

PARISH NEWS

Fourth Sunday of Easter

22nd April 2018

The Good Shepherd

In Jesus' time, being a shepherd was not a pleasant job. Sheep became easily lost and the shepherd's job was to guide them back to safety. There were many dangers and the sheep were totally dependent on the shepherd. Shepherds would round up their sheep in the evening and guide them into their pen. But it had no gate so the shepherd would have to lie across the space in case the sheep were attacked in the night. The shepherds literally laid down their lives for their flock. John compares the sacrifice of the shepherd to the 'hired hand' who is not really committed to the flock. He does what he has to but flees at the first sign of trouble.

This Good Shepherd Sunday, the gospel describes Jesus as the 'genuine' shepherd who wants a personal relationship with each one of us and who would lay down his life for us. The gospel emphasises the importance of relationship as the shepherd knows his flock and cares for them. They 'follow him' and it is not a Facebook or Twitter type of following, rather it is a *genuine* relationship. Everyone matters to the Good Shepherd, regardless of their situations. We are told '*I know my own and my own know me*'. We are called today to follow Jesus in a more personal, more intimate way. Even when we stray off the path and get lost, it is then – especially – that the Good Shepherd comes looking for us.

'We think we are fleeing from God, but in fact we are running into his arms.'

Meister Eckhart

Collections: 15th Apr Envelopes €827 Baskets €628
No of Envelopes 67 Direct Debits 5

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

Mass Schedule; Mass on Monday 23rd April & Friday 27th April 7.30pm
Mass Tues 17th – Thurs 19th April at 10am
Ballymurphy Servers Sat 21stApr **Group 4**

Dates for the Diary:

- The visit of the Icon of the Holy Family has been extended and it will now be visiting the Diocese between 27th April and 7th May.
- Diocesan Family Fun Day, Carlow College Saturday June 16th, details soon.

Sacred Heart Church 2020 Celebrations

In 2020 our Parish Church in Borris, the Sacred Heart, celebrates its 200th Anniversary. We are looking for ideas on how to celebrate this as a Parish. We would welcome also old photos and stories about the Church which we can integrate into our celebrations. All of these can be emailed to a special email address borris2020@gmail.com

Fr. Rory

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes: The Parish Pilgrimage this year 5 night package starting on **Tuesday 07 August 2018**. The cost would be EUR 755.00 per person sharing a twin / double room and EUR 155.00 for the single room supplement. **For booking forms please call to the Parish Centre.**

The cost would include the following;

Transport & Accommodation

- Flight from Dublin to Lourdes
- Transfer on arrival from the airport to the hotel with guide assistance
- Accommodation in the Hotel Paradis
- Breakfast, lunch and evening meal served each day at hotel
- Transfer to Lourdes Airport for return flight
- Luxury air-conditioned coach for all transfers and tours

Tours & Religious Programme

- Introductory tour of the Grotto Domain, visiting the Grotto, Baths, Basilicas and the Stations of the Cross
- Guided walking tour of Lourdes visiting places associated with the life of St. Bernadette
- Religious processions in Lourdes led by Spiritual Director: Blessing of the Sick, Blessed Sacrament and Torchlight Marian Procession
- Full services of guides and representatives throughout the pilgrimage and at airports

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.

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

Solemn Novena of Our Lady of Perpetual Help:- Our 13th Solemn Novena continues on this Monday 16th April. We invite people to place their petitions in the petition boxes in St Clare's Church, Graiguecullen. During our Novena, through the prayers of our Faith Community and the intercession of Our Lady we will ask Jesus to relieve whatever burdens we carry.

The theme for this year's Novena is 'Witnessing the message of Jesus in the Ireland of Today'

Our guest speaker this week is:- Mgr Eoin Thynne - Parish priest Mulhuddart, Dublin & former Army Chaplain (25 years)

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The Three Tenors-In Concert

Borris Church

Saturday 12th May 8.30pm

Ireland's Greatest Voices with Star Violinist

An Evening of Popular Classic Hits

from Sinatra, The Dubliners, Pavarotti & Spiritual Favourites!

Tickets €25

Available from The Parish Centre, Borris, O'Sheas Centra Borris, Brophy's Shop Borris, The Little Shop Bagenalstown & Doran's Supervalu Graiguenamanagh.

This is a Fundraiser for Borris Church

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK

