

PARISH NEWS

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 12 JANUARY 2014

Pointing the Way

John the Baptist was driven by one mission: to point people to Jesus, to prepare the way for Jesus. Yet John is uneasy in this account of Jesus' Baptism.

The moment has arrived but he is standing before someone much greater than himself and is being asked to minister. John feels unqualified, unworthy of such a task. After some persuasion 'John gave in to him and accepted his responsibility. This is a lesson to all of us, not to let feelings of inadequacy stop us from carrying out our various missions and vocations in our lives. Jesus explains to John that this is necessary as a sign for the beginning of his ministry, a public statement of identity.

Pope Francis recently set us some homework: to find out the date of our baptism. He added: We are all part of the church. If you say you believe in God, and if you say you believe in God but not in the church, you're saying you don't believe in yourself, and that's a contradiction. We all are the church, all of us. From that little child recently Baptised to the bishops and Pope, all of us.' He is reminding us to think deeply about what our baptism means for us, that moment when we were sent out to be part of God's mission in this world, in our local communities and sent out to minister to those around us, even if we feel unworthy of such a task. Take example from John the Baptist today and don't forget your homework!

Collections: 29th Dec. 2013 & 5th & 6th Jan 2014 Envelopes €1472 Baskets €1428

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

Mass Schedule : Mass at 7.30pm on Mon. 13th Jan & Fri 17th Jan
Mass at 9.00am from Tues 14th Jan to Thurs. 16th Jan Incl.

Borris Parish Website : www.borris.myparish.eu Diocesan website www.kandle.

Parish Centre: The Parish Centre is open as usual from Mon. to Fri. from 9.30am to 12.30pm
Phone 9773128; email borrisparish@gmail.com

Visitation of The Sick : Fr. John will visit the sick on his list in Ballymurphy & Rathanna on Tuesday 14th January & in Borris on Wednesday 15th January.

Irish Catholic The Irish Catholic will again be on sale at the back of all the churches this coming weekend. It costs €1.50. It is also on sale in Kiernans, Borris.

Christmas Day Collection for the Priests I would like to thank all those who contributed so generously to the priests collection on Christmas Day. This generosity is greatly appreciated.
Fr. John O'Brien P.P.

Synod on the Family – Consultation As you will be aware, Pope Francis will convene with 150 Synod Fathers in October 2014 to discuss 'the pastoral challenges of the family in the context of evangelization'. This Extraordinary Assembly, intended to collect the bishops' experiences and proposals. As part of the preparation for the Synod, a document has been circulated by the Vatican which includes a detailed questionnaire under 9 different headings with 39 questions in total. It is hoped and expected that local churches will engage in this consultation and forward their responses to the Holy See. In our Parish we are hoping to consult with as many people as possible. If you are willing to participate in this consultation, please give your name and contact details to Fr. John or to Ann in the Parish Centre before Christmas. **We will have a meeting on Tuesday 14th January, in the Parochial House at 8pm for anyone who wishes to be involved** and to collate our proposals and send them in to the Bishop who will forward them on to the Vatican. If you wish to send your proposals personally to the Vatican there is a link on the diocesan website www.kandle.ie

Month Mind The Month's Mind Mass of Margaret Doran of Walshestown, Ballymurphy, will take place on Saturday 18th January at 7.30pm in Ballymurphy Church.

Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society : Lecture by Padraig Laffan: The Desperate Fight to save the Harvest of 1946 & the Bad Winter of 1947. On Wednesday 15th January at 8pm in Tullow Parish Centre. Admission Free. All Welcome.

Carlow Choral Society rehearsals resume Mon 13th Jan at 7.45pm in St Patricks College Carlow with our new director Niall Kinsella. New members most welcome.

Date for Your Diary: Camino de Santiago Walk : We are organising a group to partake in this walk which takes place on 16th – 25th September 2014. Should you require further details please contact the Parish Centre or Fr. John.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of **An Garda Siochana:**
Garda Entry Training : Oranmore Lodge Hotel Galway 18/01/14, Clarion Hotel Sligo 25/01/14, Silver Springs Hotel Tivoli Cork 01/02/2014, Bewleys Dublin Airport Hotel 08/2/14
On line courses also available All Details on www.getready.ie

Carlow ASD Support Group will hold their next monthly Group Meeting in The Dolmen Hotel on Tuesday January 14th at 7.30pm. Our guest speaker on the night will be Keith Lennon from Ninja Typers.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

If this is to be a Happy New Year, a year of usefulness,
a year in which we shall live to make this earth better, it is because God will direct our pathway.
How important, then, to feel our dependence upon Him.

Mathew Simpson

HAVE A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR