

# PARISH NEWS

**Divine Mercy Sunday**

3<sup>rd</sup> April 2016

**Shalom**

In today's Gospel we hear that the disciples are locked away, afraid, closed off from the world. It is a dark situation to be in and they are most likely quite frightened. When Jesus is present with them, their hearts are opened again, they rejoice. 'Peace' (Shalom) is more than a wish for a good evening or peaceful day. It expresses the desire that the person receiving the blessing might be whole in body, mind and spirit. The Risen Jesus brings a peace that is life-giving.

They must have been so excited to tell Thomas this news: 'We have seen the Lord'.

Sometimes, when we try to share something of our faith experience with others, we can meet similar responses – doubting, cynicism – we can even be made fun of. In today's world, none of this is easy. Then why do it? The Risen Jesus in today's Gospel moves the disciples from total fear and despair to 'rejoicing'. The same Risen Jesus is active in all our lives and in the world around us, but we must be careful not to close ourselves off or let fear take over.

John tells us that he writes these things so that we may come to believe and have life; reminding us of the importance of the Word of God for our lives. Through the Word we come to know Jesus more deeply. Even in the darkest of times and the most hopeless of situations, this Risen Jesus can bring peace and wholeness if we unlock the doors of our hearts.

Jane Mellett

**Collections:** 27<sup>th</sup> March                              Envelopes €TBC              Baskets €TBC  
   No of Envelopes              Direct Debits  
Our thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish

**Mass Schedule** :Mass on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> & Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm  
Mass at 9am Tues 5<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> April

**Borris Parish Website** : [www.borrisparish.ie](http://www.borrisparish.ie)

**Diocesan Website:** [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie)

Fr. John's new email address is [frjohn51@gmail.com](mailto:frjohn51@gmail.com)

Kildare & Leighlin Diocese Faith Development Services have produced a pocket-sized practical guide to Celebrating the Sacrament 'How to Go to Confession' which is available at the back of the Churches from Easter Weekend.

**Confirmation Day** Confirmation in Borris is on 12<sup>th</sup> April at 11am in the Sacred Heart Church.

**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](mailto:borrisparish@gmail.com) Closed Bank Holidays.

**Just a reminder to return your Trocaire Boxes – you can drop them into the Parish Centre or give them to Fr. John but do not leave in the Church. Thank you for your generosity.**

**Visiting The Sick** Fr. John will visit the sick on his list on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April in the morning in Borris and in the afternoon in Ballymurphy & Rathanna.

**EIST Cancer Support Centre** provides emotional and practical support to people affected by cancer including those who care for them, from the time of diagnosis, through treatment and afterwards.

The Eist Cancer Support Centre 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 you can have a look at some of our services on our website at [www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie](http://www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie) – where you can also fill in a contact form if you have any queries.

**Permanent Diaconate** Following on from the successful introduction of the first permanent deacons into our diocese, and recognizing the tremendous work which they have accomplished, Bishop Denis is again inviting men who feel a call to this ordained ministry to make application. If you would like to explore a call to Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin please make contact with your Parish Priest who will forward your name and details to the Director for the Permanent Diaconate.

**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje & Dubrovnik from the 14th. September – 21st. September.**

If you are interested in taking part in the pilgrimage we would appreciate if you could let Tully's know as soon as possible as they need to make reservations in the hotels etc.

Phone Donna (059-9136100) in Tully's Travel Carlow.

**Pre-Marriage Courses**

ACCORD Carlow have places available on the May 6th & 7th Course and June 10th & 11th Course.

All couples getting married in Church are obliged to attend a Pre-marriage Course.

There are no Courses in June or July so any couple getting married this summer or early autumn should book a place now.

Booking can be made on [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie) or phone Mary at 059 9138738 for further information

**Peace Concert in Knock Basilica**

Mayo International Choral Festival is hosting a Peace Concert with the RTÉ Concert Orchestra, in the beautiful surrounds of the fully refurbished Knock Basilica on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. This Peace Concert will commemorate the 1916 Rising and World War One. The RTÉ Concert Orchestra will be conducted by David Brophy. The orchestra will perform with a 120 member choir and soloists Anne Marie Gibbons and Owen Gilhooly. For information and tickets, visit [www.mayochoral.com](http://www.mayochoral.com).

**NOTICE FOR PARISH NEWSLETTERS**

St Luke's Hospital will be holding it's the annual remembrance ceremony for families who have been bereaved by the death of their child through miscarriage, still-birth or early infancy death. This ceremony will take place on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> in St Fiacre's Church, Loughboy, Kilkenny at 7.30pm. While we issue a special invitation to families who have been bereaved during the past year, this ceremony is for all families who have been bereaved, regardless of how long ago. Refreshments will be available for everyone after the ceremony.

***THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK***

Fear is a terrible thing. It cripples us and makes us into cowards and people incapable of action. The apostles and disciples were huddled away in terror of the mob and the dreaded knock on the door. Knowing this the Master came and stood among them. Not for the first time did he calm their terrors. The storm at sea might well have been a sign of what was to happen at Golgotha. Joy and peace he imparted to them. How blessed they must have felt. The unimaginable had truly occurred. What was the end now was to be transformed into the beginning, and what a beginning. In sending them forth, He equipped them with his Breath, the Ruach of the Father. Poor Thomas missed it all and was still locked into his grief and loss.

*God how often I find myself saying his words 'Unless!' You took his hand as you had before with Peter as he sunk into the sea, and restored his self belief and faith in you. My Lord and my God!*

*Fr. Declan O'Loughlin, Diocesan Advisor for Religious Education*

***HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK***