

PARISH NEWS

First Sunday of Advent

3rd December 2017

Keep Awake

We are surrounded these days by the commercial 'circus' of Christmas shopping and 'getting ready'. It might seem far removed from the story that we are celebrating; the story of a poor refugee family 2,000 years ago who had a very special delivery. The story of God choosing to intervene in human history in such an intimate and shocking way; God choosing to be born into a situation of poverty and danger. It is good to ask ourselves at this time of year, what are we getting ready for? Advent is a wonderful season which invites us to use our waiting to grow spiritually. We are invited to make space for ourselves and for God in the midst of the rushing. Can we stop and be still and ask ourselves: 'Where do I see God being born around me today?' In those I meet? In kind words and gestures? In my community? In my own heart?

Have a more 'aware' Advent. Be aware in your rushing, be aware as you stand in that queue, be aware as you eat, be aware of your thoughts. By watching all of this we become more *awake*, more able to recognise our true selves and more able to see God being born continuously each day within us and around us. Our awe and wonder grows and we can be prepared for the coming of the Gift himself. How we prepare determines what will be.

Collections: 26th Nov Envelopes €516 Baskets €640
No of Envelopes 77 Direct Debits 4

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

Mass Schedule: Mass on Mon 4th Dec at 7.30pm
Mass Tues 5th & Wed 6th Dec at 10 am, **Vigil Mass in Ballymurphy on Thursday 7th at 7.30pm** – no morning mass on Thursday in Borris
Mass on Friday 8th December **Feast of The Immaculate Conception** at 9.30am in Rathanna & 11am in Borris

Ballymurphy Servers Sat 2nd Dec **Group 1**

Confessions in Sacred Heart, Borris from 11.30 – 12 noon every Saturday morning. All welcome.

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

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

Kildare/Dublin Easter Pilgrimage Group to Fatima 28th March to 2nd April 2018 for 6 days ex Dublin, Led by Fr. Kevin O'Boyle. €599 pps includes Hotels, Return Flights, Buses and Food. Also included is Mass in Saint Anthony's Church in Lisbon where Saint Anthony was born. Stations of the Cross and mass in Fatima. Don't be disappointed so Book Early as €100 deposit secures place. For Brochure contact James Treacy 0860572216 or 061921470

Pre-Marriage Courses Accord Carlow have some place available on the following courses Jan 12th & 13th, Feb 2nd & 3rd, Mar 2nd & 3rd. If you are getting married in the Catholic Church, you are required to attend a pre-marriage course. Couples getting married in spring or early summer 2018 should book their course now.

Bookings can be made on line at www.accord.ie . For further information please contact Mary 059 9138738.

Carlow Choral Society's Christmas Concert

Carlow Choral Society presents a very special Christmas Concert in the Cathedral of the Assumption, Carlow, on Sunday December 10th 2017, at 8.15pm. The programme includes the very festive and uplifting Missa Carolae by James Whitbourn which is based on a beautiful arrangement of Christmas Carols, and also favourites from Handel's Messiah including the Hallelujah Chorus and singalong carols including 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' and 'Once in Royal David's City'. The concert will feature the cathedral organ and a full brass ensemble and will be conducted by our Musical Director, Blanaid Murphy. Join us for this glorious celebration in the beautiful surroundings of Carlow Cathedral. Tickets are €20.00 and the concert is free for accompanied children. Tickets are available on www.eventbrite.ie and on www.carlowchoralsociety.net and from choir members.

Carlow Choral Society now has over 70 members and performs regularly many choral works both at home and abroad. Our most recent concert was our 2017 summer concert which included works by Monteverdi, Bach and Beethoven. The choir travelled to London in May 2017 to participate in Mozart's Requiem at the Royal Albert Hall and this November we will travel in Halifax in the UK to join Halifax Choral Society for their special 200th anniversary performance of Handel's Messiah.

For further information contact: Brian Kelly, Secretary, 086-0411351 or carlowchoralsociety@gmail.com

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT LIFE THAT LITTLE CHILDREN HAVE LEARNED

- 1) No matter how hard you try, you can't baptize cats.
- 2) When your Mam is mad at your Dad, don't let her brush your hair.
- 3) If your sister hits you, don't hit her back. They always catch the second person.
- 4) Never ask your 3-year old brother to hold a tomato.
- 5) You can't trust dogs to watch your food.
- 6) Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
- 7) Never hold a Dust-Buster and a cat at the same time.
- 8) You can't hide a piece of broccoli in a glass of milk.
- 9) Don't wear polka-dot underwear under white shorts.
- 10) The best place to be when you're sad is Grandpa's lap.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK