# PARISH NEWS

## Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### Generous love

A remarkable story of generosity featured on Joe Duffy's *Liveline: Call Back* programme on RTE recently. It was the story of Shane O'Neill, who had a history of drugs offences and ended up serving time in prison in Belgium. On release from prison he went to the Irish Embassy to ask for the price of a flight to return home, but was turned down. Another Irish man, Charlie Kiernan, overheard the exchange and decided to help, booking him a flight and buying him breakfast. When Shane suggested he could repay him, Charlie suggested he 'pay it forward'. The kind gesture was the catalyst for Shane turning his life around.

It is this sort of generous love that we hear about in today's gospel, in the parable told by Jesus. The master who cancels the servant's debt does so out of compassion and generosity. It is of no benefit to him to pardon the debt. He will be down ten thousand talents – one talent was worth more than 15 years' wages of a labourer, so we are talking about a large sum of money! The servant is grateful, but not so grateful that he is willing to take pity on a fellow servant who owes him just one hundred denarii – one denarii was the usual day's wage for a labourer. The parable speaks to us about the kindness of God, but also what he expects from us. Because we have been loved, we must love. Because we have been forgiven, we must forgive.

Collections:10th SeptEnvelopes €715Baskets €810No of Envelopes 76Direct Debits 4Our thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish

Mass Schedule:No Mass on Mon 18th to Fri 22nd Sept. at 7.30pm Inclusive<br/>Ballymurphy Servers Sat 16th Sept Group 2

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

#### Message from Fr. John

"Last Thursday I had 3 hours surgery to remove what remained of the tumour and all of it was removed. Once again I have to thank you very much for your prayers and best wishes - without these and the support of my family I would not have finished this long and arduous journey with such great news. I am eternally grateful to the wonderful medical professionals who have accompanied me along this journey. A special word of thanks to Dr. Michael Byrne who has always been there for me during this long journey. I hope to see you all soon with my new 'hairstyle'. I will be recovering in Portlaoise."

Fr. John

**IRELANDS NATIONAL COFFEE MORNING** - in aid of Carlow Kilkenny Homecare Team will be held on Thursday 14th. September in the Cathedral Parish Centre. Anybody or business willing to host a coffee morning would be very much appreciated. Contact Breda 087 - 2327218.

**The Irish Wheelchair Association** will have their Annual Collection this weekend at all the Parish Masses – please give generously.

## Parish Envelopes – would those who distribute the parish envelopes please collect them from the Parish Office – they are now ready for collection.

Borris Parish Website: www.borrisparish.ieDiocesan Website: www.kandle.ieParish Centre:Opening hours from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Monday - FridayPhone 059 9773128; email borrisparish@gmail.comClosed Bank Holidays.Safeguarding:If you are concerned about the welfare & safety of children or vulnerable adultscontact the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) – Ms. Joan TreacyMob:085-8021633 e-mail – dlp@kandle.ie

This Weekend 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>Sept. We have our Annual Collection for the Priests of the Parish. Our Christmas and Easter collections and the proceeds from the November List of the Dead and from Weddings and Baptisms are entered into this account. The proceeds from the special envelope and the basket collection of the first week in September are also entered into this account. We are totally dependent on your generosity. You have always been very generous in your contributions and we appreciate the major effort you are making. I would like to ask you to be as generous as possible in the special envelope and the Offertory Collection this weekend, please. You have a special green envelope in your box of envelopes for this collection.

Fr. Rory

#### **Pre-Marriage Courses**

Accord Carlow have a limited number of places available on the following courses this year; Oct 13th & 14<sup>th</sup>, Nov 17th & 18<sup>th</sup> & Jan 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> 2018 Couples getting married in the Catholic Church are required to attend a Pre-Marriage Course. Please book now on <u>www.accord.ie</u> and avoid disappointment. For further information phone Mary at 059 9142590

#### Holy Hour Rathanna

<u>'Spare an Hour for The Lord'.</u> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place each Thursday from 1pm until 8pm. If you can give an hour in prayer please leave your name and the time that suits with Ann in the Parish Office 059-9773128

**Kildare and Leighlin** looking for expressions of interest in Organ Tuition programme The diocese is looking for expressions of interest in an organ tuition programme organised by the Advisory Committee on Church Music, based at the National Centre for Liturgy, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. This course requires a basic competence in the keyboard (grade 4/5). See <u>kandle.ie</u> for further details.

Once we know the level of interest, we hope to host the tuition in a convenient location within the diocese. To indicate your interest please contact Julie at <u>Julie.kavanagh@kandle.ie</u> or 059 9164084.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

What I lost through prayer Once a man was asked, 'What did you gain by praying regularly to God?' The man replied, 'Nothing' but let me tell you what I lost: anger, ego, greed, depression, insecurity and fear of death.' Sometimes the answer to our prayers is not gaining but losing; which ultimately is the gain.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK