

PARISH NEWS

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

26th July 2015

'Spiritual Fast Food'

There are many things to reflect on in today's Gospel. It is rich in symbolism and you can imagine yourself in the many different characters of the text today. The people who had gathered were hungry in every sense of the word and Jesus and the disciples are faced with a huge dilemma.

When we are faced with a huge challenge, our attitude towards it is key. Some of us are like Philip, stating the facts but unable to see a way out of the situation. Some are like Andrew, who sees the young boy with the small amount of provisions he had, yet he is unable to see how they may be of use. Sometimes we can be the people sitting, hungry, in poverty (physical or spiritual) waiting for someone to come and show us the way.

Have you ever wondered about this young boy? He handed over the little he had, perhaps confused yet hoping it would do something to help the situation they were in. It is a powerful gesture and one that reminds us that it is not the size of the gifts or the expectation of return that is important. How must he have felt when he saw the events unfold? Jesus satisfies the deep hunger within and shows the crowd that he is someone to hope in. We must never think that our small resources and gifts are not enough to do amazing things.

Collections: 19th July Envelopes €488 Baskets €564

No of Envelopes 67 Direct Debits 4

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

Mass Schedule: Mass at 7.30pm on Mon 27th & Fri 31st July
Mass at 9am Tues 28th - Thurs 30th July

Parish Centre: The Parish Centre will be closed for annual holidays from Monday 27th July to Friday 7th August Incl. Back open on Monday 10th August.

Phone 059 9773128; email borrisparish@gmail.com Closed Bank Holidays

Borris Parish Website : www.borrisparish.ie

Diocesan website www.kandle.ie

Youth 2000 Summer Festival, Cistercian College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary from Thursday 13th – Sunday 16th August 2015. For young people aged 16-35, this is a great opportunity to find out what your Catholic faith is all about in a friendly, chilled out atmosphere. The festival is donation only. Free buses available from all around Ireland. For more info and to book online, see www.youth2000.ie or phone [01 6753690](tel:016753690)

Borris Garda Station will remain closed until August this year - date to be confirmed - as further work is being carried out. Existing arrangements where a Garda is available in Borris Library on Wednesdays between 4pm and 5pm will remain in place until then.

You can still phone Borris Gardaí at 059-9773102, it is diverted to a mobile number, or you can phone Bagenalstown Gardaí at 059-9721212

Graveyard Patterns this Summer

Rathanna Graveyard Sunday 2nd August at 3pm
Ballymurphy Graveyard Sunday 30th August at 3pm

Pre-Marriage Courses : Accord Carlow are currently taking booking for the following courses Sept 11th & 12th Oct 9th & 10th, Nov 6th & 7th. Booking can be made on line at www.accord.ie Or phone Mary at 059 9138738 for further information.

The Eist Cancer Support Centre, The Waterfront, Mill Lane, Carlow provides practical help and emotional support to anyone affected by cancer in County Carlow and the surrounding areas opens Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.30am to 4.30pm. You are free to contact us at 059-9139684 or drop-in during our opening hours. Website: www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

INTERVIEW WITH GOD

I dreamed I had an interview with God. "Come in," God said. "So, you would like to interview Me?" "If you have the time," I said. God smiled and said: "My time is eternity and is enough to do everything; what questions do you have in mind to ask me?"

"What surprises you most about mankind?"

God answered:

- < "That they get bored of being children, are in a rush to grow up, and then long to be children again.
- < That they lose their health to make money and then lose their money to restore their health.
- < That by thinking anxiously about the future, they forget the present, such that they live neither for the present nor the future.
- < That they live as if they will never die, and they die as if they had never lived..."

God's hands took mine and we were silent for a while and then I asked...

"As a parent, what are some of life's lessons you want your children to learn?"

God replied with a smile:

- < "To learn that they cannot make anyone love them. What they can do is to let themselves be loved.
- < To learn that what is most valuable is not what they have in their lives, but who they have in their lives.
- < To learn that it is not good to compare themselves to others. All will be judged individually on their own merits, not as a group on a comparison basis!
- < To learn that a rich person is not the one who has the most, but is one who needs the least.
- < To learn that it only takes a few seconds to open profound wounds in persons we love, and that it takes many years to heal them.
- < To learn to forgive by practising forgiveness.
- < To learn that there are people that love them dearly, but simply do not know how to express or show their feelings.
- < To learn that money can buy everything but happiness.
- < To learn that two people can look at the same thing and see it totally differently.
- < To learn that a true friend is someone who knows everything about them and likes them anyway.
- < To learn that it is not always enough that they be forgiven by others, but that they have to forgive themselves."
- <

I sat there for a while enjoying the moment. I thanked Him for his time and for all that He has done for my family, and me. He replied, "Anytime. I'm here 24 hours a day. All you have to do is ask for me, and I'll answer."

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK