholic March 23rd.