

PARISH NEWS

First Sunday of Advent

2nd December 2018

Be prepared

Have you ever heard the story of the ant and the grasshopper? It tells the tale of a grasshopper who has spent the summer singing and so is not prepared when winter comes, whereas the ant has been working hard all summer and has stored up enough food for winter. Like many of Aesop's Fables, it has a stark moral lesson, in this case about the virtue of hard work and being prepared for the future. Of course, Advent is about looking forward to Christmas and our celebration of the birth of Jesus. It is a special time of preparation to welcome him anew into our lives. But today's readings remind us that Advent is also looking ahead to another time, the second and final coming of Jesus at the end of time. 'Advent' comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning 'coming'.

The problem, of course, is that we have no idea when this will happen. Unlike the ant and the grasshopper, we have no way of knowing when the seasons will change. We don't even know when the sun will set on our own individual lives. All we can do is to be prepared and to 'stay awake' – to live now in such a way that when we meet Jesus, we will be ready. This readiness is less a practical skill than a condition, or a way of life. Look at how St. Paul describes it: he talks about increasing our love for one another, and continually making progress in living the life that God wants. That is how we store up treasures here on earth to make sure we are ready for the heavenly things to come.

Collections: 25th November Envelopes €395 Baskets €1140
No of Envelopes 55 Direct Debits 3
Our thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish

Mass Schedule

Mass Monday 3rd Dec. at 7.30pm

Vigil Mass on Friday 7th December at 7.30pm in **Ballymurphy**

Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on Saturday 8th December
in Rathanna at 9.30am & in Borris at 11am

Mass on Tuesday 4th - Thursday 6th Dec. at 10am

Visiting the Sick: Fr. Rory will visit the sick on his list in the Ballymurphy & Rathanna areas on Thursday 6th December and in the Borris area on Friday 7th December.

Christmas Mass Bouquets: There are Christmas Mass Bouquet Cards now available in the Parish Centre.

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**

Rome/San Giovanni Easter 2019 with Papal Ceremonies in Rome for the Easter Period 7 nights
€995 pps Payments can be made in instalments contact James Treacy on 061921470 or
0860572216

Kilkenny-Carlow Samaritans

Kilkenny-Carlow Samaritans have teamed up with KCLR for a day of action on Tuesday, December 11, 2018.

We're calling on businesses, community groups, clubs, households and schools to take part in Samaritans Day by holding a fundraising and awareness event in aid of the charity.

The Samaritans are a 24/7 listening service and need your help to continue their great work through their Freephone number 116-123 and on-the-ground in Carlow and Kilkenny.

What can you do? A coffee morning, a jersey day in your office, a tea party with your neighbours or a small fundraiser... and in return we will give you FREE PUBLICITY for your organisation on the local airwaves with access to 70,000 listeners!

Our Samaritans Day will finish, quite literally, on a high note as we will be holding a KCLR Christmas Concert in Set Theatre that night with special guests including Dordan, Newfoundland, The Kalimbas, Davie Furey, Ryan O Shaughnessy, Tomas Jackman and a host of other musical stars.

If you would like to run an event you can register online with KCLR at <https://kclr96fm.com/samaritans/>

A call out to Kandle Diocesan Choir

All members singing at the Advent Evening Prayer in the Cathedral on December 2 are invited to be seated in their places by 4:30 pm for rehearsal.

Not a member of the choir but would like to be! If you are part of your local parish choir and would like to join the diocesan choir, please feel free to come along on December 2. In the meantime, if you would like to be kept informed about the Diocesan choir, simply email fds@kandle.ie, giving your email address, and you will be added to the diocesan list. Email before November 28, and we can send you the music for Evening Prayer!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Entering into Advent Together



Bishop Denis warmly invites people and clergy from across the diocese to join him, as we begin our Advent journey, for a celebration of Evening Prayer for the First Sunday of Advent in the Cathedral of the Assumption at 5 pm on December 2.

The music for this diocesan celebration will be led by the Kandle Diocesan Choir.

At this Advent Evening Prayer Bishop Denis will anoint an Icon written to depict, from the Rosary, the Third Mystery of Light: The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God. An image of this icon with helpful information to assist people pray the Mysteries of Light during Advent, will be this year's parish Reach Out Gift.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK