

PARISH NEWS

First Sunday of Lent

14th February 2016

'Trust the wilderness'

The temptations are not just an embarrassing episode in the life of Jesus but are an integral part of his mission. Jesus is tempted to eat when he is not supposed to eat, to take the easy route of power through exploitation, when that is not His way. Ultimately, God is in control here; this wilderness is 'Spirit' led. And so it is for us. When it comes down to it, each of the temptations are about the same thing, our ability to trust in God. This should not direct us towards complacency but to listening.

We listen to God's Word and this year's Trocaire campaign is urging us to listen to what God is saying through the Book of Creation; to trust in those signals and signs. Listening to the story of Teresina this year, we hear of an effect of climate change that is often overlooked: a family forced apart because of dry land. This past year we have seen large movements of refugees around the world. We know that the next generation of refugees will be climate refugees. It does not have to be this way. As we enter the 'wilderness' of Lent, let us spend time with the temptations in the Gospel today and hear the call to 'trust'. Trust what God is trying to tell us through the Book of Creation. It is in the wasteland that we find the signs of God's renewal.

'I urgently appeal for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all.'

Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 1, 14

Collections: 7th Feb Envelopes €510 Baskets €588
No of Envelopes 75 Direct Debits 7

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

Mass Schedule: Mass 7.30pm Mon 15th & Fri 19th Feb

Mass at 9am Tues 16th Feb – Thurs 18th Feb

Masses during Lent will be at 7.30pm on Mondays & Fridays and at 9.00am from Tuesday to Thursday.

There are many positive ways of marking Lent as special. Some possible ways are:

- ❖ For those who travel to work, to make the effort to get up half an hour earlier to attend Mass
- ❖ For those who are retired or unemployed, to make an effort and make a daily visit to the Blessed Sacrament
- ❖ For families, to say the Rosary together daily or even a decade a day.

Catholicism Journey Around the World and Deep into the Faith - Join us every **Monday** night during Lent for this incredible Journey on DVD in the Sacred Heart Church, Borris after the 7.30pm Mass.

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.

Visiting the Sick Fr. John will visit the sick on his list on Tuesday 16th February in the Ballymurphy and Rathanna areas and on Wednesday 17th in the Borris area.

Sister Anne Carr of the **Medical Missionaries of Mary** will speak at the weekend Masses of **5th/6th March** in this parish as part of the Mission Awareness Programme.

Borris Parish Website : www.borrisparish.ie

Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje y Dubrovnik from the 14th. September – 21st. September.

4 nights Medjugorje and 3 nights Dubrovnik.

Price €995 (Incl. all airport taxes and charges)

Price includes: Coach from Borris - Dublin Airport & return

Return flight from Dublin to Dubrovnik - depart Dublin 14 September at 07.30hrs, arrive Dubrovnik at 11.45hrs. Return 21st September depart Dubrovnik at 12.30hrs, arrive Dublin at 15.00hrs.

· All transfers – return airport transfers and transfer between Medjugorje and Dubrovnik Four nights half-board guesthouse accommodation in Medjugorje close to St James's church

· Three nights BB in the 4 star hotel Neptun in Dubrovnik in standard rooms
City guided tour of Dubrovnik - Elaphite island cruise excursion - Full religious programme in Medjugorje

In 2009 we did this pilgrimage with a group from the Parish and those who travelled thoroughly enjoyed it. Being the extraordinary year of Mercy we decided to repeat this. If you are interested you would need to get your name in with Tully's Travel in Carlow, as soon as possible. We need about 20 people to make it feasible.

Further information from Fr. John or Ann in the Parish office or Donna (059-9136100) in Tully's Travel Carlow.

Joint Diocesan Pilgrimage from Co. Carlow to Echternach, Luxembourg 2017

Bishop Denis Nulty, Bishop of Kildare & Leighlin and Bishop Michael Burrows, Bishop of Ossory, Cashel and Leighlin will lead the 'Joint Diocesan Pilgrimage from Co. Carlow to Echternach, Luxembourg June 2017'. This pilgrimage will partake in the annual 'Hopping Procession' in honour of St Willibrord, Patron Saint of Luxembourg who was ordained in Clonmelsh, Garryhundon, Co Carlow in the 7th century. For bookings and itinerary contact Tully's Travel Agents, Carlow Town, phone: 059-9136100 or see www.tullystravel.ie.

Celebrating our 100 year old Carlow Citizens

As part of the Carlow 2016 celebrations all Carlow citizens who have reached the age of 100 in 2016 will be honoured with the presentation of a special 1916-2016 commemorative medal.

If you know of a Carlow citizen who is 100 years or older please contact ireland2016@carlowcoco.ie with the person's name and contact details.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Fast & Feast

Fast from judging others; feast on the Christ dwelling within them

Fast from emphasis on differences, feast on the unity of all life

Fast from apparent darkness; feast on the reality of light

Fast from words that pollute; feast on phrases that purify

Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude

Fast from anger; feast on patience

William Arthur Ward

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK