

PARISH NEWS

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
28th September 2014

More debacles....

The 'Homeless Jesus' statue was sculpted by Timothy Schmalz (sculpturebytps.com), to bring attention to the chronic problem of homelessness in Toronto and depicts a homeless person on a bench, covered in a blanket. On closer inspection there is a noticeable characteristic, the person bears wounds of crucifixion. This is Jesus, the homeless wandering preacher. One particular parish were initially enthusiastic in having the sculpture outside their doors but after some reflection decided against it. Parishioners found it 'offensive'; 'provocative' and 'not an appropriate image'. One lady even called the police! What a debacle?! The 'Homeless Jesus' statue eventually found a home; a place where Christians were not afraid to acknowledge Jesus in the most marginalised. The work is now considered to be a meditation on Mathew 25.

Today's parable reminded me of that story. The parable is a simple tale about two brothers, one who eventually shows through his actions that he has heard a message, the other who does not. The chief priests listening to the parable are forced to admit that it is the first brother who has acted correctly. However, they are behaving more like the second.

It is almost comical listening to Jesus say: 'the tax collectors and prostitutes are going into the Kingdom ahead of you'. Some people just don't get it.

'I have long since come to believe that people never mean half of what they say, and that it is best to disregard their talk and judge only their actions.'
Dorothy Day

Collections: 21st Sept 2014 Envelopes €497 Baskets €570

No. Of Envelopes Returned 51 Direct Debits 5

€123 was collected at the offertory collection at the Sunday Mass on the Pilgrimage, which will be added to the Parish Collections

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

Mass Schedule : Mass at 7.30pm on Mon 29th Sept. & Fri. 3rd Oct.
Mass at 9am Tues 30th Sept. to Thurs 2nd Oct (incl.)

Visitation of the Sick Fr. John will visit the sick on his list on Tues 14th Oct. in the Rathanna & Ballymurphy areas and in the Borris area on Wednesday 15th Oct.

Parish Donation Envelope Boxes We would be very grateful if the people who distribute these boxes would be able to call to the Parish Centre to collect their usual number for collection.

Borris Parish Website : www.borrisparish.ie

Diocesan website www.kandle.ie

Eist Cancer Support Centre - Eist Cancer Support Centre, The Waterfront, Mill Lane, Carlow, opens Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 10.00a.m. to 4.00p.m. The Centre operates a drop in service during these times. www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie Visit us on facebook
Autumn Schedule now up and running: Yoga each Wednesday at 11.30a.m. Pottery each Thursday at 10.30a.m. New Members Welcome.

Our 15 week walking programme "Strides for Life" continues each Thursday morning in Eire Og GAA Grounds starting at 11.00a.m. New Members Welcome at any time.

Christy Keneally Public Talk Eist Invites the General Public to a talk "Say Yes to Life" with well known author, broadcaster and cancer survivor Christy Keneally in the Seven Oaks Hotel, Carlow on Thurs 23 October at 8.00pm. This free event has been organised as a thank you to the whole community for its ongoing support of the centre. Contact the centre on 059 9139684 for info.

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.
The centre will be closed on Thursday 2nd October

Gathering of Priests & Parish Workers – Our gathering this year will take place in the Osprey Complex, Naas, Co. Kildare on Thursday 2nd October. Should you wish to attend on behalf of the Parish please contact the Parish Centre.

Walk to Mass Sunday 28th September – Solidarity with Suffering Christians in the Middle East
We encourage parishioners to consider walking to Mass this Saturday/Sunday to demonstrate prayerful solidarity with displaced Christians and other minorities in Iraq and in the Middle East. As we walk in safety to and from our Church, we think of the many who live in fear, simply because they are Christian. Check out the video piece on www.icatholic.ie

Parish Pastoral Council A meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council will take place in the Parochial House on **Wednesday Oct 1st at 8.30pm.**

St Clare's Hospitality-Food Kitchen:-we have now located a premises for our new food kitchen where we will serve hot meals to families in need 5 days per week. Some work is needed on the premises to bring it up to health and safety standards. We are looking for volunteers who may be able to help with the renovations. If you are a plasterer, carpenter, electrician or plumber and can give some of your time to volunteer on this project please come to a meeting in the Graiguecullen Parish Centre on Wednesday 1st October at 8pm.

Meeting for Parents of First Communion & Confirmation Children A meeting has been arranged for the parents of First Holy Communion & Confirmation Children on Tuesday 7th October in Borris Mixed National School at 7.30pm. The meeting from 7.30pm – 8.15pm will be for the parents of First Holy Communion children. There will be a break from 8.15pm – 8.30pm and the meeting for the parents of Confirmation children will follow from 8.30pm to 9.30pm

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Pilgrimage to Santiago.

On Monday 32 pilgrims arrived at St. James's church in Santiago de Compostela after walking 120 kilometres from Sarria. It was a wonderful experience for all of us. Among the pilgrims were 2 people from San Diego in USA, one of whom heard about pilgrimage while visiting Borris Parish; 7 who heard about it at a wedding in Borris, 3 sisters and a brother of Fr. John some people from Tullow, Tinryland and Carlow and the rest from the Parish. Monday and Tuesday we attended the pilgrim mass and on both days we saw the liturgy of the swinging of the famous thurible. In both masses we remembered and prayed for all our families, friends and parishioners. On Sunday Fr. John celebrated mass in the open air outside the remains of a sixth century church of St. Irene. Some others joined in the mass. This has been a once in a lifetime experience for all of us.

Deo Gratias. Fr. John

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK