

PARISH NEWS

***Fourth Sunday of Easter
Day of Prayer for Vocations
11 MAY 2014***

The smell of the sheep

Perhaps you have seen the photo of Pope Francis with a lamb draped around his shoulders. It certainly brings to life his call to priests and bishops that they should know their flock, which he brought to life with the phrase: priests need to be 'shepherds living with the smell of sheep' - a truly evocative way of describing the relationship between shepherd and flock. While in the Old Testament the image of God as shepherd is prevalent, shepherds were in fact often looked down upon, perhaps because they did in fact have the smell of sheep. They were outsiders, who lived with the sheep in the hills and for this reason were seen as unclean, not people who followed the laws of Moses.

Yet, the bond between shepherd and sheep was strong, so close in fact that sheep were able to recognise their master's voice. Moreover, the shepherd did not drive the sheep from behind, but led from the front, with the sheep following. And at night, while the sheep slept in the pen, the shepherd lay across the opening or gate to protect them from what was outside. For this reason the image of God as shepherd is apt and something to aspire to for those who follow a vocation today.

Collections:	4 th May 2014	Envelopes	€910	Baskets	€643
	No of Envelopes Returned	55	Direct Debits	7	
	Easter Sunday Envelopes	€745			

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

Mass schedule : Mass Mon 12th & Fri 16th May at 7.30pm
Mass Tues 13th May to Thurs 15th May at 9.00am
First Communion will take place in Borris on **Sunday 11th May at 11am** and in
Ballymurphy on **Sunday 18th May at 12.30**
There will also be Mass in Ballymurphy on Sat 17th at 7.30pm

Visitation of the Sick Fr. John will attend the sick on his list in Ballymurphy & Rathanna on Tuesday 13th May and those in the Borris area on Wednesday 14th May.

Borris Parish Website : www.borrisparish.ie Diocesan website www.kandle.ie
If you wish to follow Fr. John on Twitter, you can do so @ Frjohn51

Parish Centre: The Parish Centre is open as usual Mon. – Fri. from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm.
Phone 9773128; email borrisparish@gmail.com

Bus To Knock From St. Mullins & Borris on Sunday 1st June – which is the Kildare & Leighlin Diocesan Day in Knock. Further details for this day trip are available from John Coady, Drummond 051-424628 or Loughlin Doyle 059-9724242. You can also contact the Parish Centre if you wish to go.

Date for Your Diary : Camino de Santiago Walk : We are organising a group to partake in this walk which takes place on 16th – 25th September 2014. Further information is available in the Parish Centre or from Fr. John.

Tax Refund for the Parish Please return your **CHY3** forms to the Parish Centre in order for us to reclaim from Revenue the tax paid on your donations. From your contributions of €250 we can gain another €77.50 from the Tax Man. Should you not have received a form from us and are eligible – the scheme now applies to all tax payers PAYE or Self Assessment – please contact the Parish Centre.

Eist Cancer Support Centre

New Yoga class starts May 8th at 11am and will run for 5 weeks Please phone the centre to book a place

The Next meeting of the Bereavement Support Group will take place May 13th at 7.30pm at the Centre. The Centre is open Tues, Weds and Thurs from 9.30am to 4pm

The Eist Centre is there for anyone who has been affected by a cancer diagnosis, their families and carers. Please contact us at: Eist Cancer Support Centre Carlow, The Waterfront, Mill Lane, Carlow Town.

059 91 39684

www.eistcarlowcancersupport.ie Visit us on Facebook

The **County Carlow Women's Network** are running their Walk for Fun on **Saturday May 24th 10am sharp** (registration from 9.45) from The Leighlinbridge Parish Centre. It's a 8km looped river and countryside walk from Leighlinbridge to Bagenalstown with options of a lift half way if you feel like it. Free refreshments provided. For further information on this event contact Olive on 087 6165690. Look forward to seeing you there with friends and family.

If you have a problem with Overeating, Bulimia, Anorexia or Undereating, **Overeaters Anonymous** can help. OA Meeting in St. Catherine's Community Centre, Carlow, 6.30pm Thursday evenings.
More info at www.oahope.com

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

*God is everywhere – in all things; and in nothing.
God is in trees and seas; in birds and in beasts;
In the soil under my feet; and in my soul.
Why am I wandering from temple to temple looking for God?
When I stop searching
I realise that God is in me – and I am in God.*

Kabir

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK