

PARISH NEWS

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

28th October 2018

Who is blind?

Who is blind in today's gospel? The obvious answer, of course, is the blind man! Bartimaeus is blind and desperate. He has not been blind all his life, so he knows about the wonderful gift of sight he is now missing. His faith is strong, and his courage is stronger still; no matter how much he is scolded and silenced, he calls to Jesus all the louder. Though he is physically blind, he sees plenty.

Who sees Bartimaeus? Certainly not the followers of Jesus. They do not think of Bartimaeus as someone worthy of meeting Jesus. To the extent that they think about him at all, he is an irritation, a poor beggar to look down on, hardly a person. They are utterly blind to his needs.

I'm struck by the irony of the crowds summoning Bartimaeus with the word 'Courage'. He has already shown tremendous courage. Minutes previously Jesus' followers had been content to pass him by and silence his cries for help, but their master has given an order and they must obey. How they must have squirmed, calling him over.

The blind man sees Jesus, and Jesus sees the blind man. Everyone else is blind to both of them. Everyone else fades into the background of the story, just as Bartimaeus was pushed to the back of the crowds. Perhaps it is time for an eyesight test. Do we see Jesus for who he really is? Do we pay attention to those around us, or are we blind to their needs? Do we hear the cry of the poor, or are we complicit in silencing them?

Collections: 21st October Envelopes €1446 Baskets €669
No of Envelopes 88 Direct Debits 3
Our thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish

Mass Schedule;

No Mass Monday 29th Oct. at 7.30pm & Tues 30th at 10am

No Morning Mass on Wed 31st Oct. in Borris – Vigil Mass for All Saints Day on Wednesday evening at 7.30pm in Ballymurphy

Thursday 1st November **All Saints Day** - Mass at 9.30am in Rathanna & Mass at 11am in Borris
Mass on Friday 2nd Nov. at 7.30pm

Borris Parish Website: www.borrisparish.ie

Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie

Parish Centre: Opening hours from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Monday - Friday

Phone 059 9773128; email 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) – Ms. Joan Treacy** Mob: 085-8021633, e-mail – dlp@kandle.ie

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2019

CONFIRMATION BORRIS SATURDAY 6TH APRIL

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION BORRIS SATURDAY 18TH MAY

Visiting the Sick Fr. Rory will visit the sick on his list on Thursday 1st November in the Ballymurphy & Rathanna areas and on Friday 2nd November in the Borris area.

The Miscarriage Association of Ireland will hold its Annual Service of Remembrance on Sunday the 11th of November 2018 at 3pm in St Teresa's Church, Donore Avenue, off South Circular Road, Dublin 8. All parents, siblings, grandparents & anyone else affected by the loss of a baby are very welcome to attend, regardless of whether the loss was recent or long ago.

This year The **Alzheimer Society of Ireland's** Memory Ribbon National Collection Day will take place on Thursday 22nd November and we are seeking your help! We need volunteers to sell our Memory Ribbons pins in villages and towns across Ireland. Every donation you collect will go directly towards funding vital services based in the heart of local communities in every county in Ireland.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? Simply call Jarlath on the fundraising team on 012073826 or visit our website to register as a volunteer <http://www.alzheimer.ie/Get-Involved/Fundraising/Alzheimer-s-Memory-Ribbon.aspx>

Presentation School Band Carlow – 50th Anniversary Celebrations

The band (or Sr Anna's band to many) celebrates a milestone this year and will hold a concert in the Seven Oaks Hotel on Thursday November 9th at 7.30pm. There will be performances on the night from Fr Liam Lawton, Aspiro, Carlow Youth Orchestra, Reelig, Reelog and Scoil Mhuire Gan Smal as well as the current Band. Senator Jennifer Murnane O'Connor will be MC on the night. All are welcome to enjoy the wonderful musical talent. Tickets are €10 each and available from Carlow Cathedral Parish Centre, Askea Parish Centre, Graiguecullen Parish Centre, Seven Oaks Hotel and all band members.

YEARLY ENVELOPES – THOSE WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED A BOX OF ENVELOPES AND WISH TO HAVE ONE MAY CALL IN TO THE PARISH CENTRE AT THE USUAL OPENING TIMES

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Harvest Thanksgiving

*A cascade of cabbage and carrot,
A kaleidoscope of curly kale,
A trumpeting of tubers and a bursting of sprouts,
A partnership of parsnip, celery and mushroom,
A blush of beetroot in a line-up of leeks,
A winsome onion and a scintillating cucumber,
A broccoli-crowned turnip nudging a cauliflower,
All pressing around an incongruously exotic pineapple.
Harvest is a time for the giving of glory,
Fruit of the earth and work of human hands.
Gathered and gatherers sing the Giver's praises
In the gentle glory of an October evening.*



HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK