

# PARISH NEWS

*4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent*  
**22<sup>nd</sup> December 2019**

*Joseph the dreamer*

Pope Francis has spoken on several occasions about his devotion to St Joseph. St Joseph is his favourite saint, he says, because he shows us how God reveals his plan to us in our times of silence and rest. He keeps a statue of a sleeping St Joseph on his desk, placing prayer requests under it.

Speaking on a trip to the Philippines in 2015, he said: 'I have great love for Saint Joseph, because he is a man of silence and strength ... Joseph's rest revealed God's will to him. In this moment of rest in the Lord, as we pause from our many daily obligations and activities, God is also speaking to us. But like St Joseph, once we have heard God's voice, we must rise from our slumber; we must get up and act.'

Today's Gospel recalls the central role played by St Joseph in the story of the birth of Jesus. A man of honour from the outset, the goodness of his character is further highlighted by his response to God's voice. When he wakes up after hearing God's instructions in a dream, he immediately acts on it and takes Mary into his home. His openness to God's will is a crucial element in the story that follows: his partnership with and support of Mary, the birth of Jesus, his care for the child 'who is to save his people'.

Christmas is very near now, and we are busy and preoccupied with our preparations. A good time, perhaps, to pause in silence, to rest with God, and to listen to what he might have to say to us.

## **Collections:**

15<sup>th</sup> December

Envelopes €615      Baskets €830

No of Envelopes    68

Direct Debits    3

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

## **Mass Schedule:**

Mass on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30pm

**See Christmas Schedule also**

**Visiting the Sick:** Fr. Rory will visit the sick on his list for Christmas on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December** in the Ballymurphy & Rathanna areas and on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December** in the Borris area.

**Safeguarding:** If you are concerned about the welfare & safety of children or vulnerable adults contact the **Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) – Mr. Mick Daly** Mob: 085-8021633, email – [dlp@kandle.ie](mailto:dlp@kandle.ie)

**Borris Parish Website:** [www.borrisparish.ie](http://www.borrisparish.ie)

**Diocesan Website:** [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)

**Parish Centre:** Mon/Wed/Fri 9.30 – 12.30, Tues & Thurs 1pm – 4pm

Phone 059 9773128; email [borrisparish@gmail.com](mailto:borrisparish@gmail.com)    Closed Bank Holidays.

## ***Borris Parish Christmas Schedule***

**Rathanna & Killedmond Ecumenical Carol Service** will take place in Killedmond Church on Thurs. 19<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm

### ***Confessions/Reconciliation Service***

***Penitential Service:*** Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019 Sacred Heart Church Borris at 7.30pm

***Confessions:*** Sacred Heart Church Borris Sat. 21<sup>st</sup> December 11.30am – 12 noon

Sacred Heart Church Borris Christmas Eve 24<sup>th</sup> December 11.30am – 12 noon

***Mass Times:*** No morning mass on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve

***Christmas Eve Vigil Mass Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm Sacred Heart Church, Borris***

***Christmas Day***      ***Rathanna 9.30am***  
                                 ***Ballymurphy 9.30am***  
                                 ***Borris 11am***

NO Mass St. Stephen's Day 26<sup>th</sup> December

Mass on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> in Borris at 7.30pm Sacred Heart Church, Borris

Weekend Masses as normal

***NO MASS in Borris on 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> December and 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> January***

Mass on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 27<sup>th</sup> in Borris at 7.30pm Sacred Heart Church, Borris

Weekend Masses as normal

***Vigil Mass on Sunday evening in Ballymurphy at 7.30pm for the***

***Feast of the Epiphany on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January: Holy Day Masses Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 9.30am***

***Rathanna & 11am Borris***

No Mass on Monday evening 6<sup>th</sup> January.

### ***THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK***

#### ***Child in a Manger***

Child of the earth, struggling to birth.  
Child of the manger, surrounded by danger.  
Child of the stable, without hearth or table.  
Child of the hay, there he must stay.  
Child of the night, hidden from sight.  
Child of the day, for those gone astray.  
Child of the cold, for the young and the old.  
Child of the stars, for those behind bars.  
Child of the wind, for those who have sinned.  
Child of the hills, walk with us still.  
Child of the sky, for those who must cry.  
Child of the road, to carry our load.  
Child of the street, who washes our feet.

Lord,

Bless the children born tonight  
and all those waiting to be born  
in difficult and trying circumstances.

Fr. Michael Maginn

***A Very Happy Christmas to All Our Parishioners***  
***& Sincere Thanks for all your prayers, help and support throughout the year***  
***Fr. Rory***



