

# PARISH NEWS

Second Sunday of Advent

10<sup>th</sup> December 2017

**The beginning of the good news.....**

The second Sunday of Advent turns our attention to John the Baptist. John was an interesting individual. We are told he dressed a bit strangely, had an odd diet and spent a lot of time in the desert. Yet it seems he was very popular with the whole of Judea and 'all the people of Jerusalem' went out to hear him. John must have been a dynamic speaker and one in whom people found hope and inspiration. Who are these attractive messengers for us today? Who brings us good news and hope? Whose message makes sense for us? Who do we flock to hear?

Today we might also reflect on the messengers in our own lives. Who did God send to you while you were in your own wilderness? Perhaps they brought with them a moment of grace reassuring you that you would not be drifting aimlessly forever. Perhaps the evidence at that moment in your own life stated the contrary, yet these words of encouragement or comfort gave you reason to hope and to hang in there. These "John the Baptists" are messengers of the light. They are all around us.

Sometimes we are the ones called upon to be a messenger of light for someone else. The good news of the gospel today is that even in times of desolation there is a hope, a promise that urges us on. How we prepare for this journey determines our experience.

*See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you.....*

**Collections:**                          3<sup>rd</sup> Dec                  Envelopes €405                  Baskets €710  
  No of Envelopes 77                  Direct Debits 4

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

**Mass Schedule:**      Mass on Mon 11<sup>th</sup> & Fri 15<sup>th</sup> Dec at 7.30pm  
  Mass Tues 12<sup>th</sup> & Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> Dec at **10am No Mass Wednesday 13th**

Ballymurphy Servers Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Dec **Group 2**

**Confessions** in Sacred Heart, Borris from 11.30 – 12 noon every Saturday morning. All welcome.

**Borris Parish Website:** [www.borrisparish.ie](http://www.borrisparish.ie)

**Diocesan Website:** [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)

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

Phone 059 9773128; email [borrisparish@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:dlp@kandle.ie)

**Visiting The Sick** Fr. Rory will visit the sick on his list on **Wednesday 6th December** in the Rathanna & Ballymurphy areas and on **Thursday 7th December** in the Borris area.

**Kildare/Dublin Easter Pilgrimage Group to Fatima** 28th March to 2nd April 2018 for 6 days ex Dublin, Led by Fr. Kevin O'Boyle. €599 pps includes Hotels, Return Flights, Buses and Food. Also included is Mass in Saint Anthony's Church in Lisbon where Saint Anthony was born. Stations of the Cross and mass in Fatima. Don't be disappointed so Book Early as €100 deposit secures place. For Brochure contact James Treacy 0860572216 or 061921470

**Pre-Marriage Courses** Accord Carlow have some place available on the following courses Jan 12th & 13th, Feb 2nd & 3rd, Mar 2nd & 3rd. If you are getting married in the Catholic Church, you are required to attend a pre-marriage course. Couples getting married in spring or early summer 2018 should book their course now.

**Bookings can be made on line at [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie) . For further information please contact Mary 059 9138738.**

### **Carlow Choral Society's Christmas Concert**

Carlow Choral Society presents a very special Christmas Concert in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow, on Sunday December 10<sup>th</sup> 2017, at 8.15pm. The programme includes the very festive and uplifting Missa Carolae by James Whitbourn which is based on a beautiful arrangement of Christmas Carols, and also favourites from Handel's Messiah including the Hallelujah Chorus and singalong carols including 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' and 'Once in Royal David's City'. The concert will feature the cathedral organ and a full brass ensemble and will be conducted by our Musical Director, Blanaid Murphy. Join us for this glorious celebration in the beautiful surroundings of Carlow Cathedral. Tickets are €20.00 and the concert is free for accompanied children. Tickets are available on [www.eventbrite.ie](http://www.eventbrite.ie) and on [www.carlowchoralsociety.net](http://www.carlowchoralsociety.net) and from choir members.

Carlow Choral Society now has over 70 members and performs regularly many choral works both at home and abroad. Our most recent concert was our 2017 summer concert which included works by Monteverdi, Bach and Beethoven. The choir travelled to London in May 2017 to participate in Mozart's Requiem at the Royal Albert Hall and this November we will travel in Halifax in the UK to join Halifax Choral Society for their special 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary performance of Handel's Messiah.

For further information contact: Brian Kelly, Secretary, 086-0411351 or [carlowchoralsociety@gmail.com](mailto:carlowchoralsociety@gmail.com)

## *THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*

### **GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT LIFE THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED**

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
- 2) When your Mam is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandpa's lap.

*HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK*