PARISH NEWS

Third Sunday of Lent

15th March 2020

The Deep End • 'Give me a drink!'

In today's Gospel, we hear the wonderful account of the woman at the well. We hear of physical thirst but also of a much deeper thirst, for connection and conversion.

During Lent, we are invited into the lives of Trocaire's partners in the global south. We meet Madris in Kenya, who walks around the dusty brown patch of land beside her small home, where she lives with her six children. There are no crops visible, just a few scraggy bushes. Madris tells us, 'I feel very bad when the rains don't come because all my plants depend on rainfall.' Water scarcity worldwide is being accelerated by the climate crisis. Scientists tells us that rain fed agriculture will drop by 50% worldwide by 2030, due to global warming.

When we think of how we might help, we give, and that is good. But we must also be aware of a deeper conversion that is needed. Change is possible, solutions are there, and as faith communities we are invited into this journey of change. The woman in the Gospel today is so deeply affected by her encounter with Christ that she runs to tell the others. May we also be enthused and open to a real thirst for climate justice, aware that we are called to 'an ecological conversion whereby the effects of our encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in our relationship with the world around us. Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience.' (Laudato Si, 217)

A challenge: How much water do you use? Where water is concerned how can you serve God more fully? For water tips, see www.taptips.ie.

Collections:

8th March Envelopes €448 Baskets €697 No of Envelopes 75 Direct Debits 3

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

Mass Schedule:

Vigil Mass on Monday 16th in Ballymurphy Church at 7.30pm Mass on St. Patrick's Day, Tuesday 17th Rathanna 9.30am, Borris 11am Mass Wed 18th & Thurs 19th at 10.00 am

Mass on Friday 20th at 7.30pm

Rosary will be recited every Thursday morning before 10 o'clock mass.

Blood Donation Clinic

Your next blood donation clinic is in the Abbey Hall, Graiguenamanagh on Thursday 19th March 4.30pm – 8.00pm

Safeguarding: If you are concerned about the welfare & safety of children or vulnerable adults contact the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) – Mr. Mick Daly Mob: 085-8021633, email – dlp@kandle.ie

Borris Parish Website: www.borrisparish.ie Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie Parish Centre: Mon/Wed/Fri 9.30 – 12.30, Tues & Thurs 1pm – 4pm

Phone 059 9773128; email borrisparish@gmail.com Closed Bank Holidays.

Dates for your Diary

CONFIRMATION BORRIS SATURDAY 25TH APRIL AT 11AM BORRIS CHURCH

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION BALLYMURPHY SATURDAY 16TH MAY 12 NOON

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION BORRIS SATURDAY 23RD MAY 11AM

Carlow Family Support Group - You Are Not Alone

Drugs and Alcohol abuse effects families regardless of status in life. You did not cause it, you can't control it and you can't cure it. Help is available for those who live with this dreadful disease call 085 7872730.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Advice from the Diocese on CORONA VIRUS

We have received from the HSE guidance in relation to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) which is now attached. I would appreciate if you would review same and take on as much of the relevant suggestions as possible.

In particular the following should be noted:-

Suspend the sign of peace with immediate effect.

Holy water fonts should be emptied and not used.

Holy Communion should be administered into the <u>HAND ONLY</u>. Advise mass goers of this before communion is distributed.

Everyone administering Holy Communion should wash their hands or use alcohol based hand gel before beginning.

The practice of shaking hands on greeting and departure should be suspended.

Have a Wonderful Week