

# ST MANMANS NEWSLETTER

## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025

Fr. Thomas O'Reilly, P.P.

Phone: 057-864-8030

Parish Website: [www.clonasleeparish.com](http://www.clonasleeparish.com)

Diocesan Website: [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)

Charity Number: 07355

Local Safeguarding Representatives: Jackie Hyland, Caroline Mills

Director of Safeguarding Children: Ailish Higgins: 085-802-1633 Email: [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)

members of the O'Neill & Thompson Families

#### WEEKEND MASSES 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> Feb

**Saturday** 6 pm

**Sunday** 10 am

#### WEEKDAY MASSES 17<sup>th</sup>- 21<sup>st</sup> Feb

**Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri** 9 am

View a video broadcast of masses in Clonaslee daily at 9 am, Saturday 6 pm, Sunday 10 am on this direct link <https://churchmedia.tv/st-manmans-church>

#### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptisms available on Saturdays. To arrange a date contact Fr. O'Reilly on 057-864-8030.

#### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

It is advisable to give 6 months' notice of your intention to marry to the Church and the Registrar. Contact 057-864-8030 to book the church. All couples getting married must attend a pre-marriage course. Contact ACCORD for marriage preparation courses on 057-934-1831 or [accordtull@eircom.net](mailto:accordtull@eircom.net). Marriage & relationship counselling service Mon-Fri 9:30am-1:30 pm.

#### **EUCHARIST: 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> Feb: Team B**

#### ANNIVERSARIES

##### Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February – 6 pm

Jim Delaney, Larrigan

Paddy & Chrissie Breen, Slieve Bloom Park

##### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February – 10 am

**Months Mind**, Tess Stodel, Clonabeg &

Jack Stodel, England

##### Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – 6 pm

**Months Mind**, Josie Kilgannon nee Murray

Liverpool, St Helens & Bellair

Pat & Eugene Young, Hillside

Tom & Winnie Delaney, Brocca

John Moran, Main Street

Tom Higgins, Brocca

##### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – 10 am

Nancy & Dan O'Neill, Hillside & deceased

#### CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir practice for Confirmation will be on Tuesday at 7:30 pm – *note change of time* - on the choir gallery. As many as possible please make an effort to attend.

#### PRESENTATION

A presentation to the St Patrick's Day Committee of the late Frank Dunne's Bag Pipes will be on Sunday Feb 16<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm in the Heritage Centre. Reception to follow and all welcome to come.

#### COFFEE MORNING

Coffee mornings will start on Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup> in the Heritage Centre from 11 am to 12:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to come along for a chat and a cuppa for an hour. Side door will be open if you are unable to use the stairs. Feel free to bring cards if anyone is interested in having a game of cards. There is a €2 charge per person to cover light and heating. Please contact 087-212-2766 if you intend to attend on the day.

#### CCDA REPORT

The AGM of the CCDA was held last week. A very comprehensive report was given from Secretary Geraldine Fitzpatrick lining out all the activities and improvements in the Centre and village. The treasurer's report from Mary Rose Corbet was detailed and clear. Many once off expenses in 2024 so hopefully 2025 will leave us in a stronger financial position. The Chairperson, Maura O'Gorman address thanked the secretary and treasurer for their continued hard work and help. Thanks to all the clubs and organisations, CE scheme and supervisor, Mountmellick Credit Union, Laois County Council especially Cllr Seamus McDonald, lotto committee and promoters and many others, all who help the centre and community be active and a desired village to live in. Items discussed was the ongoing applying for grants available to the community, mentioned was the Community Recognition grant and Heritage grant. Praise was given for the use of

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the Heritage Centre for wakes, much easier for bereaved families. Work on cleaning it up inside is under discussion, the need for a grant is

*Free Play* on Sat mornings from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. *Sensory Room* available, this service is for the use of children and adults with additional needs with their parent/carer present. *Sensory Toy Resource Collection*: This service is for parents of children with additional

necessary. Election of officers: President: Fr O'Reilly. Chairperson: Maura O'Gorman. Vice Chairperson: Pat Corbet. Secretary: Geraldine Fitzpatrick. Treasurer: Mary Rose Corbet. Vice Treasurer: Tricia Bracken. PRO: Annette Doolan. A vote of sympathy to all who lost loved ones in the past year. Next meeting is March 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:45 pm in the Community Centre

needs who live in County Laois. To register for the service, you must have a referral letter from O.T., G.M.P., physio or other professional. If interested in any of the above and you wish to register call 057-868-9382 or email [mountmellicklibrary@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:mountmellicklibrary@laoiscoco.ie) .

## **CLONASLEE TIDY TOWNS**

Clonaslee is a poster free village; all posters must go outside the 50km road signs. We thank all for their cooperation.

## **COMMUNITY & PARISH LOTTO**

Jackpot not won. Winning no: 1-24-23.

## **TFI LOCAL LINK BUS**

This bus travels to Portlaoise every Tuesday and Friday and to Tullamore every Thursday leaving from the village at 9 am. Travel pass is accepted. Cost is €3 return for adults and children over 5 years old. *You must book the evening before prior to 5 pm on 057-869-2168.* **Bus service** from Birr to Portlaoise Monday to Sunday. Pick up point is Londis Clonaslee.

€30 winner: Bridie Conroy, Ballyfarrell; Marie Fenlon, Hillside; Nora Flynn, The Green; Shirley Langford, Clonaslee; Lisa Kane, Clonaslee; Mary Rose Corbet, Clonaslee. Promoter's prize: Maura O'Gorman, Mary Rose Corbet, Kathleen Blake. Next week's Jackpot: €800. Lotto gift vouchers can be purchased from Dolores Murray on 087-414-8093

Weekday times: 6:28, 10:28, 14:13, 17:58, 21:53. Sunday: 8:43, 12:53, 16:58, 20:23. Cost €4 return and Free Travel Pass Accepted. Travels on Bank Holidays. More information call 057-869-2168.

## **CLONASLEE/ST MANMAN'S GAA LOTTO**

Jackpot not won. Winning no: 1-8-9-22.

## **MOUNTMELICK LIBRARY**

*The Gallery* will host for February, "Dance Again", an exhibition by John Drumm. *C-Pens* which make it easier to read and learn by

€30 winners: Deirdre Flynn, Christy & Fintan, Val Bracken, Pat O'Connell, Tony & Mandy. Promoter's prize: C Downey.

Next week's Jackpot: €13,000 in Fallons Bar.

reading text out loud are now available to borrow. *The Home Energy Saving Kit* contains six practical tools to help you save energy at home and can help identify common problems. Contact us to be added to the waiting list. *Baby Book Club* returns on Thurs Jan 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. *Junior Book Clubs* for all ages, 4-6 years meet the second Tuesday of the month at 3:30 pm, 7-9 years meet on first Tuesday of the month at 3:30 pm, 10-12 years on first Tuesday of the month at 4 pm.

*Adult book club* meet on the last Friday of the month at 11 am. Join us for some *shared reading sessions* where a staff member will read a story or poem. We then talk together about what we think and feel about it. *Lego*

## **REFLECTION –Unopened Gifts:**

The German poet Rainer Maria Rilke wrote, "Love and death are the greatest gifts that are given to us. Mostly they are passed on unopened." Rilke proposes that we take love for granted, that we are unappreciative of the constancy of a love.

The Valentine's-Day custom is to send cards and give gifts to those who have given to us the greatest of all gifts – love. But instead of giving a greeting card or bouquet of red roses as a way to say "I love you," give the best gift of all: open the gift of their love for you.

With the caress of the fingers of your soul, examine it as never before and treasure it for its preciousness. Continue opening your gift by pledging to handle this gift of love with care, great affection, and most of all daily gratitude. Greeting cards, even if they are kept, get boxed away. The most beautiful of roses quickly fades and dies. But here is an enduring gift that will enrich the life of the one you love and your own life

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too: promise to strive to make each day that follows  
this February 14<sup>th</sup> as romantic and affectionate as  
Valentine's Day itself.

*May I see a small red heart on each day of my  
calendar so to never stop opening up the greatest gift  
of life – love*