

PARISH NEWS

Fourth Sunday of Advent

24th December 2017

Born on the Margins

The situation into which Jesus was born was one of huge stigma with dangerous consequences. God's physical birth into this world was condemned socially; Jesus was marginalised from the moment of his conception. Imagine God choosing to be involved so intimately in this world and in such a shocking way. Even the town of Galilee is problematic for this news, as Galileans were considered by the religious leaders of the time to be 'second-class Jews'. So the fact that God would send his messenger there is controversial in itself. Galilean Jews were considered to be less faithful than others, so it is ironic that in this particular situation Mary's response is the exact opposite. God surprises. God stands with the marginalised. God is present in the most hidden places at times. On the first Sunday of Advent we were invited to 'keep awake'. As we approach the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, what have you noticed this Advent? What has your waiting been like? How have you prepared? Where have you seen God being born around you? In the most unexpected places? In the most marginalised? Is your heart more open to receive a new birth of God again?

'Quiet me within, clothe my body in peacefulness, that your Word once again may take flesh – this time, within me – as once it did in holy Mary; long Advent days ago.'

Edward Hays

Collections: 17th Dec Envelopes €551 Baskets €1074
No of Envelopes 67 Direct Debits 4

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

BORRIS PARISH CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2017

CONFESSION TIME: SACRED HEART CHURCH SAT 23RD DECEMBER 11.30AM – 12 NOON

MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASSES AS NORMAL – ALSO CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL SUNDAY 24TH MASS

SACRED HEART BORRIS 7.30PM

CHRISTMAS DAY

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH BALLYMURPHY 9.30AM

ST. FORTCHERN'S RATHANNA 9.30AM

SACRED HEART CHURCH BORRIS 11.00AM

NO MASS ST. STEPHEN'S DAY 26TH & WEDNESDAY 27TH

Mass on Thurs 28th at 10am & Mass on Friday 29th at 7.30pm

Weekend Masses as normal

Visiting The Sick Fr. Rory will visit the sick on his list on **Thursday 21st December** in the Rathanna & Ballymurphy areas and on **Friday 22nd December** in the Borris area.

Rathanna/Killedmond Ecumenical Service

The Annual Ecumenical Carol Service, organised by a group from both Churches took place in Killedmond last Monday 18th December. The service evoked a truly ecumenical spirit and was a very fitting preparation for the Christmas Feast. There was a large congregation present. The organisers would like to thank Rev. Fr. Rory Nolan P.P. Borris & Rev. David White, Carlow for directing the service and imparting a joint final blessing. Thanks also to all the children who took part in the Nativity Scene and to their parents for the care taken with all the costumes. Thanks to Sena Harrenburg who supplied the music and to Tony Murray who sang 2 carols. Thanks to the readers and all the singers. Donations collected on the night amounted to €300 which will be given to Carlow/Kilkenny Homecare Team.

Borris Parish Website: www.borrisparish.ie

Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie

Parish Centre: Opening hours from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Monday - Friday

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

Safeguarding: If you are concerned about the welfare & safety of children or vulnerable adults contact the **Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) – Ms. Joan Treacy**

Mob: 085-8021633, e-mail – dlp@kandle.ie

LOCAL ARTISTS RELEASE CD FOR CHARITY EIST

Eist While We Sing Together is a CD released to raise funds for the Cancer support group **Eist**; this CD is a celebration of life, love and support which **Eist** provide to many families and individuals. **Eist While We Sing Together** is a collection of songs and tunes by various local groups and artists both young and old.

The courage and determination of two beautiful women **Lisa Grennan** and **Eileen Barcoe** both members of our **Lunietuners Tunes** group inspired this CD to become a reality. The CD will be on sale from **Monday 18th December** from members of all the choirs in the area, **Brophy's**, **Charlie Nolan's**, **Borris Service Station**, **O'Shea's Centra** and in our **Parish Centre** at a cost of €10 or two for €18. All monies raised will be donated to **Eist Carlow**. This would make a perfect Christmas gift while supporting a very worthy cause.

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 CHRISTMAS

