

*Anniversaries for Week Ending*  
*May 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> 2026*

*Ballymurphy: Anniversary Mass:*  
**Patrick & Loretta Murphy Ballybrack**

*Rathanna: Anniversary Mass:*  
**Luke Roche Knockquire**

*Borris: Anniversary Mass*  
**Catherine Carroll Lacken**

**Gerry & Christy Dalton Headfield**  
**Stella Hynes Woodlawn Park**  
**Pat Doyle Headfield**  
**Pat O'Brien Killedmond**  
**John & Rita Shannon Knockroe & John's sister**  
**Annie**  
**Michael Murphy Coonogue**  
**Maura Hayes Kilcoltrim**

## *Safeguarding*

The Parish of Borris in common with all other parishes is committed to safeguarding the children of their parish.

If you are concerned about the welfare & safety of children or vulnerable adults, contact:

**Director of Safeguarding: Ms. Ms Michele Hughes**  
**Mob: 086-171 0643 or Email: [safeguarding@kandle.ie](mailto:safeguarding@kandle.ie)**

## *Pride of Place Ballymurphy*

On **Thursday May 14<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm** in **Ballymurphy Community Hall** there is a **public meeting** taking place and anyone from the community is welcome to attend.

The village is taking part in the IPB Pride of Place competition 2026. The areas that the judges like to see is history, heritage, sustainability, biodiversity, businesses/ organisations/ tourism, education, social inclusion and partnerships/ collaborations.

If this interests you are most welcome to come along. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Gavin Whitney Carlow Co. Co.

## *Do you have a Notice for the Parish News?*

If your group / club / organisation has a notice that they wish to be included in the Parish News please forward the details to [borrisparish@gmail.com](mailto:borrisparish@gmail.com) by 12:00 noon on Thursdays for inclusion in the following week's edition.

The Parish News can be found on the Parish Website [www.borrisparish.ie](http://www.borrisparish.ie) and on various local Facebook pages. Inclusion in the Parish News is at the discretion of the editor. **FR RORY**

## *Letter from Bishop Denis on the occasion of First Holy Communion*

Bishop Denis has asked that the following letter be shared with the families and the children who will celebrate First Holy Communion in the Parish this year. I feel it is a letter that can benefit us all as a Parish and Faith Community.

First Holy Communion takes place next weekend, Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May, for the children of St. Patrick's School,

Ballymurphy & Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May for Borris National School. On our faith journey in life this is a major event that enriches the child's and family faith and the faith of the wider community.

I hope this letter speaks to you, not just as a recipient of First Holy Communion or Parent but as one who have prayed with this group at masses on Sunday throughout the year.

May you continue to hold the children in your prayers at this special time for them.

Fr Rory



## Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin

Dear First Communicants, parents and families,

Warm greetings and blessings to you in this very special month.

Children, you will receive the Body of Christ for the first time in a couple of weeks. This is the gift you have been preparing for.

Now, I also know that you will receive lots of gifts from many people who love you and are so happy for you on this day. But I ask you to remember just one thing for me. Please, remember that the gift of Jesus in Holy Communion is the most precious gift of them all. And the wonderful thing is that after your First Holy Communion you can come to Mass and keep receiving this gift, again and again. I very much hope and pray that you do.

Parents and families - you and your family are important members of the family of God and of this parish. You are loved, you are wanted, and you are needed. And when you are not here you are missed. As Christians we need the nourishment of God's Word and Eucharist to bring meaning and peace to our lives. That is why Sunday matters and why Sunday Mass is so important.

As you celebrate this wonderful day as a family my parting request to you is to seriously think about making Sunday Mass here in the parish, (whether on a Saturday evening or Sunday morning), a part of your family life, if it is not already so. The first step might be simply deciding to make it a habit in your week.

I pray that your First Holy Communion Day may be a treasured day in the life of all your families. And, for our First Communicants, that it is the first of a lifetime of receiving Jesus, the Bread of Life.

Every blessing,  
✠ Denis Nulty  
Bishop of Kildare & Leighlin

***Important Dates in the  
Parish of Borris  
2026***

**Mass of the Holy Angels**

*Remembering children who died before and after birth*

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November  
7.30pm  
Sacred Heart Church Borris

**Mass for those who Died during the Year**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November  
7.30pm  
Sacred Heart Church Borris

**First Holy Communion 2026**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 11am St. Patrick's Church Ballymurphy  
Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 11am Sacred Heart Church Borris

**Cemetery Masses & Blessing of Graves\***

**Kiltannel Cemetery**

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 12.30pm  
Rosary & Blessing of Graves

**Sacred Heart Cemetery Borris**

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 7.30pm  
Mass & Blessing of Graves

**Clonagoose Cemetery**

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 7.30pm  
Mass & Blessing of Graves

**Rathanna Cemetery**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 3pm  
Mass & Blessing of Graves

**Ballymurphy Cemetery**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 3pm  
Mass & Blessing of Graves

*\*Subject to Weather on the Day/Evening*

***Masses in our Deanery/Pastoral Area***

***Borris Parish Mass Times***

***Weekly Mass Times***

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Ballymurphy</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Rathanna</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
	<b>Borris</b>	<b>11.00am</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Borris</b>	<b>10.00am</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Borris</b>	<b>7.30pm</b>

***Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in the Sacred Heart Church, Borris each Wednesday after the 10am mass until 1.00pm.***

## *Graiguenamanagh Mass Times*

**Saturday:** Mass in Duiske Abbey at 7.00pm

**Sunday:** Mass in Skeoughvosteen at 9.30am  
Mass in Duiske Abbey at 11.00am

**Monday to Friday:** Mass in Duiske Abbey at 10am

## *St. Mullins Mass Times 2026*

**Mass Times for the Year 2026**

**Saturday Night Mass:** Drummond at 7.00pm

**Sunday Mass:** Glynn at 10am

**Holyday of Obligation Mass:** Drummond at 10am

**Wednesday Mass:** Drummond at 9.30am

**Thursday:** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
2.00pm Drummond

*Drummond Church is open daily for private visits.*

## *Paulstown Mass Times*

**Saturday:** Mass in Goresbridge at 7.30pm

**Sunday:** Mass in Goresbridge at 10.00am  
Mass in Paulstown at 11.30am

## *Why Sunday Matters*

*An invitation to all parishioners for the coming weeks*

Bishop Denis and the Diocesan Commission for Liturgical Formation invite parishioners across the diocese to reflect on the letter from the Irish Bishops, 'WHY SUNDAY MATTERS', for these remaining weeks of Eastertide up to the 'Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ' on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

From next weekend we will post a short excerpt from the letter each week for you to think about, with a link to the full text.

Sunday matters – it's good every now and again to stop and remind ourselves why.

See: [www.kandle.ie/resources/liturgy-pastoral](http://www.kandle.ie/resources/liturgy-pastoral) for more on the importance of Sunday and the Sunday Mass.

Visit the Kandle Facebook page and/or X account to see this weekend's highlighted material, including a video message from Bishop Denis.

See also: [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie)



## *Electrical waste - free drop-off*

Carlow County Council are hosting a free WEEE drop-off event in **Borris Mart on Wednesday 20th May from 10am -4pm. (Eircode R95AY07)**

Anything with a plug, battery or cable can be recycled for free on the day, from washing machines, TVs, kettles, toasters, power and garden tools, electronic toys, phones, cables, IT equipment, remote controls, watches, batteries of all sizes – even farm fence batteries.

For further information contact  
environment @Carlowcoco.ie  
or visit [www.carlow.ie](http://www.carlow.ie)

## *The Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme*

The Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme launched in March 2024 following the Government agreed actions arising from the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby homes and certain related matters.

The Payment scheme provides financial payments, and health supports to eligible people who spent time in Mother and Baby and County Home Institutions in Ireland.

Eligibility criteria can be found online, (website below) or by post

**Visit: [www.gov.ie/en/department-of-children-disability-and-equality/campaigns/mother-and-baby-institutions-payment-scheme/](http://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-children-disability-and-equality/campaigns/mother-and-baby-institutions-payment-scheme/)**

**Contact Helpline: 01 522 9922  
(call to request application pack)**

*All applications are handled  
with care, dignity and full confidentiality.*

### ***Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel***

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in our hour of battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.

## ***Totus Tuus 2026 Fatima Pilgrimage***

The **Totus Tuus Annual Pilgrimage to Fatima** will take place from **28th August to 4th September**.

Learn about the Fatima Message, the Rosary, the First Saturdays, the lives of the three visionaries, and visit the tomb and home of Blessed Alexandrina Da Costa, who lived solely on the Eucharist for 13 years.

**The cost is €915 which includes, flights, half board accommodation, airport transfers, day trip to Balasar, trip to Valinhos and Adjustrel, trip to the Irish Dominican Sisters' Convent.**

There are places available to fly from Cork Airport, and also from Dublin Airport. Limited places are available.

**For more information call Damien on 087 20 49 048**

## ***Forever Fit Carlow***

Balance and resistance training Borris, Myshall, Carlow & Tullow

Further information: Email: [foreverfitcarlow@gmail.com](mailto:foreverfitcarlow@gmail.com)

Phone: 085 801 4138

# Accent Dance School

Every Thursday at 6.30pm in Borris Town Hall



**FEEL BETTER. MOVE BETTER.**

# ACCENT

## Dance School

*presents*

### DANCE CLASSES FOR ADULTS **(BEGINNERS)**

-  **BORRIS TOWN HALL**
-  **EVERY THURSDAY  
6:30 PM**
-  **INTERNATIONAL-LEVEL TEACHER  
VOLODYMYR BELEI**  
*30+ years experience*
-  **NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED**
-  **NO PARTNER REQUIRED**
-  **STRUCTURED & EASY TO FOLLOW**

*Relax your body.  
Clear your mind.  
Enjoy life!* 

**START YOUR FIRST CLASS  
THIS THURSDAY!**  
- NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED -

 **Call / Text: 087 361 4053**

★ **LIMITED SPACES - BOOK TODAY!** ★

**MOVE BETTER. FEEL LIGHTER. LIVE MORE.**

## *Library News*

Get 7-day access to your local library, 8am to 10pm!

My Open Library is the self-service initiative that lets you use library facilities beyond regular opening hours from 8am to 10pm, seven days a week!

At participating libraries during these times, you can Borrow and return books; Read and Study in a quiet space; Access Wi-Fi and computers; Print, scan and photocopy; Use meeting Spaces

My Open Library operates 365 days a year and is simple and free to use, Register today at your local participating library.

My Open Library is operating in Tullow, Bagenalstown & Borris Library Branches,

For more info:

Drop in to Tullow Library

Or contact us on 059 913 6299

Drop in to Muinebheag Library

Or contact us on 059 912 9703

Drop in to Borris Library

Or contact us on 059 9170350

## *Radio Maria Ireland*

Radio Maria Ireland is a Catholic Radio Station. It offers prayers, teachings, and music to deepen one's faith, and encourages us to keep growing in the faith on a daily basis.

We broadcast 24/7, on three pillars being that of:

1. Prayer & Catechesis,
2. Music
3. Human Formation.

Further information can be found on [www.radiomaria.ie](http://www.radiomaria.ie).

### *You can listen to Radio Maria:*

1. via Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210
2. Download our FREE App “RADIO MARIA IRELAND”
3. Streaming on our WEBSITE - [www.radiomaria.ie](http://www.radiomaria.ie)
4. Via our ‘Listen Live Radio’ link on our Facebook Page.
5. Via PHONE – get live radio feed by calling  
+353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).
6. Via DAB Radio in Leinster area – **AND NOW  
AVAILABLE IN OUR AREA – JUST SCAN THE DAB  
BAND ON YOUR RADIO.**

## *Carlow County Council Register of Electors*

Even if you receive a polling card, you now need to add your PPSN, date of birth and Eircode to the register.

You can update your details at [checktheregister.ie](http://checktheregister.ie) or by paper form.

If you need assistance, Carlow County Council Register Staff will be happy to help you on:

**059 9170332 / 059 9170308 / 059 9172448**

**or email: [register@carlowcoco.ie](mailto:register@carlowcoco.ie)**

## *Jennifer Murnane O'Connor's TD Clinic*

Minister of State Jennifer Murnane O'Connor's Clinics will now be held every 2nd Wednesday in The Family Resource Centre, Royal Oak Road, Bagenalstown. Starting from Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March. Times are 10.30am to 12.30pm.

For further information, please contact the  
Constituency office on 059-9170754  
or email [jennifer.murnaneconnor@oireachtas.ie](mailto:jennifer.murnaneconnor@oireachtas.ie)

## *Southeast Family Support Network*

### **HAVE YOU BEEN IMPACTED BY ANOTHER'S DRUG OR ALCOHOL USE?**

You don't have to face it alone. The Carlow Peer Family Support Group 'You Are Not Alone' is here for you. We offer a safe, non-judgemental space of understanding and compassion where you can:

Share your experiences. Meet with family members in similar situations and who 'get it'. Receive support that will support you to look at practical solutions and effective responses learning how caring for yourself can support the whole family.

Contract 085-7872730 or 086-6045805 for details

**SUPPORT FOR YOURSELF CAN HELP THE WHOLE FAMILY**

## *National Epilepsy Week 2026*

...takes place on 18th May - 25th May.

For further information, please visit

[www.epilepsy.ie/content/national-epilepsy-week-2026-epilepsyweek](http://www.epilepsy.ie/content/national-epilepsy-week-2026-epilepsyweek).

## *Fr Liam Lawton Concert*

On 15 February 2026, Fr Liam Lawton received a papal award for his distinguished service to the Church as a composer and performer of sacred music.

The award was presented by Bishop Denis Nulty on behalf of Pope Leo XIV in the Gunn Chapel, Maynooth College, during a special evening celebrating his music, attended by Archbishop Eamon Martin, bishops, and choir members from across the country.

As many supporters could not attend, a second celebration with the same programme and performers will take place on **Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, at St Mary's Church, Edenderry.**

Following recent renovations of the church, the concert will raise funds to continue this work.

Tickets will be available via Facebook, Instagram, the Parish website, and in limited supply at the Parish Centre. High demand is expected, so early purchase and arrival are advised, as some seating will have restricted views.

## *Carlow Pilgrims to Travel to Italy for 27<sup>th</sup> International Columban Meeting*

A Pilgrimage from the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin, led by Bishop Denis Nulty, will travel to Lodi in Italy this July to participate in the 27th International Columban Meeting, continuing County Carlow's central role in celebrating the life and legacy of St Columbanus.

Taking place from Friday July 3<sup>rd</sup> to Monday July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026, the international gathering forms part of a long-standing annual European tradition honouring Columbanus, the 6th century Irish missionary monk born in the shadow of Mount Leinster near Myshall, County Carlow, whose influence extended across Ireland and mainland Europe.

Following the successful hosting of the Columbanus Weekend in Carlow in July 2025, which welcomed visitors from across France, Italy, Germany and Switzerland, this year's event represents an important opportunity to strengthen those international connections and reaffirm Carlow's place at the heart of the Columbanus story.

A rich and engaging programme has been developed for the visit, combining pilgrimage, cultural exchange and spiritual reflection. Highlights of the three-day programme include a visit to the historic town of Bobbio, where Columbanus founded his final monastery and where he is buried, as well as evening concerts, cultural gatherings and shared meals with international participants.

A 13km walk along the Columban Way in Italy, tracing the footsteps of the saint through Sant'Angelo Lodigiano to San Colombano al Lambro, a solemn celebration of the Eucharist, a pilgrim's dinner in the courtyard of the Bishop's Palace and a visit to Milan forms also form part of the programme.

Speaking ahead of the event Bishop Denis Nulty said: "We all remember with great fondness the celebrations in Carlow last July honouring St. Columbanus. This pilgrimage offers a unique opportunity to deepen our understanding of St Columbanus and to strengthen the bonds that exist between communities across Europe. As the birthplace of Columbanus, Carlow has a special responsibility to keep his legacy alive. This gathering in Lodi is not only a celebration of faith, but also of shared heritage, friendship and cultural exchange."

The pilgrimage is open to those wishing to take part in what promises to be a memorable experience of shared cultural learning and spiritual development. Travel arrangements, including flights, accommodation and a full programme of events, are being coordinated by Tully's Travel, Carlow, who are acting as official booking agents for the group.

The Columban Way, which stretches over 5,000km across Europe, including a 571km route in Ireland from Myshall to Bangor, continues to grow as a significant cultural and pilgrimage route, linking Carlow with key Columbanus sites across the continent.

For further information or to book, contact Tully's Travel, Carlow at 059-9136100 or visit [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie) or [www.carlowtourism.com/thecolumbanway](http://www.carlowtourism.com/thecolumbanway)

## *6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter*

### *First Reading*

#### **A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.**

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves.

There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result, there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

#### **The word of the Lord.**

### *Responsorial Psalm*

#### **Response: Cry out with joy to God all the earth.**

Cry out with joy to God all the earth,  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise.

Say to God: 'How tremendous your deeds!

#### **Response: Cry out with joy to God all the earth.**

‘Before you all the earth shall bow;  
shall sing to you, sing to your name!’  
Come and see the works of God,  
tremendous his deeds among men.

**Response: Cry out with joy to God all the earth.**

He turned the sea into dry land,  
they passed through the river dry-shod.  
Let our joy then be in him;  
he rules for ever by his might.

**Response: Cry out with joy to God all the earth.**

Come and hear, all who fear God.  
I will tell what he did for my soul:  
Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer  
nor withhold his love from me.

**Response: Cry out with joy to God all the earth.**

## *Second Reading*

### **A reading from the First letter of St. Peter**

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

**The word of the Lord.**