

PARISH NEWS

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Day of Prayer for Temperance 15th February 2015

Of course I want to!

One short sentence strikes me in today's Gospel: 'Of course I want to!' It is Jesus' response to the leper who asks to be cured, and it shows Jesus' generosity of spirit. He was not just carrying out his duty – he was touched by the man and really wanted to help and to heal him.

What if we were to live by this simple phrase? You may have heard of people taking on an experiment whereby they said 'yes' to everything they were asked in a particular day. Some people make new year resolutions to say 'yes' more or to be more positive. Why not make 'Of course I want to!' our motto today? We might find ourselves more prepared to respond to requests for help. We might spend more time playing with our children, or visit our loved ones more often. We may be able to approach our work with more enthusiasm, or go along to Mass with more of a sense of joy than habit.

Have a look at the Second Reading today. Paul encourages us to try to be helpful to everyone at all times, to be anxious for others rather than for ourselves – with the ultimate goal of bringing others to salvation. If we recognise the dignity of all our brothers and sisters, and realise we have a part to play in helping to bring God to them, and them to God, we might just find ourselves responding to others' needs with a resounding 'Of course I want to!'

Collections: 8th Feb 2015 Envelopes €429 Baskets €581

No. Of Envelopes Returned 66 Direct Debits 5

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

Mass Schedule: Mass at 7.30pm on Mon 16th Feb & Fri 20th Feb
Mass at 9am Tues 17th & Thurs 19th Feb
Ash Wednesday 18th February: Mass at 9.00 in Borris, 10.15am in Rathanna & 7.30pm in Ballymurphy. This is a day of Fast & Abstinence.

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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.

Trocaire Trocaire boxes will be available in all the churches this coming weekend. Please take one and have it in a prominent place in your house during Lent. Family members and visitors might like to make a once-off, weekly or daily donation and this will be greatly appreciated.

The Little Purple Book for Children is a book for Lent which explains all about lent to children with Lenten Games, Puzzles & Quizzes. It is available in the Parish Centre, cost €3. It would make a lovely gift from grandparents or parents to children.

Dates for Your Diary

Weekend Pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick & Knock Sat 27th - Sunday 28th June 2015 €100 per person, includes bus, dinner & bed & breakfast in hotel. If you are interested book your place with a deposit of €20 in the Parish Centre for this pilgrimage.

Borris 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

The **Eist Carlow Cancer Support Centre** is open Tues, Wed, and Thurs from 9.30a.m. - 4.00p.m. daily. Please contact the Centre for further information at (059) 9139684 or e-mail eistcarlowcancersupport.ie The Centre will be running the following Spring Programmes:
Tuesday: 11.00a.m – Meditation, 2.00p.m. Men's Group (every second Tuesday)
Wednesday: 10.30a.m. Bereavement Support (every second Wednesday)
11.00a.m. Pilates Beginners
Thursday: 10.30a.m. Advanced Pottery, 11.00 a.m. Strides for Life, 2.00 p.m. Beginners Pottery

Finance Committee Meeting on Monday 23rd February in Parochial House at 8.30pm

Children's Newsletter We are hoping to develop a children's newsletter for the Parish, starting on the 1st Sunday of Lent and every second Sunday from then on. We welcome any suggestions on it.

The Ecumenical Service which was organised by the Rathanna & Killedmond Parishes at Christmas raised €120 in donations which was given to the Carlow/Kilkenny Homecare Team. Many thanks to all who donated.

Irish Hospice Foundation Fundraising Cycle

Get on your bike for the Irish Hospice Foundation this June (21st-27th) and join former professional cyclist Paul Kimmage on the Genoa to Rome cycle challenge.

By taking part in this Kingspan sponsored cycle across Italy you will be raising much needed funds for the IHF's vital Nurses for Night Care service, which provides over 1,400 nights of free nursing care at home annually to people with a non-malignant terminal illness.

Register before March 13th at www.hospicefoundation.ie or call 1890 717000 for more information.

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