

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

Results for Wednesday 14th. June: Numbers: 2, 5, 18, 24 - No Winner -  
Next week's jackpot €17,000 - 14 Match 3's - €72 each.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

### SEEING YOUR LIFE IN THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

1. If you sow seeds or watch plants grow you have ample opportunities to pause in wonder at the whole process of growth. It takes place imperceptibly and comes to fruition in beautiful flowers, majestic trees and abundant harvests. As we came out of the Coronavirus lockdown you may have had the opportunity to rejoice at the renewal of social life.
2. Jesus uses this as a parable about the growth of the Kingdom of God, the kingdom of right relationships with God and with one another. There too growth is slow, development is imperceptible, and then without realising it you have a mature relationship. Recall the stages of such development in your life and give thanks.
3. In the second parable Jesus invites us to reflect on the importance and significance of relationships in our lives as they grow and mature. This is true both of our relationship with God and with others around us. When have you found a relationship in which you could 'make a nest in its shade'?

## HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK

# PARISH NEWSLETTER



18th. June 2023

The 11th. Sunday in Ordinary Time  
The Parish Office will be open on Tuesdays and  
Fridays from 9.30 - 1.30

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## It is like a mustard seed

Something we may not often think about is Jesus' earthly relationship with creation. Jesus walked everywhere, went to quiet places to pray, preached from mountains, from boats on the water; his followers included fishermen in tune with the rhythm of the sea. In Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'* – On Care for Our Common Home, he reminds us that Jesus 'was in constant touch with nature, lending it an attention full of fondness and wonder' (*Laudato Si'*, 97). Jesus' parables are full of imagery from the natural world and in today's Gospel we have an example of this in the parable of the mustard seed. People of Jesus' time may have preferred the image of the lofty 'cedars of Lebanon' to explain God's kingdom, mustard plants however, only stand a few feet tall. Jesus is turning the ideals of power and triumph on their head. There is an ancient text which forbade planting mustard seeds in Palestinian gardens because the shrub takes over wherever it is planted and attracts unwanted birds. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to kudzu, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack cement buildings. This mustard seed image of God's dream for this world is one which suggests that it will grow even in places where it is not wanted, putting cracks in seemingly mighty structures. The New Testament not only tells us of the earthly Jesus and his tangible and loving relationship with the world. It also shows him risen and glorious, present throughout all of creation (Col 1:19-20). 'The very flowers of the field and the birds which [Christ's] human eyes contemplated and admired are now imbued with his radiant presence' (*Laudato Si'*, 100). As we watch out for traces of the mustard seed kingdom this week, let us also embrace the joy of Christ in all creation.

## Christian Motivational Phrases

"Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, "Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?" Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

Marianne Williamson, *A return to love: Reflections on the principles of "A course in miracles"*

## ANNIVERSARIES - WITH LOVE WE REMEMBER



### Sunday 18th. Kilquiggan 9.00 am

Simon Byrne Aghowle; Dan & Dorothy Byrne, Lr. Munny and deceased members of the Byrne Family.

## Mass Schedule

Friday 23rd. June Mass in Ballyconnell at 7.30

**Collections:** Weekend: June, 10/11

Envelopes: €354 Baskets: €533 - Bingo: €550.

Lotto €. Envelopes returned: 57

Bingo in Ballyconnell hall on Sunday @ 8 PM. The jackpot this week is €1050 if you check on 50 numbers.

## Coolkenno GAA Lotto

Last week's numbers: 4,8,26,27 No Winner. Next week's jackpot €10,700. Next Draw: Monday 19th. June in the Crab Lane. Lucky Dip Winners: Mary O'Donoghue; Pe Hunt; Imelda Hughes; Maureen Keogh

Carlow Regional Pioneer & Total Abstinence Association Meeting  
In Ballyconnell Hall on Friday 23rd June at 8pm  
(Following 7.30pm Mass in Ballyconnell). All Welcome.

## Priorities

A teacher was giving her students a lesson in logic. "Here is the situation" she said. "A man is standing up in a boat in the middle of a river, fishing. He loses his balance, falls in, and begins splashing and yelling for help. His wife hears the commotion, knows he can't swim, and runs down to the bank. Why do you think she ran to the bank?" a girl raised her hand and suggested: "to draw out all his savings"

## OPPORTUNITY IN YOUTH MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

The Diocese of Lancaster Youth Service are looking for a Senior Programme Leader to lead retreats and other programmes in their youth retreat centre, Castlerigg Manor, in the English Lake District. Castlerigg Manor is an innovative project which focuses on leading their volunteers into a closer relationship with God and in working with their volunteers to lead programmes for thousands of young people each year. The post is residential with an excellent salary package. For more information email the director, Jack Regan [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

