# PARISH NEWS

## Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7<sup>th</sup> February 2016 'Put out into the deep'

Jesus is preaching at Lake Gennesaret (the Sea of Galilee) in today's Gospel. This is Luke's account of the calling of the First Disciples which takes place in the context of a miraculous catch of fish. Jesus is using Simon's boat as a sort of platform from which to address the crowds who had gathered around him. Already Jesus is gaining popularity and the crowds are 'pressing' near to him. Clearly they see something in Jesus that is attractive and fulfilling.

Simon is most likely being polite when he agrees to try again for a catch, possibly thinking that Jesus should leave the fishing to the professionals. Simon obeys, takes the risk, lets go of his pride, and the result is an overwhelming catch of fish. It can be hard to trust others at times; it can be difficult to let go of what is familiar to us. We are constantly being challenged to do this. The big challenge is to trust that God knows what God is doing and is constantly urging us to pull away from the shore.

'A boat is safe in the harbour, but this is not the purpose of a boat.'

Paul Coelho

**Collections:** 31<sup>st</sup> Jan Envelopes €640 Baskets €730 No of Envelopes 67 Direct Debits 6

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

Mass Schedule: Mass 7.30pm Mon 8<sup>th</sup> & Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Feb Mass at 9am Tues 9<sup>th</sup> Feb – Thurs11<sup>th</sup> Feb

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February was the **Feast of St. Blaise** – Because of the Special Grandparents Mass at 10am on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> we were unable to have the Blessing of Throats. We will have this on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February at the 9am Mass.

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

**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.

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.

**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.

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

# 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.

#### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

#### Catholic Schools Week 2016 at Home

#### **Dear Parents and Families,**

All this week, our school will be celebrating Catholic Schools Week. This annual celebration of Catholic education gives us all the opportunity to be more aware of the unique contribution that our Catholic schools make to Irish life. Our theme this year is **Catholic Schools: Challenged to Proclaim God's Mercy**. The theme is a reminder that Pope Francis has proclaimed a Jubilee Year of Mercy that began on 8 December 2015 and will end on 20 November 2016. During this year we are all called to be merciful as God the Father is merciful. This is not an easy task. To be merciful requires us to love unconditionally, to forgive even when we don't believe that forgiveness is deserved. That is why we say that our Catholic schools are places that are challenged to proclaim God's mercy. It acknowledges that it is a difficult thing to do, but reminds us that this is how God wants us to be. At school this week the children and staff are reflecting on how they can be the face of God's mercy to each other and to everyone who is part of the school community. The home is the first place where children learn about God and God's mercy, and that is why you are also invited to think about how you can be the face of God's mercy for all who live in your home and all whom you encounter every day.

### HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK