PARISH NEWS

Second Sunday of Lent

21st February 2016

'Called to transformation'

Jesus takes the disciples up to the mountain top in today's Gospel. In that space, they have a profound and are invited to see Jesus for who He really is. One can empathise with the disciples in this story as they do not want to leave that space. We all have had experiences that we want to last forever and are hugely disappointed when they are over. However, commitment to any cause very often involves a long and painful journey. Like the disciples in the Gospel today, there is a hook 'moment', when Jesus or any leader shows us something that is so wonderful and hope-filled that we commit there and then to making it happen. Then we realise that there is much work to be done and the path will not be so easy. Obstacles will arise, people will fall away, enthusiasm will waver, there will be set backs and disappointments. We are being called to commitment today, to the more difficult path. We are being called to open our ears and eyes to the Gospel message of transfiguration, of transformation. Per capita, Ireland is one of the highest polluters in Europe. This is not a statistic to be proud of. We know we can do better. Coming down from the mountain, like the disciples, means making changes in our lifestyles that lower each of our carbon footprints. We start with ourselves.

'We require a new and universal solidarity....All of us can cooperate as instruments of God for the care of creation, each according to his or her own cultures, experience, involvements and talents.'

Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 14

Collections: 14th Feb Envelopes €495 Baskets €508

No of Envelopes 76 Direct Debits 4

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

Mass Schedule: Mass 7.30pm Mon 22nd & Fri 26th Feb

Mass at 9am Tues 23rd Feb – Thurs 25th Feb

Masses during Lent will be at 7.30pm on Mondays & Fridays and at 9.00am from Tuesday to Thursday. There are many positive ways of marking Lent as special. Some possible ways are:

- For those who travel to work, to make the effort to get up half an hour earlier to attend Mass
- ❖ For those who are retired or unemployed, to make an effort and make a daily visit to the Blessed Sacrament
- For families, to say the Rosary together daily or even a decade a day.

Catholicism Journey Around the World and Deep into the Faith - Join us every **Monday** night during Lent for this incredible Journey on DVD in the Sacred Heart Church, Borris after the 7.30pm Mass.

Parish Centre: The Parish Centre is open as usual Mon. – Fri. from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm.

Phone 059 9773128; email <u>borrisparish@gmail.com</u> Closed Bank Holidays. **Borris Parish Website:** www.borrisparish.ie **Diocesan Website:** www.kandle.ie

Sister Anne Carr of the **Medical Missionaries of Mary** will speak at the weekend Masses of **5**th/**6**th **March** in this parish as part of the Mission Awareness Programme.

Scoil Náisiúnta Naomh Pádraig, Ballymurphy will be having an **Open Afternoon** from 3pm to 5pm on Wednesday **24**th February. If you are interested in enrolling your child for September, please call in for a visit, see the facilities and meet the teachers. Enrolment forms are available from the school.

For further info please contact 059 9773512 or ballymurphynationalschool@gmail.com.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje y Dubrovnik from the 14th. September – 21st. September.

4 nights Medjugorje and 3 nights Dubrovnik. Price €995 (Incl. all airport taxes and charges)

Price includes: Coach from Borris - Dublin Airport & return

Return flight from Dublin to Dubrovnik - depart Dublin 14 September at 07.30hrs, arrive Dubrovnik at 11.45hrs. Return 21st September depart Dubrovnik at 12.30hrs, arrive Dublin at 15.00hrs.

All transfers – return airport transfers and transfer between Medjugorje and

Dubrovnik Four nights half-board guesthouse accommodation in Medjugorje close to St James's

Three nights BB in the 4 star hotel Neptun in Dubrovnik in standard rooms
City guided tour of Dubrovnik - Elaphite island cruise excursion - Full religious programme in Medjugorje

In 2009 we did this pilgrimage with a group form the Parish and those who travelled thoroughly enjoyed it. Being the extraordinary year of Mercy we decided to repeat this. If you are interested you would need to get your name in with Tully's Travel in Carlow, as soon as possible. We need about 20 people to make it feasible.

Further information from Fr. John or Ann in the Parish office or Donna (059-9136100) in Tully's Travel Carlow.

St. Patrick's N.S, Ballymurphy are delighted to announce that our school were the winners of the 1st Local Round, Under 11,

Credit Union Quiz that took place 30th January in Goresbridge. The winning team members were: Aislinn Joyce, Thomas Malone, Orla Ryan and Amy Murphy. Well done to you all and good luck in the Regional Round 2!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

How do you join the fight for justice?

When you support Trócaire, you are not just giving. You are directly helping struggling communities in their fight for justice.

From Pope Francis' Lenten Message 2016:

God's mercy transforms human hearts; it enables us, through the experience of a faithful love, to become merciful in turn. In an ever new miracle, divine mercy shines forth in our lives, inspiring each of us to love our neighbour and to devote ourselves to what the Church's tradition calls the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. These works remind us that faith finds expression in concrete everyday actions meant to help our neighbours in body and spirit: by feeding, visiting, comforting and instructing them. On such things will we be judged...Let us not waste this season of Lent, so favourable a time for conversion!

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK