

What I lost through prayer

Once a man was asked, "What did you gain by praying regularly to God?"

The man replied, "Nothing. But let me tell you what I lost: anger, ego, greed, depression, insecurity and fear of death."

Sometimes the answer to our prayers is not gaining but losing; which ultimately is the gain.

There will be a second collection at all Masses next weekend for Priesthood Education.

A Novena to St. Therese of Lisieux will take place in the Parish Church at the 10am Mass commencing on Saturday 23rd September and finishing on Sunday 1st October.

The new Parish Assembly will continue its training and formation in the Parish Centre on Wednesday 20th September at 8pm.

Now that Autumn is upon us, a fitting way to greet this new season is to hold a Station Mass in your home. If interested please give in your name to the sacristy.

The Legion of Mary pilgrimage to Knock will take place on Sunday 24th September. If interested please contact Peter at 086 3071709

- Shared voices Choir meet every Tuesday night from 7:30pm in St David's Resource Centre, Hospital grounds, Clonakilty. We are a choir that sings in support of mental health. All abilities welcome.
- The Munster Pioneer Gathering takes place on 1st October 2017 in Woodlands House Hotel in Adare, Co Limerick. Registration is at 10.30 a.m. Tickets for the Gathering cost €30 each and the closing date for the purchase of tickets is Monday 25th. For further details or any queries contact Sorcha 0863642619
- The Irish Blood Transfusion Service will hold a Blood Donor clinic in Fernhill House Hotel, Clonakilty on Tuesday 5pm - 8.30pm and Wednesday 3pm - 5pm & 7pm - 9pm on 19th & 20th September 2017

CLONAKILTY PARISH NEWSLETTER

Church of the Immaculate Conception

Clonakilty

&

Sacred Heart Church, Darrara

Priest on Duty: 087-6828076

Sacristy: 8834441

Urgent Calls: 086-8760608

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time(A)

17th September, 2017

Baptism

We welcome to the Christian Community:

Jane Elizabeth Nuala Allis

Cataleya Maria Tipurlea-Pokropywna

Mattie Jer O'Brien

Wedding

Congratulations and every good wish to Susan Lawton and Brendan Prendergast

Rest in Peace

We pray for the repose of the soul of Clive Bayley, Care Choice Nursing Home

Reflection

When we listen to today's gospel story of the unforgiving servant I feel sure that I am not the only one who thinks 'well, he got his just desserts for being so mean'! How easy it is to judge others and how very difficult it is to forgive even the smallest wrong against us. How we hate bad manners on the road or people skipping up a queue in front of us, yet even small annoyances such as these can remain with us all day as we fume and complain about the unjust treatment we have received. And yet, Jesus tells us in plain language that we also do wrong when we hold on to resentments and decide not to forgive.

The parable goes into some detail about the amount that is owed by the unforgiving servant which is ten thousand talents. A talent was the equivalent to six thousand denarii (one denarius being a day's wage), so this man owed a huge debt to his employer. We owe a huge debt to Jesus for dying for our sins and paying off what we owe to God we are in no position to be unforgiving like this servant. So even if we find it really hard, we must force ourselves to excuse people, not hold resentments, to be big hearted and forgive every time.