

PARISH NEWS

3rd Sunday of Advent
15th December 2019

Christmas is all around

The sights and sounds and smells of the season are all around us. Is there a particular sound that reminds you of Advent or Christmas – perhaps a carol you’ve always loved, or the sound of jingle bells? For many, the smell of mince pies or mulled wine are real signs of Christmas. Our towns and cities are filled with wonderful sights too: festive lights and decorations, trees decked out with tinsel and baubles, while our churches display Nativity scenes. Another common sight in the run-up to Christmas are the charity collectors we meet on the streets, singing carols or shaking buckets, urging us to give generously to a good cause. It is a feast for the senses, with these experiences often evoking warm Christmas memories and putting us in good humour. Today is known as Gaudete Sunday – Gaudete means ‘rejoice’. In our churches, the rose-coloured candle is lit on the Advent wreath to symbolise joy.

Today’s readings bring out this sense of joyful anticipation of the Lord’s coming. The people of Jesus’ time would have been familiar with Isaiah’s talk of ‘everlasting joy and gladness’. And Jesus tells us: ‘Happy is the man who does not lose faith in me’. It is this personal encounter with Jesus that we celebrate at Christmas, God becoming man, the Good News announced by John the Baptist in today’s Gospel. We have reason to be happy – let’s make this Gaudete Sunday a real celebration.

Collections:

8th December

Envelopes €803 Baskets €342

No of Envelopes 47

Direct Debits 4

Our thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish

Mass Schedule:

Mass on Monday 16th & Friday 20th December at 7.30pm

Mass Tuesday 17th - Thurs. 19th at 10am

Visiting the Sick: Fr. Rory will visit the sick on his list for Christmas on **Thursday 19th December** in the Ballymurphy & Rathanna areas and on **Friday 20th December** in the Borris area.

Safeguarding: If you are concerned about the welfare & safety of children or vulnerable adults contact the **Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) – Mr. Mick Daly** Mob: 085-8021633, email – dlp@kandle.ie

Borris Parish Website: www.borrisparish.ie

Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie

Parish Centre: Mon/Wed/Fri 9.30 – 12.30, Tues & Thurs 1pm – 4pm

Phone 059 9773128; email borrisparish@gmail.com Closed Bank Holidays.

Borris Parish Christmas Schedule

Station Masses:
Ballymurphy Sat. 14th December 2019
Rathanna Sun. 15th December 2019
Borris Sun. 15th December 2019

Rathanna & Killedmond Ecumenical Carol Service will take place in Killedmond Church on Thurs. 19th December at 7pm

Confessions/Reconciliation Service

Penitential Service: Thursday 19th December 2019 Sacred Heart Church Borris at 7.30pm
Confessions: Sacred Heart Church Borris Sat. 21st December 11am – 12 noon
Sacred Heart Church Borris Christmas Eve 24th December 11am – 12 noon

Mass Times:

Christmas Eve Vigil Mass Tuesday 24th December at 7.30pm Sacred Heart Church, Borris

Christmas Day
Rathanna 9.30am
Ballymurphy 9.30am
Borris 11am

NO Mass St. Stephen's Day 26th December
Mass on Friday 27th in Borris at 7.30pm Sacred Heart Church, Borris
Weekend Masses as normal

NO MASS in Borris on 30th & 31st December and 1st & 2nd January

Eist Cancer Support Centre will close for Christmas holidays on Friday 20th December at 1pm and reopen on Thursday 2nd January 2020 at 9 am. We wish all our clients, their families and friends, a peaceful Christmas.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Child in a Manger

Child of the earth, struggling to birth.
Child of the manger, surrounded by danger.
Child of the stable, without hearth or table.
Child of the hay, there he must stay.
Child of the night, hidden from sight.
Child of the day, for those gone astray.
Child of the cold, for the young and the old.
Child of the stars, for those behind bars.
Child of the wind, for those who have sinned.
Child of the hills, walk with us still.
Child of the sky, for those who must cry.
Child of the road, to carry our load.
Child of the street, who washes our feet.
Lord,
Bless the children born tonight
and all those waiting to be born
in difficult and trying circumstances.

Fr. Michael Maginn

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK

