

PARISH NEWS

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time *Day of Prayer for Temperance*

23rd February 2020

The power of forgiveness 'I bear no ill will. I bear no grudge. Dirty sort of talk is not going to bring her back to life. She's in heaven and we shall meet again. I will pray for these men tonight and every night.' These words of Gordon Wilson echoed across the world in 1987, just hours after his 20-year-old daughter Marie was killed in an IRA bomb in Enniskillen. Very few words in the history of the Northern Ireland conflict had such a powerful impact. His extraordinary capacity to forgive the people who had caused him so much pain helped to move along the slow process.'

Gordon Wilson was the personification of the words of Jesus: 'love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.' It is one of the most difficult and challenging passages in the Gospels; one commentator calls it 'Jesus' most unreasonable command.' Living under oppressive Roman rule, with torture and murder not uncommon, the disciples knew what it was to hate their enemies. As we read and listen to the news today, the cruelty of people continues to astound and upset us. But Jesus reminds us that everyone is human. All are children of God, who 'causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good.' While we clearly don't accept or excuse the terror and evil in the world, we cannot dehumanise those who carry out despicable actions. It is much easier said than done, but we must strive to meet hatred with love. With God, there is always forgiveness; there is always hope.

'Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.'

Martin Luther King Jr

Collections:

16th February
No of Envelopes 68 Envelopes €559 Baskets €821
Direct Debits 4
Our thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish

Mass Schedule:

Mass on Monday 24th & Friday 28th February at 7.30pm
Mass Tuesday 25th & Thursday 27th at 10.00 am

ASH WEDNESDAY 26th FEB. MASSES

Ballymurphy 9am – Rathanna 10.30am – Borris 7.30pm (This is also a Confirmation Preparation Mass)

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

Borris Parish Website: www.borrisparish.ie **Diocesan Website:** www.kandle.ie
Parish Centre: Mon/Wed/Fri 9.30 – 12.30, Tues & Thurs 1pm – 4pm
Phone 059 9773128; email borrisparish@gmail.com Closed Bank Holidays.

Dates for your Diary

CONFIRMATION BORRIS SATURDAY 25TH APRIL AT 11AM BORRIS CHURCH

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION BALLYMURPHY SATURDAY 16TH MAY 12 NOON

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION BORRIS SATURDAY 23RD MAY 11AM

Carlow Family Support Group - You Are Not Alone

Drugs and Alcohol abuse effects families regardless of status in life. You did not cause it, you can't control it and you can't cure it. Help is available for those who live with this dreadful disease call 085 7872730.

Carlow COPD Support Group

Weekly exercise sessions resume Wednesday 19th February 12 – 1pm in O'Hanrahans GFC, Dublin Rd., Carlow. For more information contact Anna Corcoran 086-3794613

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"In winter's cold and sparkling snow,
The garden in my mind does grow.
I look outside to blinding white,
And see my tulips blooming bright.
And over there a sweet carnation,
Softly scents my imagination.

On this cold and freezing day,
The Russian sage does gently sway,
And miniature roses perfume the air,
I can see them blooming there.
Though days are short, my vision's clear.
And through the snow, the buds appear.

In my mind, clematis climbs,
And morning glories do entwine.
Woodland phlox and scarlet pinks,
Replace the frost, if I just blink.
My inner eye sees past the snow.
And in my mind, my garden grows."
- Cynthia Adams, *Winter Garden*.

Have a Wonderful Week

