

PARISH NEWS

Third Sunday of Lent

28th February 2016

'Bear Fruit'

The people in the Gospel today are wondering if the Galileans who were killed by Pilate had died because they deserved to. We can empathise with them as we know too well of accidents and tragedies of all kinds where we might ask the same question. Jesus insists that they have not done anything wrong. Their sudden death challenges those still alive to live to the full and to bear much fruit because life can end suddenly, life is fragile, no one is indestructible.

Climate Change affects us all. Climate injustice occurs when people who have done little or nothing to cause climate change are suffering the most from its effects. It is the greatest injustice of our time as it is the world's poorest countries who suffer the most from the changes in our weather systems. In Ireland we recall the devastating storms of 2013 which caused so much destruction along our West Coast. We have the resources to cope, for now. In countries like Kenya and Malawi, these resources are simple not there and the effects of storms and droughts are catastrophic. Let us pray today that we hear the call of the Gospel to bear fruit, not to be inactive, not to be complacent when it comes to reducing our carbon footprint. The Galileans died because of Pilate, but the greater 'sin' here becomes inactivity.

'Common destiny beckons us to seek a new beginning..... Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace.'

Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 14

Collections: 21st Feb Envelopes €425 Baskets €561
No of Envelopes 53 Direct Debits 5

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

Mass Schedule: Mass 7.30pm Mon 29th & Fri 4th Mar
Mass at 9am Tues 1st Mar - Thurs 3rd Mar

Masses during Lent will be at 7.30pm on Mondays & Fridays and at 9.00am from Tuesday to Thursday.

There are many positive ways of marking Lent as special. Some possible ways are:

- ❖ For those who travel to work, to make the effort to get up half an hour earlier to attend Mass
- ❖ For those who are retired or unemployed, to make an effort and make a daily visit to the Blessed Sacrament
- ❖ For families, to say the Rosary together daily or even a decade a day.

Catholicism Journey Around the World and Deep into the Faith - Join us every **Monday** night during Lent for this incredible Journey on DVD in the Sacred Heart Church, Borris after the 7.30pm Mass.

Parish Centre: The Parish Centre is open as usual Mon. – Fri. from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm.
Phone 059 9773128; email borrisparish@gmail.com Closed Bank Holidays.

Borris Parish Website : www.borrisparish.ie **Diocesan Website:** www.kandle.ie

Sister Anne Carr of the **Medical Missionaries of Mary** will speak at the weekend Masses of **5th/6th March** in this parish as part of the Mission Awareness Programme.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje y Dubrovnik from the 14th. September – 21st. September.

4 nights Medjugorje and 3 nights Dubrovnik.

Price €995 (Incl. all airport taxes and charges)

Price includes: Coach from Borris - Dublin Airport & return

Return flight from Dublin to Dubrovnik - depart Dublin 14 September at 07.30hrs, arrive Dubrovnik at 11.45hrs. Return 21st September depart Dubrovnik at 12.30hrs, arrive Dublin at 15.00hrs.

· All transfers – return airport transfers and transfer between Medjugorje and Dubrovnik Four nights half-board guesthouse accommodation in Medjugorje close to St James's church

· Three nights BB in the 4 star hotel Neptun in Dubrovnik in standard rooms
City guided tour of Dubrovnik - Elaphite island cruise excursion - Full religious programme in Medjugorje

In 2009 we did this pilgrimage with a group from the Parish and those who travelled thoroughly enjoyed it. Being the extraordinary year of Mercy we decided to repeat this. If you are interested you would need to get your name in with Tully's Travel in Carlow, as soon as possible. We need about 20 people to make it feasible.

Further information from Fr. John or Ann in the Parish office or Donna (059-9136100) in Tully's Travel Carlow.

On Friday **26th February** a conference titled: 'Under the Protection of the Most High God' will take place in Carlow College, St. Patricks from 9.30am until 5pm to examine Ethical and Theological Perspectives on the 1916 Rising. This conference will present talks and lectures by:

- Professor Eunan O'Halpin, Bank of Ireland Professor of Contemporary Irish History, Trinity College Dublin
- Pdraig Ó Snodaigh, Irish language activist, poet, writer and publisher
- Dr Thomas J. Morrissey SJ
- Dr John Scally, Theology Lecturer, Trinity College Dublin
- and a keynote address by *Francis Campbell, Vice-Chancellor, St. Mary's University, London.*

Admission is free and open to all. For further information contact Dr Debra Snoddy at dsnoddy@carlowcollege.ie.

"...Do your utmost to support your faith with goodness, goodness with understanding..." 2 Peter 1:5. This year's Trócaire Box features supporters from Ireland who are doing extraordinary things in the pursuit of justice and a fairer world. They cannot ignore poverty and they want to make a difference in whatever way they can. When you support Trócaire you are not just giving, you are joining the fight for justice. Find out how to help at trocaire.org/lent

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

In these day of Lent, it is worth reminding ourselves of how, in the words of Rom 5:5, 'God's love has been poured into our hearts.' Pope Francis expands on this in his recent encyclical when he says: 'In short, the mercy of God is not an abstract idea, but a concrete reality with which he reveals his love as of that of a father or a mother, moved to the very depths out of love for their child. It is hardly an exaggeration to say that this is a 'visceral' love. It gushes forth from the depths naturally, full of tenderness and compassion, indulgence and mercy. (Misericordiae Vultus,6)

*Salvador Ryan
St. Patrick's College, Maynooth*

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK