

PARISH NEWS

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8th February 2015

High hopes

Even in a seemingly hopeless situation, hope can shine through. RTE recently ran a three-part series called *The High Hopes Choir*, which followed former conductor of the RTE Concert Orchestra David Brophy as he put together Ireland's first 'homeless choir'. In just eight weeks, through 20 rehearsals and over 1,200 cups of tea and coffee, more than 60 people, all dealing with Ireland's homeless crisis, reach beyond the stars', explained David. While the background stories of many of the participants were heartbreaking, this was a story of hope. The project made a real difference to the individual members of the choir, as well as changing public perceptions of what it means to be homeless in Ireland today.

There is scant hope in today's First Reading from Job – the hopelessness he feels is perfectly expressed in the line 'Lying in bed I wonder, 'When will it be day?' Risen I think, 'How slowly evening comes!' Job cannot make sense of the suffering he faces, and often suffering does not make sense to us either.

Yet in today's Gospel Jesus is all about hope. We see him come into situations of great suffering and despair – hopeless situations – and bring healing to all those in need. Our Psalm tells us that the Lord heals the broken-hearted. He is the hope in our hopelessness.

Collections: 1st Feb 2015 Envelopes €373 Baskets €622

No. Of Envelopes Returned 68 Direct Debits 4

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

Mass Schedule:

Mass at 7.30pm on Mon 9th Feb & Fri 13th Feb

Mass at 9am Tues 10th -Thurs 12th Feb Incl.

Borris Parish will be on KCLR next Sunday Morning on Soul Matters 9am – 10am

Attending the Sick Fr. John will visit the sick on his list on Tuesday 10th Feb. in Rathanna and Ballymurphy areas, and in Borris area on Wednesday 11th Feb.

Dates for Your Diary

Weekend Pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick & Knock Sat 27th - Sunday 28th June 2015 €100 per person, includes bus, dinner & bed & breakfast in hotel. If you are interested book your place with a deposit of €20 in the Parish Centre for this pilgrimage.

Borris Parish Website : www.borrisparish.ie

Diocesan website www.kandle.ie

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 Closed Bank Holidays

The **Eist Carlow Cancer Support Centre** is open Tues, Wed, and Thurs from 9.30a.m. - 4.00p.m. daily. Please contact the Centre for further information at (059) 9139684 or e-mail

eistcarlowcancersupport.ie The Centre will be running the following Spring Programmes:

Tuesday : 11.00a.m – Meditation, 2.00p.m. Mens Group (every second Tuesday)

Wednesday: 10.30a.m. Bereavement Support (every second Wednesday)

11.00a.m. Pilates Beginners

Thursday: 10.30a.m. Advanced Pottery, 11.00a.m. Strides for Life, 2.00p.m. Beginners Pottery

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting on Wednesday 11th February in Parochial House at 8.30pm

Finance Committee Meeting on Monday 23rd February in Parochial House at 8.30pm

Children's Newsletter We are hoping to develop a children's newsletter for the Parish, starting on the 1st Sunday of Lent and every second Sunday from then on. We welcome any suggestions on it.

The SAMUEL.CIRCLE is a group of young men who will meet once a month on a Sunday afternoon to explore and discern the vocation to priesthood. If you would like to be part of this group please contact Fr. Ruairí Ó Domhnaill on 045 897470 or vocations@kandle.ie

Irish Hospice Foundation Fundraising Cycle

Get on your bike for the Irish Hospice Foundation this June (21st-27th) and join former professional cyclist Paul Kimmage on the Genoa to Rome cycle challenge.

By taking part in this Kingspan sponsored cycle across Italy you will be raising much needed funds for the IHF's vital Nurses for Night Care service, which provides over 1,400 nights of free nursing care at home annually to people with a non-malignant terminal illness.

Register before March 13th at www.hospicefoundation.ie or call 1890 717000 for more information.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Conversations on Funeral Practices

In his November pastoral letter Bishop Dennis stated his intention, along with the Diocesan Commission for Liturgical Formation, to hold deanery conversations in relation to funeral practices in the diocese. These conversations will give people the opportunity to discuss and explore how we celebrate the rites and rituals around the time of death and the meaning these rituals have for people. It will also give people the chance to name the reality of the changing circumstances of our time and how this has impacted on parish celebrations of funerals and other accompanying rites in recent years. The fruits of these conversations will be invaluable in helping to support parishes to build on good practice in ways appropriate to the needs of the people and in keeping with the Christian message of hope and consolation.

The Kildare & Leighlin South Deanery Conversation will take place on Saturday 7th March 2.30 to 5.00 in the Parish Centre, Leighlinbridge.

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK