PARISHNEWS

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 31<sup>s†</sup> January 2016 Facing the truth

In today's Gospel Jesus invites the people of his hometown to come to the truth of themselves and to stop hiding. This could have been a real moment of grace for them, if they were open to it, but it is often hard to hear. This passage, read together with last Sunday's, is the entire Gospel in miniature.

The references to Elijah and Elisha may confuse us; they are reminders that the prophets of the past did not focus only on their own people. Elijah for example, did not provide miraculous food for the Isrealites but for a pagan widow and her son in a foreign town. This talk of divine favours to foreigners is the last straw for the Nazarene community. The final verses foreshadow the fate of Jesus, but the time is not yet. It seems that Jesus has committed the ultimate political thunder of finding fault with his own people. The message is one of a call to a radical reversal of perspective; something with which the Gospel of Luke is very concerned. Jesus will proclaim a new kind of freedom and his openness of heart is too much for those who hear him. Where do we see this in our communities today?

'Although they heard you Lord, they failed to listen. They heard only what they want to hear. The truth hurt them, you made them feel uncomfortable, and they rejected you...

Show us how we may seek your Kingdom and help to bring peace to a troubled world.'

Christian Aid – Tony Singleton

Collections: 24th JanEnvelopes €359Baskets €579No of Envelopes 55Direct Debits 4

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

Mass Schedule : Mass 7.30pm Mon 1<sup>st</sup> & Fri 5<sup>th</sup> Feb Mass on Wednesday morning 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb for Grandparents at **10am** Mass at 9am Tues 2<sup>th</sup> Feb & Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> Feb

Parish Centre: The Parish Centre is open as usual Mon. – Fri. from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Phone 059 9773128; email <u>borrisparish@gmail.com</u> Closed Bank Holidays.

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

A Polish Charismatic Meeting will be held on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 5pm in The Sacred Heart Church Borris.

Finance Committee Meeting on Tuesday February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 8.30pm in the Parochial House.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February at 8.30pm in the Parochial House.

**Visiting the Sick** Fr. John will visit the sick on his list on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February in the Ballymurphy and Rathanna areas and on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> in the Borris area.

Case of cd's found in Borris Church last weekend – please call to the Parish centre to retrieve them

Sister Anne Carr of the **Medical Missionaries of Mary** will speak at the weekend Masses of 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> March in this parish as part of the Mission Awareness Programme.

## Pilgrimage to Medjugorje y Dubrovnik from the 14th. September – 21st. September.

4 nights Medjugorje and 3 nights Dubrovnik.

Price €995 (Incl. all airport taxes and charges)

Price includes: Coach from Borris - Dublin Airport & return

Return flight from Dublin to Dubrovnik - depart Dublin 14 September at 07.30hrs, arrive Dubrovnik at 11.45hrs. Return 21st September depart Dubrovnik at 12.30hrs, arrive Dublin at 15.00hrs.

All transfers – return airport transfers and transfer between Medjugorje and

Dubrovnik Four nights half-board guesthouse accommodation in Medjugorje close to St James's church

Three nights BB in the 4 star hotel Neptun in Dubrovnik in standard rooms

City guided tour of Dubrovnik - Elaphite island cruise excursion - Full religious programme in Medjugorje

In 2009 we did this pilgrimage with a group form the Parish and those who travelled thoroughly enjoyed it. Being the extraordinary year of Mercy we decided to repeat this. If you are interested you would need to get your name in with Tully's Travel in Carlow, as soon as possible. We need about 20 people to make it feasible.

Further information from Fr. John or Ann in the Parish office or Donna (059-9136100) in Tully's Travel Carlow.

David Quinn of Iona Institute and Kate Bopp of Family & Life will speak at a Pro Life talk on "How to Protect the 8th Amendment" at the River Court Hotel, Kilkenny on Tuesday February 2nd at 7:30pm in the Pembroke suite. All welcome!

**Catholic Schools Week** 2016 begins on January 31 and ends on February 6. The theme for this year is 'Catholic Schools: Challenged to Proclaim God's Mercy.' Next week is Catholic schools week and to mark this occasion we will have the Commissioning of the members of the new Board of Management of Borris Mixed National School on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> Jan at 11am Mass in Borris. The Commissioning of the new Board for Ballymurphy National School will be on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb Mass in Ballymurphy.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Prayer for Grandparents Mass on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February during Catholic Schools Week

Loving God, Bless all our grandparents, those with us here today, those who cannot be with us and those who have gone to be with you. May they heed your call to share their wisdom and faith with us. May they have courage and confidence to hand on your gifts of experience and knowledge of stories, songs and memories. May they continue to learn and grow with us day by day. Bless them and all of us gathered here today with length of days and joy at the last. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

