

## PARISH LOTTO: Kildare & Leighlin Co-Op Lotto

Results for Wednesday 26th. April: Numbers: 1, 8, 12, 22- One Winner -  
Next week's jackpot €10,000 - 24 Match 3's - € 42each.

## Coolkenno GAA Lotto

Last week's numbers: 6, 25, 23, 7. No Winner. Next week's jackpot €10,000. Next Draw: Monday 1st. May in Club House. Lucky Dip Winners: Noleen Cuffe; Joe Maxwell; Seamus Wilson; Jacinta Walsh

# THOUGH FOR THE WEEK

## SEEING YOUR LIFE IN THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

1. Our relationship with those 'in charge' of us changes when we sense that not only are they in charge, but they care. Remember the difference this made for you as a child, and give thanks for the caring adults who were part of your life.
2. The good shepherd 'lays down his life for the sheep'. When has your care for another led you to 'lay down your life' for that person, e.g., as a friend, parent, spouse, son or daughter? When you have known another to do this for you?
3. Jesus speaks of the freedom of the Good Shepherd in laying down his life. Faced with the needs of others, we can at times feel trapped into looking after them, caught by duty, obligation, or guilt. We can become like the hired hands doing a job without care for the person. Perhaps you have experienced both attitudes, caring for others under duress and caring by your free choice. What difference did it make when you chose to care for the other, even in circumstances where you had little option?
4. What do these experiences of love and care in human relationships reveal to you about God's love for you?

# HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK

# PARISH NEWSLETTER



30th. April 2023

## Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

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## 25 April 2021 • Day of Prayer for Vocations

### The Good Shepherd

In Jesus' time, being a shepherd was not a pleasant job. Sheep became easily lost and the shepherd's job was to guide them back to safety. There were many dangers and the sheep were totally dependent on the shepherd. Shepherds would round up their sheep in the evening and guide them into their pen. But it had no gate, so the shepherd would have to lie across the space in case the sheep were attacked in the night. The shepherds literally lay down their lives for their flock. John compares the sacrifice of the shepherd to the 'hired hand' who is not really committed to the flock. He does what he has to but flees at the first sign of trouble. This Good Shepherd Sunday the Gospel describes Jesus as the 'genuine' Shepherd who wants a personal relationship with each one of us and who would lay down his life for us. The Gospel emphasises the importance of relationship as the shepherd knows his flock and cares for them. They 'Follow Him' and it is not a Facebook or Twitter type of following, rather it is a genuine relationship. Everyone matters to the Good Shepherd, regardless of their situations. We are told 'I know my own and my own know me'. We are called today to follow Jesus in a more personal more intimate way. Even when we stray off the path and get lost, it is then especially that the Good Shepherd comes looking for us.

'We think we are fleeing from God, but in fact we are running into his arms'.

(Meister Eckhart)

### Christian Motivational Phrases

"What you are is God's gift to you, what you become is your gift to God". Hans Urs Von Balthasar.

### ANNIVERSARIES - WITH LOVE WE REMEMBER



Saturday 29th. Ballyconnell 7.30

Leo Healy, Killinure

Sunday 30th. Kilquiggan 9.00 am.

Mary, Edward & Bernadette Moran and all deceased members of the Moran Family.

Sunday 30th. Clonmore 10.30

Fintan Murray, Bellshill; William Deay, Coolalaw

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>. May: Kilquiggan 9.00.

Owen Dolan, Stratnakelly and all deceased members of the Dolan Family.

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>. May: Clonmore 10.30

James Tallon, Ballyshane.



### Mass Schedule

Tuesday 2nd. May Mass at 9.30; Wednesday 3rd.

Mass at 9.30; Friday 5th. Mass in Oratory in

Killinure.

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

Collections: Weekend: April, 22/23

Envelopes: €385 Baskets: €350 - Bingo: €495. Lotto €70.

Bingo in Ballyconnell hall on Sunday @ 8 PM. The jackpot this week is €900 if you check on 50 numbers.

Plan your Get-Away: Join G & J Duffy Coach-hire at the Woodford Dolmen Hotel on Friday 5<sup>th</sup>. May 8pm - 11 pm; with music and refreshments on the night and explore our special offers. All are welcome. Free admission. Contact Josie: 087-2543235

Friends of Calcutta wish to send a heartfelt thanks to Clonmore Parish for the generous response to their clothing collection which funds the Rajiv Ganguly Tournament, which brought great joy to the 525 students who participated.

Vocations Sunday: Takes place this Sunday 30 April and marks the beginning of "The Year of Vocations to the Diocesan Priesthood" with the theme "Take the risk for Christ"

"We all have our Vocation story to tell. It's not earth shattering but it's ours and we must own it. What attracted us to the life we live today? I encourage each of you to tell something of your own story next Sunday, as we begin a dedicated 'Year for Vocation to the Diocesan Priesthood' with the theme 'Take the Risk for Christ'. Looking over the parishes where our vocations were nourished, taking the group of men in active ministry and those who are retired, it's interesting to see that our 79 priests come from just 40 parishes. There are 16 parishes that have no native son serving in the diocese. The parishes with the most vocations to the diocesan priesthood are Carlow Cathedral and Tullow, followed closely by Borris and then Edenderry. The County Carlow end of the diocese has had the largest number of diocesan vocations with 36 priests from parishes within the county. We are blessed with men born in other parts of the country who are part of our diocesan family. We are further enriched by thirteen men from abroad who minister here and of course the Religious Orders, especially our friends in Kiltegan, who so generously give of their gifts, having served out on the missions. As in our Synodal discussions and reflections across the diocese we honestly ask where and how is the Holy Spirit leading us? Is Ireland now a Mission territory as some suggest? It is. The fact is we will always need priests. However, before we can cultivate vocations, we must evangelise. There are still vocations here. There are still young men who generously give of themselves to the Lord, perhaps they need a little encouragement to take that risk for Christ".