

PARISH NEWS

First Sunday of Advent
29th November 2015

Waiting

Today is the First Sunday of Advent and we begin the season of 'waiting'. The Gospel today has powerful (and perhaps distressing) images of great signs that will appear. For many of us this year we saw lots of signs that Christmas was coming, even as far back as September, which is more distressing than any of the images in the Gospel today. Some people love that feeling of expectancy, of waiting for someone or something to arrive. It can be quite an exciting time or even one of anxiety. Very often we are on high alert during such a time, and often quite creative. We are asked to enter into a season of preparation, to celebrate God in our lives and in our world. It is a season of great joy and of hope and while waiting is not always seen as a good thing, it can be an interesting time of growth. So, what will our preparations be like? In the middle of the crazy, busy days in the run up to Christmas, can we stop and invite God into our hearts and lives once more?

'As with madness we prepare for this festive time of year, as we rush and count the days, Advent passes in a haze, So may our feet take us to places where we will meet You.'

Janet Lees

Collections: 22nd Nov. Envelopes €729 Baskets €506
No of Envelopes 79 Direct Debits 5

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

Mass Schedule: Mass on Mon 30th Nov. & Fri 4th Dec. at 7.30pm
Mass at 9am on Tues 1st Nov. & Wed. 2nd Dec.
No Mass on Thurs. 3rd Dec.

Enrollment Ceremony The enrolment ceremony for the candidates for confirmation will take place on Sunday 29th November at 11am Mass in Borris. This Mass will be celebrated by **His Excellency The Most Rev. Charles John Brown, Papal Nuncio to Ireland.**

November List of the Dead November is the month of the Holy Souls and you will find a blue envelope in your box of envelopes in which to place your list of the Dead and donation for 2014-15. Throughout the coming year a Mass will be offered in each of the churches for the deceased on this List.

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

There are Divine Word Missionaries Christmas Cards and Christmas Mass Bouquets for sale in the Parish Centre.

Parish Finance Committee A meeting of the Parish Finance Committee will take place in the Parochial House on **Monday 30th November** at 8.30pm

Polish Mass Mass will be celebrated in Polish on **Saturday 5th December** in the Sacred Heart Church, Borris at 7.30pm.

Pre- Marriage Courses Any couple wishing to be married in the dioceses of Kildare & Leighlin are required to attend a Pre-Marriage course. The next two courses are on January 8th & 9th 2016 and January 22nd & 23rd 2016. Couples getting married in spring 2016 should now book on line at www.accord.ie or for further information contact Mary 059 9138738

EIST Cancer Support Centre upcoming Events

EIST Candle Walk of Hope Saturday 28th November 4pm starting at St. Mary's Academy Railway Road, Carlow to switching on of Christmas Lights at Potato Market. EIST Celebration of Christmas Variety Concert in Arboretum Garden Centre Leighlinbridge on Friday 11th December at 8pm. For further details please contact the Eist Cancer Support Centre which opens at 10.00 am to 4 pm Monday to Thursday and 10.00 am to 1.00 pm of Fridays. Telephone Number **059 9139684**. Or check out our Facebook page or web site.

Funeral Rites Gathering for Parish Staff & Funeral Directors

Following our survey and series of conversations last year, there will be a gathering for parish staff and funeral directors on Saturday, November 28th in Mount St Anne's, Killenard, Co. Laois from 2:30 - 4:00. The purpose of this gathering will be to bring both funeral directors and parish staff up to date with recommended practices in light of what has emerged through the diocesan wide consultation, to indicate supporting resources that will be available to parishes and funeral directors and to identify with participants any other supports that may be needed.

Parishes are asked to invite their local funeral directors to this meeting and to let FDS know the numbers of those who will attend from the parish (including funeral directors) before Wednesday, November 25th.

Carlow Choral Society celebrates its 50th Anniversary with a special performance of Handel's Messiah by candlelight in Carlow Cathedral on Saturday, 12th December, at 8.00pm. Conducted by Niall Kinsella, with the Irish Choral Sinfonia and soloists, Sandra Oman, Raphaela Mangan, Julian Hubbard and Gyula Nagy. Tickets are €18 / €15 (concessions) and are available on www.eventbrite.ie and on www.carlowchoralsociety.com and from choir members.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

AN ADVENT PRAYER

Lord Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit
upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do
seek quiet places to hear your voice each day.
We who are anxious over many things
look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy
seek the joy of your presence.
We are your people, walking in darkness,
yet seeking the light.
To you we say, 'Come Lord Jesus!'

Henri Nouwen

Maranatha - Come Lord Jesus

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK