

# PARISH NEWS

## Fifth Sunday of Easter 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2015

### What does it mean to be a branch?

As with all good vine growers, God cares for his crop, nurturing it, pruning it, giving it all it needs so that it can grow and reach its full potential. We are no doubt the branches. What does it mean to be a branch? Branches must be connected to the vine or they bear no fruit, they need pruning so that they can grow and bear even more fruit. As we are all too well aware, productivity seems to be the measure of success in the world today, in our education systems, in the workplace, in economics; we are measured by what we produce. Is Jesus really adding on the pressure in this Gospel passage by telling us that he wants to see results or else!?

Perhaps we can read this passage in terms of connectivity. Think of your most intimate friendships and relationships. You don't measure their weight in terms of produce do you? But you do want to stay connected right? It is this closeness, this intimacy that Jesus calls us to: 'abide with me'. Are you connected or disconnected? If the connection is strong, then fruit bearing comes naturally and people will see the Gospel in our lives and in the way we respond to the world. If we are connected, all manner of things are possible for us.

'People see the Gospel in our lives; let them read our lives.' **Pope Francis**

**Collections:** 26<sup>th</sup> April      Envelopes €367      Baskets €525  
Our thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish

**Mass Schedule:**                      Mass at 7.30pm on Mon 4<sup>th</sup> & Fri 8<sup>th</sup> May  
    Mass Tues 5<sup>th</sup> - Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> May  
**Ballymurphy Servers** Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Group 5

**Trocaire Collection** –If there are any outstanding 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.

**The Little White Book**, a book of 6 minute reflections on the Resurrection Narrative according to John, is available at the back of the Churches or the Parish Office. Cost €3

**Visiting The Sick** Fr. John will visit the sick on his list on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May in the Ballymurphy & Rathanna areas and on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May in the Borris area.

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

**Accord Pre-marriage Courses** Couples getting married this Summer or Autumn 2015 should now book a place on June 12th & 13th **There are no courses in July or August.** Bookings can be made on [www.accord.ie](http://www.accord.ie) or phone 059 9138738

**The Eist Cancer Support Centre is open:** Tues to Thurs from 9.30am to 4pm 059 91 39684  
We would like to thank all our volunteers and friends who give of their time so willingly to the Eist Cancer Support Centre, Carlow. This coming week some of our events include Charity Coffee & Cakes Morning Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May from 10am – 2pm at The Old Yard, Garterfarm, Castledermot Co Kildare. Also Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May Siopa Glas Charity Shop Ballon will hold a fundraiser for Eist all day starting at 9.30am. They will serve tea/coffee and gorgeous homemade cakes and buns. All donations of good quality clothing, unwanted bric a brac or furniture are appreciated. We are grateful for this ongoing support to Eist Cancer Support Centre. Please contact us at Eist Cancer Support Centre Carlow, The Waterfront, Mill Lane, Carlow Town  
**Website: [www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie](http://www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie)**

***Sisters from the Convent of St. Elizabeth in Belarus*** will be visiting the Parish on the weekend of 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> May. They will be displaying Crafts and Religious Objects, the proceeds from which go to their work in Belarus. ***'The Convent has been supporting more than 200 orphans with special needs. Our assistance stretches from purchasing diapers for the bedridden children to their rehabilitation and socialization. Another big project started about ten years ago when the Convent established a rehab center where socially vulnerable and disadvantaged people may find support, spiritual care and protection. There are about 200 people undergoing rehabilitation at the center.'***

***The Irish Cancer Society's Care to Drive service is currently seeking volunteer drivers to drive local patients to and from their chemotherapy treatments. We are looking for volunteers to pick patients up at their homes, drive them to the door of the hospital, pick them up when they are finished their treatment and bring them home again. Volunteer expenses are paid. For more information or an application form, telephone Rebecca on 01 2316 642 or email [transport@irishcancer.ie](mailto:transport@irishcancer.ie)***

**Carlow Choral Society** launch 50 years Exhibition Carlow College Tullow Street 1st to 4th May 10am to 6pm daily. Carmina Burana at Visual Sat May 9th tickets Box office. We are celebrating our 50th Anniversary this year and hope you may be able to join us for a reception to launch our Exhibition of Memorabilia at 7.30pm on Friday 1st May in Tullow Street (opposite the Library) or any time over the weekend.

**Dates for Your Diary Weekend Pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick & Knock Sat 27<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2015** €100 per person, includes bus, dinner & bed & breakfast in hotel. **Please book as soon as possible if you are interested in this pilgrimage as we need to finalise details. The deposit is €20 per person.**

**Graigucullen Monster Bingo, Tues. 5th May 2015 @ 8.30pm Great Prizes to be won. Bring a friend**

### ***THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK***

#### **Trócaire commits initial €100,000 to Nepal emergency response**

(Monday, April 27th) Trócaire today committed an initial €100,000 to the Nepal emergency response. The organisation's response is focused on getting shelter, food and water to people left homeless as a result of last Saturday's devastating earthquake.

Trócaire has launched an emergency appeal in response to the earthquake and has requested the support of the public to raise money to deliver aid to those who need it. Donations can be made at [trocaire.org](http://trocaire.org) or by phoning 1850 408 408.

As a member of the global Caritas network of humanitarian agencies, donations received by Trócaire will go towards the Caritas response.

***HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK***