PARISH NEWS

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 12th June 2016

'Celebrate Mercy'

In today's Gospel, Jesus is invited to Simon the Pharisee's house for dinner when an 'unwanted' guest arrives. This woman has a bad reputation in the town; we are told nothing of her past except that she was a sinner and that she is carrying something that she wants to be free from. There are many things to say about the text but perhaps today we can focus on her celebration. The woman is able to receive God's grace in contrast to the Pharisee who is unable to grasp what has happened. Those present find it difficult to comprehend a God who accepts sinners and they are also finding it difficult to accept someone who celebrates forgiveness so joyfully and extravagantly as this woman does.

Often, when we receive forgiveness from others, we are unable to forgive ourselves, unable to free ourselves from our own mistakes. We can take a good example from the woman in today's Gospel who celebrates abundantly when she is freed from whatever it was that she was carrying. The last lines of the Gospel remind us of the prominent role of 'many' women who covered the expenses of Jesus and the twelve and journeyed with them.

'God's mercy can make even the driest land become a garden, can restore life to dry bones.... Let us be renewed by God's mercy, let us be loved by Jesus, let us enable the power of his love to transform our lives too; and let us become agents of this mercy, channels through which God can water the earth.'

Pope Francis

Collections:5th JuneEnvelopes €639Baskets €549No of Envelopes 51Direct Debits 4

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

Mass Schedule: Mass on Monday 13th & Friday 17th June at 7.30pm **No** Mass on Tues & Wed, 14th & 15th

Mass on Thurs 6th June at 9am

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF ORDINATION

Fr. Pierce Murphy will celebrate his Golden Jubilee of Ordination on Friday 24th June with a Mass of Thanksgiving in Ballinkillen Church at 7pm

Refreshments afterwards in the hall in Ballinkillen.

Visiting the Sick Fr. John will visit the sick on his list on Tuesday 21st June in the Ballymurphy and Rathanna areas and on Wednesday 22nd June in the Borris area.

Trocaire Collection The Trocaire Collection this year amounted to **€4124**. We wish to thank the parishioners for their generosity, it is much appreciated.

Special Pilgrimage Weekend – Starting Saturday 25th June – Walk to Holy Year Cross on Knockroe Hill with Rosary and Prayers for the Sick. Starting Point Shannon's Lane at 2pm Sunday 26th June St. Fortchern's, Rathanna Church Mass with Prayers for the Sick usual time 9.30am

Parish Website: www.borrisparish.ie **Diocesan Website**: www.kandle.ie **Parish Centre**: The Parish Centre is open as usual Mon. – Fri. from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Phone 059 9773128; email borrisparish@gmail.com Closed Bank Holidays.

Graveyard Masses this Summer

Kiltennel 19th June - Rosary & Blessing of Graves after 11am Mass Sacred Heart Cemetery Borris – Mass on Friday 24th June at 8pm Clonagoose Cemetery Borris – Friday 1st July at 7.30pm Rathanna Pattern: August 8th 3pm

Ballymurphy Pattern: August 28th 3pm

Carlow Choral Society returns to Carlow Arts Festival with a special concert: 'Amadeus: The Genius of Mozart' - in Carlow Cathedral on Saturday, 18th June, 2016, at 8.00pm. This concert of Mozart works will include the magnificent Great Mass in C minor as its centrepiece as well as shorter choral works. Regina Coeli and Exultate Jubilate. Conducted by Niall Kinsella, with the Irish Choral Sinfonia and a lineup of Ireland's finest soloists, Sylvia O'Brien, Lynda Lee, Owen Gilhooly and Tristan Caldwell. Tickets are €20 and are available on www.carlowartsfestival.com and www.eventbrite.ie and www.carlowchoralsociety.com and from choir members.

Year of Mercy San Giovanni and Assisi Pilgrimage Offaly/Kildare group led by Fr. Sean Crowley on 30th September for 6 nights ex Dublin. Celebrating the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi. on the 4th October in Assisi. Price €919 pps. Payment can be made in instalments. Contact James Treacy for details on 061-921470 or 086-0572216

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

PRAYER FOR GUIDANCE AT EXAM TIME

Holy Spirit. Be with me at this time of examinations and grant me your counsel, so that I may prepare wisely. Grant me understanding, so that I may grasp the knowledge I am trying to learn. Grant me fortitude so that I may have courage at the time of examination to face the challenge. May I pray to you with faith for what I need. Grant me your wisdom so that I may see the examinations are but a part of life and whether I do well or not is part of a bigger picture, part of a greater plan you have for me and for all the world. I make this prayer through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK

May You Always Be Loved

Remember the sunshine when the storm seems unending. May you find serenity and tranquillity in a world you may not always understand. Always know that there are those whose love and understanding will always be there even when you feel most alone.

May you discover enough goodness in others to believe in a world of peace. May a kind word, a reassuring touch, a warm smile, be yours every day of your life, and may you give these gifts as well as receive them.

Remember the sunshine when the storm seems unending.

Teach love to those who know hate, and let that love embrace you as you go into the world. May the teaching of those you admire become part of you, so that you may call upon them. Remember, those whose lives you have touched and who have touched yours are always a part of you, even if the encounters were less than you would have wished.

May you not become too concerned with material matters, but instead place immeasurable value on the goodness in your heart.

Find time in each day to see the beauty and love in the world around you.