

PARISH NEWS

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

30th August 2015

Dirty Hands

In Denys Arcand's film *Jesus of Montreal* (1988), a group of actors stage a passion play, garnering praise in the process for their gritty, stripped down re-telling of the Jesus story. While their play casts doubt on the divinity of Jesus, their lives outside the drama begin to imitate his story. The lead actor, Daniel, is heralded by one of his fellow actors and gathers a group of actors/disciples. A cynical lawyer even tempts him with fame and fortune in a skyscraper 'wilderness'. Like Jesus, Daniel eats with those who have dirty hands. One actor dubs pornographic movies while another is having an affair with the local priest who coincidentally, has hired the group to perform the passion. Mark's authorities miss the point of their 'human' traditions. Jesus offers a more radical way of thinking, which ultimately leads to his trial, death and glorification. For the Pharisees, Jesus is an impious lawbreaker. But Mark reminds his readers that the authorities have mistaken their own customs for God's law. Arcand's movie finds an apt allegory for this in Daniel's motley crew of actors. While some might find Arcand's replacing of Christianity with theatre disturbing, the parable, like all parables, reveals a truth. The Gospel plays with our boundaries. Those with dirty hands seem outside but it is the expected insiders who are ultimately rejected. Both Mark's and Arcand's stories end unresolved, to be continued in the lives of those who eat without washing.

Paul Clogher, WIT

Collections: 23rd Aug. Envelopes €412 Baskets €691

No of Envelopes 48 Direct Debits 5

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

Mass Schedule: Mass at 7.30pm on Mon 31st Aug & Fri. 4th Sept.
Mass at 9am Tues 1st Sept. - Thurs. 3rd Sept.

Ballymurphy Pattern will take place in the Cemetery in Ballymurphy on Sunday 30th August at 3pm.

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

Visiting the Sick Fr. John will visit the sick on his list on Tuesday 8th Sept. in the Ballymurphy & Rathanna areas and on Wednesday 9th Sept. in the Borris area.

Webcam – We are having problems with the sound on our webcam – we need to get a new streaming box for it – hopefully we will have it up and running next weekend. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Annual Envelopes – Due to a change in the programme we use for envelopes, your envelopes will have different identification numbers on them this year and in future years. Your records from past years are preserved irrespective of the identification number. Also, this year, in an effort to reduce stationery costs, Maintenance Envelopes have not been issued to parishioners who already pay into the Maintenance Fund by Standing Order. Over the next couple of weeks we will be distributing your new box of envelopes and we would appreciate if those who distribute them could call to the Parish Centre to collect their boxes for distribution.

Next Weekend 5th/6th Sept. we have our **Annual Collection for the Priests of the Parish.** Our Christmas and Easter collections and the proceeds from the November List of the Dead and from Weddings and Baptisms are entered into this account. The proceeds from the special envelope and the basket collection of the first week in September are also entered into this account. We are totally dependent on your generosity. You have always been very generous in your contributions and we appreciate the major effort you are making. I would like to ask you to be as generous as possible in the special envelope and the Offertory Collection on that weekend, please. You have a special green envelope in your box of envelopes for this collection. **Fr. John**

The Eist Cancer Support Centre, The Waterfront, Mill Lane, Carlow provides practical help and emotional support to anyone affected by cancer in County Carlow and the surrounding areas opens Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.30am to 4.30pm. Have you lost someone close to you through cancer? This experience can be especially difficult when someone close to us dies. Making sense of the loss and learning to live without that person is the work of grieving. The EIST Cancer Support Centre has a New Bereavement Support Group starting on Wednesday 12th August 2015 at 7.30 pm at the Eist centre
You are free to contact us at 059-9139684 or drop-in during our opening hours.
Website: www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie

Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society

Three mini- lectures on local businesses:

1)Millets of Borris,Coachbuilders:Ned Moran

2)Reflections on Keenan's of Bagenalstown: Michael Keenan

3)Carlow Blue Limestone:Phil Meaney.

Leighlinbridge Parish Centre, Wednesday 26th August, 8pm.Admission Free. All welcome.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

REFLECTIONS FOR TEACHERS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR

Oscar Romero

It helps now and then to step back and take the long view

The reign of God is not only beyond our efforts it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our life time only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work.

Nothing we do is complete which is another way of saying that the reign of God always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said, No prayer fully expresses our faith, No confession brings perfection, No pastoral visit brings wholeness. No programme accomplishes our mission, No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.

We plant seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise. We lay foundations that will need further development.

We provide yeast that produces effects far beyond our capabilities.

We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realising that. This enables us to do something and to do it well.

It may be incomplete, a step along the way, an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end result of our efforts. We are prophets of a future not our own.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK