

PARISH NEWS

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

16th July 2017

The generous sower

Can you picture it? I love the image of Jesus sitting in a boat, addressing the crowds on the beach. He certainly knew how to hold their attention. And he knew they would understand him more clearly if he used the language of stories. Those listening would have been familiar with the cycle of planting seeds and waiting for them to produce a crop. One of the purposes of parables is to challenge the hearers to reflect and respond with faith. So this parable of the sower requires Jesus' audience to decide what kind of soil they are. There is a message of judgement for those who are hardened like the rocky soil, and a message of hope for those who are receptive like the rich soil.

The figure of the sower is important too. The sower does not confine the seeds to soil that is fertile and ready for growth. Rather, the seeds are scattered everywhere – on the path, patches of rock, and among thorns. Jesus does not discriminate. His love is given out for all. He knows that some of it may be rejected, or accepted only on a superficial level, but he offers it anyway. That offer of love is never withdrawn. It might take a while to bear fruit, but it is always there.

'Always there are doors that are not closed. Look for the doors that are at least a little bit open, enter and talk about common things and go on. Step by step.'

Pope Francis

Collections: 9th July Envelopes €471 Baskets €652

No of Envelopes 59 Direct Debits 4

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

Mass Schedule: Mass on Monday 17th & Fri 21st July at 7.30pm
No Morning Mass Tues 18th – Thurs 20th July at 9am
Ballymurphy Servers Sat 15th July **Group 4**

Confessions in Sacred Heart, Borris from 11.30 – 12 noon every Saturday morning. All welcome.

Diocesan Pilgrimage To Lourdes Bus Pick-Up Times Sunday 16th July

1.00pm – Glynn, St. Mullins

1.30pm – Dalton's Square, Borris

2.00pm – McGrath Hall, Bagenalstown

2.20pm – Church Car Park, Leighlinbridge

Cost €10 Return

Dates for Your Diary

Prayers In Cemeteries 2017

Rathanna: Sunday August 6th 3pm

Ballymurphy: Sunday August 27th 3pm

Borris Parish Website: www.borrisparish.ie

Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie

Parish Centre: Opening hours from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Monday - Friday

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

The Parish Centre will be **closed** from Monday July 24th - Tuesday 1st August (incl.)

Back open on Wednesday 2nd August

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

Pre-Marriage Courses

Accord Carlow have a limited number of places available on the following courses this year. Sept 8th & 9th, Oct 13th & 14th. Nov 17th & 18th Couples getting married in the Catholic Church are required to attend a Pre-Marriage Course. Please book now on www.accord.ie and avoid disappointment. For further information phone Mary at 059 9142590

The Irish Cancer Society wish to thank you for your continued support , the recent annual church gate collection at Sacred Heart Church, Borris totalled €145 which will go towards making a difference in the lives of people affected by cancer.

Watch Masses online from Knock Shrine

The daily 3pm Mass in the Basilica is now being streamed live. The 12 noon Sunday Mass is also available to watch online at www.knockshrine.ie/watch and recordings of all Sundays Masses are also available on the Knock Shrine YouTube channel.

Youth 2000 Summer Festival, Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary from Thursday 17th – Sunday 20th August 2017. For young people aged 16-35, an opportunity not to be missed to experience the Catholic faith and meet many new people, with over 1400 young people from all corners of Ireland attending last year. The festival is donation only. **Free** busses travelling from all around Ireland. For more info and to book online, see www.youth2000.ie or tel: 01-6753690

Lough Derg 2017: You may begin the Three Day Pilgrimage on any day up to and including Sunday 13th August. Advance booking is not necessary.

There are various travel options available countrywide. The Lough Derg team can help you to co-ordinate public transport or link up with Pilgrimage Organisers in your locality. Telephone Maureen or Lorraine on 071 9851518 (from NI 00353 71 9861518). Email:

info@loughderg.org www.loughderg.org

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

***Benedict of Nursia
(480-543AD) – Feast Day 11 July***

***Prayer ought to be short and pure, unless it be prolonged by the
inspiration of divine grace.***

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK