

PARISH NEWS

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
31st August 2014

'The Christian is a living epistle, known and read by all men, an open letter, an advertisement for Christianity.'

William Barclay

What would an advertisement for Christianity look like? If you had to design an ad to sum up your faith, what would you include? On the one hand we are called to be joyful – to sing, shout, clap your hands and rejoice! But faith is not always so straightforward. There are many obstacles and temptations, and sometimes we are afraid to stand up for what we believe in. And then there's today's Gospel, which speaks of suffering, and tells us that following Jesus involves taking up our cross. How do we make sense of all this in the context of our faith journey?

The good news is we are not alone in our struggles. In today's First Reading, Jeremiah struggles with his faith in one of his many 'laments'. His faith has caused him to be a laughing stock. He feels conflicted; although his faith is inviting insult and derision, it is also a fire burning in his heart. In spite of people's hostile reactions, he has been 'seduced' by God, and he cannot but speak out. Is this how we feel about our faith? Is it like a fire burning within us, in our very bones, or are we lukewarm in our commitment? Following Jesus is a radical choice, now more than ever perhaps. Today's readings teach us to be less concerned with what people think, and more concerned with living according to Jesus' teachings – however others may react.

Collections: 24th Aug 2014 Envelopes €367 Baskets €498

No. Of Envelopes Returned 52 Direct Debits 6

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

Mass Schedule : Mass at 7.30pm on Mon. 1st & Fri. 5th Sept.
Mass at 9.00 am Tues 2nd to Thurs 4th Sept. (Incl.)

Next Weekend 6th/7th . 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. We still have a major challenge trying to keep 3 churches open in the present economic climate. 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 this coming weekend, please. You have a special green envelope in your box of envelopes for this collection. **Fr. John**

Visitation of The Sick Fr. John will visit the sick on his list on Tues. 9th Sept. in the Rathanna & Ballymurphy areas and on Wed. 10th Sept. in the Borris area.

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 on or after next Tuesday 2nd September and collect their usual number for collection.

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. We provide Counselling, Reflexology Services, Support Groups, Meditation, Yoga and a host of activities free of charge to those diagnosed and their families and carers affected by cancer. PH 059 91 39684
www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie Visit us on facebook

Borris Parish Website : www.borrisparish.ie Diocesan website www.kandle.ie
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.

Camino de Santiago We've had a **cancellation** of one of the people travelling on the Camino, due to an injury. If anyone is interested in taking this person's place, please contact Fr. John or Tully's as soon as possible.

Carlow ASD support group will hold its monthly meeting on Tuesday September 2nd at 7.30 pm in the Woodford Dolmen Hotel. All are welcome.

The Irish Catholic will again be on sale at the back of all the churches this coming weekend. It costs €1.60 It is also on sale in Kiernans, Borris.

Liturgy and Sacraments *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*
Would you like to deepen your understanding of liturgy and the sacraments? Study groups will meet once a week for 12 weeks commencing Mon. 1 Sept '14, 8.00pm-9.00pm or Wed. 3 Sept. '14, 10.00am-12.00pm in the Parish Centre, Prosperous, Co. Kildare. For further information see www.kandle.ie or contact the Parish Office, Prosperous 045-841806.

Aspiro – Ireland's leading choir for children & young people – classes resume Tuesday 9th September. Limited number of places available in all groups for interested new members. New Aspiro initiative for Pre-School age 3+ starting in September - contact info@aspirochoir.ie.

Photography is a fantastic hobby! Why not join **Carlow Photographic Society**. Come along on their OPEN NIGHT on Wednesday 3rd September at 8pm in the Seven Oaks Hotel. info@carlowphoto.ie

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Prayer for the School Year

Father,

Bless the students who are beginning another school year. Give them wisdom and strength as they learn. Bless the teachers as they instruct and care for their pupils. Bless the parents as they let their children grow, whether for the first year of preschool or the final year of college.

Amen

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK