

PARISH NEWS

Third Sunday of Advent

16th December 2018

The reason for the season

In his encyclical *Evangelii Gaudium* (The Joy of the Gospel), Pope Francis issues a warning that might resonate with us as we continue our Advent journey. Caught up in consumerism, he says, it is easy for us to forget what is truly important:

'The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent yet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience. Whenever our interior life becomes caught up in its own interests and concerns, there is no longer room for others, no place for the poor. God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades.'

In the lead-up to Christmas we often get caught up in a flurry of 'interests and concerns'. True, much of the joy of Christmas comes from giving to others, but there is so much focus on material goods and spending money that it can be difficult to remember the good news at the heart of the season. It is so easy to become distracted by the bright lights and advertising.

This Sunday is *Gaudete Sunday* – *Gaudete* means 'Rejoice'. It's the perfect time to recapture some of the 'quiet joy' that Pope Francis talks about. 'The joy of the gospel fills the hearts and lives of all who encounter Jesus,' he reminds us. It is this personal encounter with Jesus that we celebrate at Christmas, God becoming man, the Good News announced by John the Baptist in today's Gospel. This is the reason for our joy – the reason for the season!

Collections: 9th December Envelopes €962 Baskets €912
 No of Envelopes 65 Direct Debits 4
Our thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish

Mass Schedule

Mass Monday 17th & Friday 21st Dec. at 7.30pm

Mass on Tuesday 18th - Thursday 20th Dec. at 10am

Borris Parish Website: www.borrisparish.ie

Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie

Parish Centre:

New Opening hours from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Monday, Wednesday & Friday
1.00pm to 4.00pm Tuesday & Thursday

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

Safeguarding: If you are concerned about the welfare & safety of children or vulnerable adults contact the **Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP)** – Ms. Joan Treacy Mob: 085-8021633, e-mail – dlp@kandle.ie

Christmas Mass Bouquets: There are Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards now available in the Parish Centre.

Trocaire Christmas Appeal

'Do not let the downtrodden retreat in confusion, give the poor and needy cause to praise your name.'
Psalms 74:21.

Millions of people have had to flee conflict in South Sudan and Yemen. In one area alone in northern Uganda 33,000 mainly women and children from South Sudan have taken refuge. They have witnessed and experienced the worst kind of violence and have arrived traumatised and broken. Trocaire's Christmas Appeal will help these people and many others rebuild their lives. Visit www.trocaire.org to find out more.

Christmas Concert

St Clare's Church, Graiguecullen December 19th at 7pm. Featuring Graiguecullen/Killeshin Parish Choirs, the Poor Clare Sisters and the Killeshin Pipe Band. Free entry, collection during concert for SVP.

Borris Mixed National School Christmas Concert will take place on Thursday 20th December at 7pm in The Sacred Heart Church, Borris.

Rathanna & Killedmond Ecumenical Carol Service will take place in Rathanna Church on Thurs. 13th December at 7.30pm
Donations received this year are for the New Carlow Hospice.

Eist would like to thank everybody who attended the recent Christmas Concert in the Arboretum. Also thanks to those who bought Candles and Cards. Eist also appreciate the great support of clients, their families and friends throughout the year. We would like to wish everybody a peaceful Christmas.

Accord Pre-Marriage Courses: Some upcoming course dates for 2019 are: January 11th & 12th, February 8th & 9th and March 8th & 9th.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Announcing The Ideal Christmas Gift !!



The Three Tenors

Back by popular demand in Concert in The Sacred Heart Church, Borris on

Saturday 16th February 2019

Tickets will be on sale from next week. Please contact the Parish Centre for further details.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK