

**SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN** Diocesan Designated Liaison Person: **Mr. Mick Daly (D.L.P)**  
 Tel: 085-8021633 - E-Mail: [dlp@kandle.ie](mailto:dlp@kandle.ie) Parish Representatives: **Deirdre Hennessy, Michael Bergin, Christine Dalton & Michelle Hughes.**

# St. Fintan's Parish - Raheen - NEWSLETTER

**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Feb 23rd 2020**

## RAHEEN PARISH LOTTO RESULTS

**Wed 19th Feb 2020 - Numbers 02-14-20-24**

**NO €11,000 Jackpot Winner -**

**18 Match 3s win €56 each, NO local Winner**

**Next weeks jackpot €12,000**

### Whist Results - Wed 19th Feb

**Top score:** Bride Reilly, Louise Kavanagh.  
**1st Lady 2:** Maura McQuillan and Sheila Fogarty. **Gent 1:** Frank Fogarty. **Gent 2:** Billy O Keefe. **Halves:** Mary Delaney and Tom Lalor. **Consolation:** Bernie Cahill.. **Thanks for your support..**

### Dancing in Abbeyleix Golf Club

Every Sunday night - This Sunday night 23rd Feb dancing to **"Country Pride"**

### Mission Appeal

Sr. Nuala of the Franciscan Missionaries of Mary will visit Raheen parish and speak at the Masses. Your hospitality and support will be greatly appreciated. **Postponed until May**

**Trocaire Boxes will be available in each church when they arrive. Please take one. THANK YOU**

• **Pro Life Talk** Speakers: Carol Nolan and Michael Dwyer from Family & Life. Thursday March 5th at 7:30pm at Portlaoise Parish Centre in the Campur Room. All welcome!

### Colt GAA CLUB- Lotto Results

14/2/2020

Winning Numbers: 05-13-15

**ONE Jackpot Winner:**

**Jack Dunne c/o Paddy**

**4 x '20: Frank McGill; c/o Mary, Sonya**

**Ryan c/o Tony, Geraldine Grant c/o**

**Martin, Teresa Gleeson c/o Dee Berney**

**Next Weeks Jackpot 300**

### From Grief to Grace

A holy hour of prayer for those affected by sexual abuse will take place in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow on Friday 28th February beginning at 7.30pm. All are welcome.



This Tuesday is Shrove Tuesday - also known as Pancake Day - is the day before Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. It is celebrated throughout Ireland by the cooking and eating of pancakes - a last feast before the fasting and self-denial of Lent!

### BICENTENARY MISCELLANY

**St. Fintan derived from the race of Eochaidh Finnfuathairt and St. Brigid also derived her origin from this race.**

**Knights of Columbanus**  
 Information night being held in the Cathedral Parish Centre, Carlow on Thursday 27th February at 7.30pm

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020 DIGGING DEEPER - LIVING LENT AN INVITATION



*Dear friends,* As we approach the season of Lent, together with Christians across the world, next Wednesday we will allow ourselves to be marked with ashes. This smudged sign of the cross on our foreheads announces a stepping out from our usual routine and a stepping into a special and sacred time for us, a Lenten time of renewal and of recovery of our identity as baptised Christians. In the rush of daily life, we can lose sight of what is really important. We can forget who we are, and we can forget what it means to bear the name Christian as we go about our lives with family, children, neighbours and strangers. Every year Lent gives us the opportunity to remember who we are. The dust of ashes speaks of the fragility of life but also of repentance and of the need to continually turn our lives back to God, the source of our life. The words that accompany the signing with ashes call us to change and to believe in the Good News. The sign of the cross itself speaks of the good news and the divine, eternal love at the centre of our faith. Because Christ died and rose to new life for each and every one of us, sin has been conquered, death is not the final word, we have been saved. And this changes who we are called to be in the world and how we are called to live. Lent calls us to an honesty about ourselves that can only be good for us, an honesty about our values, our motives, our actions, our lives as individuals and as a faith community. By fully entering into and by digging deeper into this season we can come to see the changes we need to make so that the very bits and pieces of our lives will reflect the Christian faith that is at the centre of who we are. By living Lent, with its disciplines of fasting, charity and prayer and all the many opportunities it gives us for renewal, we can arrive at Easter ready to truly recommit to our baptism and ready to celebrate the joy of our faith, the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus.

**Continued Inside**

**St. Fintan's Parish, Raheen, Abbeylax, Co. Laois**  
**Priests: Fr. Paddy Byrne P.P. Mobile: 087-9948505**  
**Fr. Michael Kelly SPS: Tel: 057-8731182**

**E. Mail raheenparish@gmail.com Website: raheenparish.ie**

**Next Weekend Masses**  
**22nd & 23rd February**

**Raheen:** Saturday 22nd February Mass at **7.30pm**  
*- Tess Seal*  
**Shanahoe:** Sunday 23rd February Mass at **9.30am**  
*- Biddy Mulhall*  
*- Mary Delaney, Clonough & deceased members of Delaney & Bergin families.*  
*- Owen Hiney, RIP -*



*Deepest Sympathy to the Hiney family on the death of Owen RIP*

**Weekday Masses this Week**

**Ash Wednesday 26th February 2020**  
**Shanahoe:** Mass at **10am**  
**Raheen:** Mass at **7.30pm**



**Raheen:** Thursday 27th February Mass at **10am**  
**Raheen:** Friday 28th February Mass at **10am**

**Next Weekend Masses 29th Feb & 1st March**

**Raheen:** Saturday 29th Feb. Mass at **7.30pm**  
*- Patrick & Joseph O' Connor, Roskelton*  
**Shanahoe:** Sunday 1st March. Mass at **9.30am**

**Baptism Dates**

**Raheen:** Sunday March 1st  
**Shanahoe:** Sunday March 8th  
 Please give 3 weeks notice to the Parish Office



**Raheen Senior Citizen Party 2020**  
 in the Abbeylax Manor Hotel on Sunday 29th March  
 Keep the date free!!



Thank you for your contributions to Parish Funds

15th / 16th Feb 2020



**Raheen:**  
 Offertory Collection: €220.40  
 Weekly Envelope: €327.20

**Shanahoe:**  
 Offertory Collection: €200.00  
 Weekly Envelope: €452.00

**Lectio Divina**

**Beginning this Thursday**

Praying with the Sacred Scriptures each week during Lent. Beginning Thurs 27th Feb and every Thurs from 8-9pm in Raheen Parish meeting room.  
**All welcome.**

**PORTLAOISE ANNUAL**

**NOVENA**

**Novena Masses Weekday**

**7am, 10am, 7.30pm**

**Saturday 10am**

**and 6.30pm -**

**Sunday 11.15am**

**and 12.30pm**

**See portlaoise parish website for speakers.**

**portlaoiseparish.ie/newsletter**



**Parish Envelope Boxes - March 2020 to Feb 2021**

Raheen Parish Finance Committee wish to sincerely thank all those who contributed so generously and faithfully to the Parish Collections during the past year.

Thank you especially for the Parish Envelope Collections. Contributions made in the Parish envelopes enable the parish to claim tax refunds for the parish on any total annual amounts over €250 at no additional cost to the person.

Also thank you for the Parish Offertory, Special Collections, Parish Lotto, Parish Clergy Fund, and other Parish Fundraising ventures.

It is all very much appreciated and we thank you all most sincerely. The new weekly envelopes boxes will be distributed this week.

Again to one and all thank you for your continued support and may God bless you and watch over you all in the coming year.

If you have not received your envelope box, please contact the parish office, in the mean time you can use any ordinary envelope putting your Name on the envelope, Boxes will also be available at the back of the Church if you do not receive yours in the next 10 days.

Please note your box number will be different from last year.

*Parish Finance Committee*

**Regulations for Fasting in Lent**

As Catholics we are asked to abstain from meat and to fast on two days in the year, **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday**. Fasting means that one full meatless meal can be eaten in the day. Two other meatless meals may be taken to maintain strength but together they should not exceed one full meal. Liquids, including milk and fruit juice, may be taken between meals.

The fasting regulation applies to all Catholics aged 18 to 59 while those aged fourteen and above are asked to abstain from meat. Some people are not required to fast; these include those who are sick, pregnant or nursing women and manual labourers according to need. In the past, Irish Catholics were required to abstain from meat every Friday. While still not a requirement, the Irish Bishops' conference has suggested it as a form of Friday Penance during Lent.

As your bishop, but also as a fellow Christian through baptism, I am committing to living Lent this year and earnestly seeking to make the changes it may call me to, in order to live my baptism more fully. I am asking each of you personally, beginning this coming Ash Wednesday, will you make this commitment to living Lent with me? To support our journey through Lent, I have asked the Diocesan Commission for Liturgical Formation to provide, like last year, weekly bulletins for parishioners, under the heading 'Digging Deeper - Living Lent'. These will be made available through parishes and on the diocesan website, kandle.ie. Together with other parish opportunities, my hope is that they will offer people across our diocese some food for the journey as we make our way across the desert of Lent to the living waters of Easter. I pray God's abundant blessing on each of you in this coming season of renewal and ask you to pray for me. **Bishop Denis**