

PARISH NEWS

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

7th October 2018

Day for Life

Today's gospel is challenging. It contains two instances of Jesus correcting a popular opinion of the time and offering an alternative way.

The first is one of the few times Jesus is presented as speaking about marriage. The question asked by the Pharisees is whether it is 'against the Law' for a man to divorce his wife. Note that they do not ask whether it is legal. They are testing Jesus of course. They know the answer and so does he: divorce was indeed allowed under the law. Divorce was relatively common in the society of the time, though there were different interpretations of the law.

But Jesus, as always, is less concerned about the law than the rightness of a situation. He directs his questioners instead to God's plan for marriage and the unity between a married couple.

When he delivers his strongest words about divorce, it is in the context of adultery; the sin is not the breaking of the legal agreement, but the betrayal of one's spouse. The Pharisees are asking the wrong question.

The second part of the gospel sees Jesus once again teaching people to look at things in a new way. Children at the time of Jesus, not unlike wives, were often viewed as property, without any rights of their own. The disciples fail to show any concern for them when they turn them away. But Jesus welcomes them, blesses them, and treats them with love and concern. He goes so far as to present them as teachers, on account of their faith and openness. Another surprising attitude!

Collections: 30th September Envelopes €864 Baskets €811
No of Envelopes 61 Direct Debits 4

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

Mass Schedule; Mass Monday 8th & Friday 12th Oct. at 7.30pm
Mass Tues 9th – Thurs 11th Oct. at 10am

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

“MY JOURNEY WITH TESTICULAR CANCER” – by FR. JOHN O'BRIEN

Fr. John has produced a booklet about his recent cancer. Copies are available in the Parish Centre (a donation of €5 per copy to cover costs would be appreciated).

Visiting The Sick FR. RORY WILL VISIT THE SICK ON HIS LIST ON THURSDAY 4TH OCTOBER IN THE BALLYMURPHY & RATHANNA AREAS AND ON FRIDAY OCTOBER 5TH IN THE BORRIS AREA.

Irish Wheelchair Association would like to thanks all those who supported the local collection – the total collected this year was €409.43.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

GOD OF AUTUMN

God of autumn, the trees are saying goodbye to their green, letting of what has been. We too, have our moments of surrender with all their insecurity and risk. Help us to let go when we need to do so. God of fallen leaves lying in coloured patterns on the ground, our lives have their own pattern. As we see the patterns of our own growth, may we learn from them.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights, there is always the dimension of mystery and wonder in our lives. We always need to recognise your power filled presence. May we gain strength from this.

God of harvest wagons and fields of ripened grain, may gifts of growth lie within the season of our surrender. We must wait for harvest in faith and hope. Grant us patience when we do not see the blessings.

God of geese going south for another season, your wisdom enables us to know what needs to be left behind and what needs to be carried into the future. We yearn for insight and vision.

God of flowers touched with frost, and windows wearing white designs, may your love keep our hearts from growing cold in the empty seasons.

God of life, you believe in us, you enrich us, you entrust us to be stewards of your Creation. For all this we are grateful.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK