

# PARISH NEWS

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
6<sup>th</sup> September 2015

## 'Ephphatha'

Between 1 September and 4 October (the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi) Christian churches celebrate the season of 'Creation Time'. It is an opportunity for us to reflect on the gift of our world and to look at our relationship with the planet. There is no better time for us as individuals and as parish communities to consider our responsibilities to act on climate change, especially in light of Pope Francis' recent encyclical *Laudato Si*.

In the Gospel today, as Jesus opens the ears of a deaf man, he says 'Ephphatha-Be Opened'. May our ears be opened to the cries of the earth and to the poor who suffer most because of climate injustice. What a wonderful and prophetic action it would be in celebration of 'Creation Time' if each parish community committed to beginning a JPIC (Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation) group? Or perhaps thinking ahead to the feast of St. Francis, ask ourselves how can we as parish communities celebrate the gift of creation? Great things can happen when small groups of people come together and act locally. How will your parish celebrate 'Creation Time'? (For more info: <http://ecocongregationireland.com/>)

'I wish to address every person living on this planet.... I urgently appeal for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all'.

*Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 1,14*

**Collections:** 30<sup>th</sup> Aug.      Envelopes €735      Baskets €588

No of Envelopes 87      Direct Debits 4

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

**Mass Schedule:**      Mass at 7.30pm on Mon 7<sup>th</sup> & Fri. 11<sup>th</sup> Sept.  
Mass at 9am Tues 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. - Thurs. 10<sup>th</sup> Sept.

**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)

**Visiting the Sick** Fr. John will visit the sick on his list on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. in the Ballymurphy & Rathanna areas and on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> Sept. in the Borris area.

**This Weekend 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Sept.** 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. 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 this weekend, please. You have a special green envelope in your box of envelopes for this collection.

*Fr. John*

**Annual Envelopes** – Due to a change in the programme we use for envelopes, your envelopes will have different identification numbers on them this year and in future years. Your records from past years are preserved irrespective of the identification number. Also, this year, in an effort to reduce stationery costs, Maintenance Envelopes have not been issued to parishioners who already pay into the Maintenance Fund by Standing Order. Over the next couple of weeks we will be distributing your new box of envelopes and we would appreciate if those who distribute them could call to the Parish Centre to collect their boxes for distribution.

**Polish Mass** A Mass will be celebrated in Polish on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm in The Sacred Heart Church, Borris. All Welcome.

**Webcam** – We are having problems with the sound on our webcam – we need to get a new streaming box for it – hopefully we will have it up and running next weekend. Apologies for any inconvenience.

**The Eist Cancer Support Centre**, The Waterfront, Mill Lane, Carlow provides practical help and emotional support to anyone affected by cancer in County Carlow and the surrounding areas opens Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.30am to 4.30pm. Have you lost someone close to you through cancer? This experience can be especially difficult when someone close to us dies. Making sense of the loss and learning to live without that person is the work of grieving. The EIST Cancer Support Centre has a New Bereavement Support Group starting on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2015 at 7.30 pm at the Eist centre  
You are free to contact us at 059-9139684 or drop-in during our opening hours.  
Website: [www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie](http://www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie)

**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.

**Workshops re the Weekday Liturgies** available to use for the week of the Priests' Retreat will be coming up shortly. All priests are invited to the workshops, whichever is most convenient to them, and they are to ask 2/3 parishioners to attend also. When the names of priests and parishioners attending are available, will you please inform me and also which venue so I will be able to ascertain how many are coming to each venue.

The dates, venues and times are as follows:

Tuesday, 8 <sup>th</sup> September	The Church of the Irish Martyrs, Ballycane	11am – 1pm
Thursday, 10 <sup>th</sup> September	Mount St. Anne's, Killenard	11am – 1pm
Tuesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Askea Parish Centre, Askea	11am – 1pm

## *THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*

### **A Prayer for a New School Year**

Spirit of God, fill our hearts with a desire to seek truth and rejoice in beauty.  
Help us to know what is pleasing to you and to understand what is right and good in your sight.  
Give us the spirit of learning that we may please you by our thoughts and love you in your creation.

Give all teachers your constant encouragement and guide them in their good work.  
Spirit of God; make us effective witnesses of your truth to all whose lives we touch.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.  
Amen.

## *HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK*