

# PARISH NEWS

## Third Sunday of Lent

24<sup>th</sup> March 2019

**'It may bear fruit next year'**

Today's Gospel brings a thorny question for Jesus, as the people ask why a number of Galileans were killed by the Romans as they made sacrifices to God. The basic question is why do bad things happen to certain people? Some Jewish leaders at the time viewed the Galileans as second-class Jews, and so they are raising more than a question about meaningless suffering here. They want to know if the Galileans suffered because they were not really 'Jewish enough.' Jesus responds with a sharp question about a recent tragedy involving those killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them. Were they worse offenders than others in Jerusalem? No. Jesus responds further by focusing on those who are still living. In the parable of the fig tree we hear that the tree is not producing any fruit and probably should be cut down. However, the owner of the vineyard agrees to one more year, during which it is given special attention.

Jesus' response to the difficult question on suffering is to focus on the living. We are still alive and therefore should be producing much fruit. Perhaps those who are questioning Jesus need, like the fig tree, much fertiliser, nourishment and growth so that they can focus on producing fruit for the world. The fig tree is blessed, and has received much grace in terms of time and care. The parable is a reminder to all of us of the nourishment and time we have been given; it is a call to examine the fruits that we produce in this world, in our communities, our families and in our church.

**Collections:** 17<sup>th</sup> March Envelopes €482 Baskets €900  
No of Envelopes 62 Direct Debits 3  
Our thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish

### Mass Schedule

Mass on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> & Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019  
Mass on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Mar. at 10am  
No Mass on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March

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

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

### Parish Centre:

**New** Opening hours from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
1.00pm to 4.00pm Tuesday & Thursday

Phone 059 9773128; email [borrisparish@gmail.com](mailto: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) – Mr. Mick Daly** Mob: 085-8021633, e-mail – [dlp@kandle.ie](mailto:dlp@kandle.ie)

**The Eist Cancer Support Centre** provides emotional support and practical help to anyone affected by cancer, their families and friends. The centre is currently running a variety of programmes including nutrition and mindfulness - please contact Eist at the Waterfront, Mill Lane, Carlow on 059 9139684 for further details.

Also the Women's Breast Cancer Support Group is held at the Centre every 2nd Tuesday from 7.30 - 9 pm. (12th and 26th March, 9th April).

**Eist Cancer Support Centre**, in conjunction with Brain Tumour Ireland, are hosting a Brain Tumour Support Group on Tuesday 2nd April 2019 from 7 to 9 pm. in their Centre at The Waterfront, Mill Lane, Carlow. This Support Group is for those diagnosed with a Brain Tumour and their families. For further details please call Eist on 059 9139684.

**Towards Peace** : Towards Peace is a service offering spiritual support to those who have experienced abuse perpetrated by Church personnel, individually or institutionally. The vision of Towards Peace is to provide a safe supportive space for people and their families, whose spiritual life has been damaged by abuse. It is also a response to the continually growing understanding of the spiritual impact of the trauma of abuse. Towards Peace provides spiritual support through one-to-one spiritual direction sessions, with a qualified spiritual companion.

If you have been abused and would like a space to reflect on the impact of the trauma of abuse on your own relationship with God and spirituality, Towards Peace is here for you.

[www.towardspeace.ie](http://www.towardspeace.ie) Tel: 01 505 3028. Mobile: 086 7710533 Up to twelve sessions are available and there is no fee.

### **An Spioraid Naoimh Praying Community**

Praise and Worship Meeting for all Prayer Groups and Friends

Venue: Parish Center St. Peter and Paul's Church Portlaoise

Date: Saturday 30th March 2019

Start Time: 10:40am immediately after 10.00am Mass. Ends @ 12.15pm

Spiritual Director Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill

Contact Michael Nerney for Details 086-8157305

## *THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*

### **Worth Repeating!**

1. Two peanuts walk into a bar. One was a salted.
2. A jumper cable walks into a bar. The barman says "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."
3. A sandwich walks into a bar. The barman says, "Sorry we don't serve food in here."
4. A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm and says: "A beer please, and one for the road."
5. Two aerials meet on a roof, fall in love get married. The ceremony wasn't much but the reception was brilliant.
6. Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other: "Does this taste funny to you?"
7. "Doc, I can't stop singing 'The green, green grass of home.'" That sounds like Tom Jones syndrome."
8. Two hydrogen atoms walk into a bar. One says, "I've lost my electron." The other says, "Are you sure?" The first replies, "Yes, I'm positive..."
9. Deja Moo: The feeling that you've heard this bullsh#t before.
10. I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day but I couldn't find any.
11. I went to the butchers the other day and I bet him 50 quid that he couldn't reach the meat off the top shelf. He said, 'no, the steaks are too high.'
12. I went to a seafood disco restaurant last week.... and pulled a mussel.
13. Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly; but when they lit a fire in the craft, it sank, proving once and for all that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.
14. With all the sadness and trauma going on in the world at the moment, it is worth reflecting on the death of a very important person which almost went unnoticed last week. Larry La Prise, the man who wrote "The Hokey Pokey" died peacefully at age 93. The most traumatic part for his family was getting him into the coffin. They put his left leg in.....and then the trouble started.

*HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK*