

# PARISH NEWS

**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**16<sup>th</sup> August 2015**

## **Images of the Word**

John's extended discourse on the bread of life is by now taking on the characteristics of a press conference. Jesus puts his point across and then faces intense questioning. Part of the scandal caused by his words might be explained, at least historically, by the Jewish prohibition against the consumption of blood for, as Deuteronomy puts it, 'the blood is the life'. It is no surprise, then, that the first hearers of the teaching may have recoiled in horror, disgust and confusion.

Jesus' invitation to share in his body and blood has captivated the Christian imagination for millennia. Giovanni Bellini's *The Blood of the Redeemer* (1460-65) depicts a timeless Jesus, perhaps between life and death, who offers his blood continuously in a gaping wound next to his heart while his body bears itself to the gaze of the viewer. Bellini combines the pathos of Christ's injuries with the elegance of his classically constructed body to stir our compassion and evoke meditation.

Bellini's imagery would have scandalised first century Jewish audiences for many reasons, too many to name here. This suggests that our understanding of Jesus' body and blood, his saving body, has evolved over time. But in Bellini's art, John's poetry, and the life of the Christian community, words and images collide to bear witness to the Word made flesh in the boundless space of the Christian imagination.

**Collections:** 9<sup>th</sup> Aug.      Envelopes €593      Baskets €508

No of Envelopes 79 Direct Debits 6

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

**Mass Schedule:**      Mass at 7.30pm on Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Aug & Fri. 21<sup>st</sup> Aug.  
**No Mass** at 9am Tues 18<sup>th</sup> - Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Aug

**Vigil Mass in Ballymurphy on Fri. 14<sup>th</sup> Aug. at 7.30pm**  
**Mass at 9.30am in Rathanna and 11am in Borris on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

**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](mailto:borrisparish@gmail.com)      Closed Bank Holidays

**Borris Parish Website :** [www.borrisparish.ie](http://www.borrisparish.ie)

**Diocesan Website:** [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)

**Holy Ghost Missions :** The total envelope collection from Borris Parish amounted to **€942.70** . Fr. Terry Smith wishes to convey his deep gratitude to all parishioners.

**Youth 2000 Summer Festival**, Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary from Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2015. For young people aged 16-35, this is a great opportunity to find out what your Catholic faith is all about in a friendly, chilled out atmosphere. The festival is donation only. Free buses available from all around Ireland. For more info and to book online, see [www.youth2000.ie](http://www.youth2000.ie) or phone [01 6753690](tel:016753690)

**The Eist Cancer Support Centre**, The Waterfront, Mill Lane, Carlow provides practical help and emotional support to anyone affected by cancer in County Carlow and the surrounding areas opens Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.30am to 4.30pm. Have you lost someone close to you through cancer? This experience can be especially difficult when someone close to us dies. Making sense of the loss and learning to live without that person is the work of grieving. The EIST Cancer Support Centre has a New Bereavement Support Group starting on Wednesday 12th August 2015 at 7.30 pm at the Eist centre

You are free to contact us at 059-9139684 or drop-in during our opening hours.

Website: [www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie](http://www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie)

### ***National Dawn Walk for Cancer***

'The National Dawn Walk for Cancer is a new nationwide initiative which seeks to honour all of those who battle or who have battled cancer on a day to day basis, by means of a dawn challenge on Mount Leinster. The walk takes place on the **22nd of August at 5.45am** and will take participants on a 10km journey over Mount Leinster, from The Nine Stones to the picturesque village of Myshall, Co Carlow. Bishop Denis Nulty as well as Ms Elma Walsh, mother of the late Donal Walsh will be joining us on the walk. . On the morning of the walk we will be gathering at the Presentation De La Salle College, Bagenalstown or Myshall Community Centre (for those coming from the Bunclody side of the mountain) from 4am onwards with all buses due to depart at 5.15am in order to ensure that participants reach the mountain before the break of dawn. The walk will end at about 8am in Myshall where tea, coffee and refreshments will be served. At this point, a special ceremony will be held and the Remembrance Balloons will be released to soar upwards on the breeze in the direction of Mount Leinster. If parishes wish to bring a bus of participants to the event please contact us at 085 7473522. **You can now register online at our website—[www.nationaldawnwalkforcancer.com](http://www.nationaldawnwalkforcancer.com). Places are limited so book early to avoid disappointment. The cost to participate is €10 for adults and €5 for children.** You may also register at the number above and 089 2296620”

### *THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*

When Minister Joe Wright, from the Central Christian Church, was asked to open the new session of the Kansas Senate, everyone was expecting the usual generalities, but this is what they heard:

"Heavenly Father, we come before you today to ask Your forgiveness and to seek Your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says, 'Woe to those who call evil good,' but that is exactly what we have done. We have lost our Spiritual Equilibrium and reversed our values. We have exploited the poor and called it the Lottery. We have rewarded laziness and called it Welfare. We have killed our unborn and called it Choice. We have shot abortionists and called it Justifiable. We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building Self-esteem. We have abused power and called it Politics. We have coveted our neighbor's possessions and called it Ambition. We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it Freedom of Expression. We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it Enlightenment. Search us, Oh, God, and know our hearts today; cleanse us from every sin and set us free. Amen!"

### *HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK*