

## Kilconieran & Clostoken Parish

Carrabane, Athenry, Co. Galway



**Holy Family  
Clostoken**



**Holy Family Centre  
Carrabane**



**Immaculate Conception  
Kilconieran**

**Fr. Brendan Lawless: Parish Priest**

**Tel: 091 841103- Mobile Number. 087-2622076.**

**Email: brendanlawless4@gmail.com** Parish Radio-FM 106.

**Pope's Intention for Mar-For Disarmament and Peace-** Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders chose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

To view the Newsletter online visit [www.clonfertdiocese.ie](http://www.clonfertdiocese.ie)

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March. Fourth Sunday of Lent

(Lectionary: Cycle A in Ordinary Time. Year of Matthew Weekdays Cycle 2)

20-C. M.B-25

<p><b>MASSES – Weekends &amp; Special Intentions</b></p> <p><b>Sat: 14<sup>th</sup> Mar: Kilconieron: 6.30pm</b> (A) Gerard &amp; Paddy &amp; Annie Smyth (A) Theresa Tuohy</p> <p><b>Sun: 15<sup>th</sup> March: Clostoken: 10am</b></p> <p><b>Mon: 16<sup>th</sup> March: Kilconieron: 6.30pm</b></p> <p><b>Tues: 17<sup>th</sup> March: Clostoken: 10am</b> (A) Elizabeth &amp; Tom Stratford</p> <p><b>Sat: 21<sup>st</sup> Mar: Kilconieron: 6.30pm</b> (A) Liam, Oliver &amp; Ethan Smyth Renton (A) Clim Walsh</p> <p><b>Sun: 22<sup>nd</sup> March: Clostoken: 10am (MM)</b> Patricia Corban (A) Deceased members of the Fahy Family-Raheen</p>		<p><b>Weekday</b></p> <p>Mon 9.30am Holy Family Centre</p>
<p><b>Ministers of God's Word</b></p> <p><b>Sat: 14<sup>th</sup> Mar:</b> Ann Brady</p> <p><b>Sun: 15<sup>th</sup> Mar:</b> Carmel Martyn</p> <p><b>Sat: 21<sup>st</sup> Mar:</b> Ann Dolan</p> <p><b>Sun: 22<sup>nd</sup> Mar:</b> Kathy Keane</p> <p><b>Tue: 17<sup>th</sup> Mar:</b></p>	<p><b>Eucharistic Minister</b></p> <p>Noreen Reid</p> <p>Ann Hickey</p> <p>Mary Connolly</p> <p>Catherine Mc Grath</p> <p>Sean Farrell</p>	
<p><b>Servers</b></p> <p>Team A</p> <p>Team B</p> <p>Team C</p> <p>Team D</p> <p>Team E</p> <p>Team F</p>		

**Thought for the Day:** ‘Nothing great is ever achieved without much enduring.’  
‘Do you wish your prayer to fly toward God? Make for it two wings: fasting and almsgiving.’

‘My whole strength lies in prayer and sacrifice; these are my invincible arms; they can move hearts far better than words, I know it by experience.’

‘Men lose all the material things they leave behind them in this world, but they carry with them the reward of their charity and the alms they give.’

**Points to Ponder:** The simple fact is that Jesus healed the blind man. Someone who previously could not see was blessed with the gift of sight. What happens after that in today's Gospel is a sharp warning against following the letter of the law but forgetting why we are following it in the first place.

It's true: what Jesus did would have been seen as contentious, and not only by Scribes and Pharisees. The religious laws and actions that the people of that culture followed were incredibly specific. Even now, for some modern-day religions, the punishments for what may seem like very small omissions are punishable by real and lasting violence, not least by being shunned by your own community, let alone physical violence. It was even worse then, though.

So, what Jesus did was extraordinary. He knew this. He understood that the repercussions of healing someone on the Sabbath would have led to hot and dangerous debate in the community. He didn't back down. The real blindness that Jesus is trying to heal is that of the Pharisees and Scribes. And this can invite us to question ourselves.

Can our personal understanding of God, of Jesus, make us blind? Can the way that we might bend the Gospel so that we follow it in a more comfortable way undermine our status as Christians? Can we be pleasant to some but unpleasant to others, welcoming to some but dismissive of others? After all, what is a Christian but someone who follows Christ and tries to be his ambassador?

Lent is a wonderful opportunity to realign ourselves with Christ. How are we going to do this today?

**Emigrants Collection:** Will be taken on the 17<sup>th</sup> March. Day of prayer for Emigrants.

### Mother's Day Prayer

‘God, we thank you for the gift of motherhood and for all women who nurture, Mentor, and care for others.

Wrap your arms around those celebrating today and those who are struggling, give them the peace that passes all under standing and remind them of their value in your eyes, may they feel your love, strength, and presence in a special way today.

**Happy Mother's Day**

**La Fheile Pdraig Sona Duit**