

# John the Baptist

John the Baptist appears in our gospel today preaching repentance and reform to the people of Israel. He directs a particularly pointed call to repentance to the Pharisees and Sadducees, parties within the Jewish community of the first century.

John marks the conversion of those who seek him out with a baptism of repentance. His baptism can be understood as an anticipation of Christian baptism. In this passage, John himself alludes to the difference between his baptism and the one yet to come: "I am baptizing you with water, for repentance . . . He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." (Matthew 3:11).

In this reading, John makes very clear that his relationship to the Messiah yet to come (Jesus) is one of service and subservience: ". . . the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals" (Matthew 3:11). In the context of Matthew's Gospel, today's passage is followed by Jesus' baptism by John, an event that is attested to in all four of the Gospels and appears to have been the start of Jesus' public ministry.

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus in the first century, we, too, are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming.

We respond to John's message by our repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives, as John did, the coming of the Lord. *Loyola Press* 



**Parish Contacts** 

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### With Love We Remember... Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th December

Ballymurphy Anniversary Mass William (Bill) Byrne Cournellan

Borris Anniversary Mass Stephen Nolan Clonagoose

We also pray for: Ellen Murphy Inch, John Clare Cournellan, Helena Pietrzak Poland Molly Dalton Borris Patrick Nolan Knockroe



#### Mass Intentions this Week

Wednesday 7th December: Mick Monaghan Borris Thursday 8th December: Feast of the Immaculate Conception Kathleen Kelly Woodlawn park Friday 9th December: No Mass

### St Vincent de Paul

Annual Church Gate Christmas Collection Takes Place on the weekend of 10th & 11th December 2022 Your Support would be Greatly Appreciated Tender God, refuge of the poor, You filled Vincent de Paul with the strength of the apostles to work for the salvation of the poor and the instruction of the clergy. May we who follow the example of his life be driven by unceasing charity to continue the mission of Your Son in the world.

### Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.



I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

#### Praver for Peace in the World

Lord Jesus, You came that the world might know the peace that You have experienced with the Father eternally.

Yet, You taught us that in this life there will be wars and rumours of wars. Nations will rise against nations as violence works itself out in the world. However, through You, the world may be saved.

> O Lord, send Your spirit into the hearts of all people, that the world might know true peace through Your abundant mercy.

> > Amen.

#### Quote from Pope Francis

"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man"

## Carols by Candlelight



**Borris Parish Church** Tuesday 13th December @ 7pm All Welcome

### Christmas Penitential Service

**Borris Parish Church** Tuesday 20th December @ 7.30pm All Welcome

### Fcumenical Carol Service

**St Fortchern's Church Rathanna** Monday 19th December @ 7.30pm All Welcome



#### Christmas Mass Bouquets

Now Available In the Parish Centre



#### Parish Centre Opening Hours

Zaneta is available in the Parish Centre: Mon., Wed., & Thurs.; 9am 12.30pm Friday: 9am to 1.30pm **Office Closed on Tuesdays** 

### Safeguarding

If you are concerned about the welfare & safety of children or vulnerable adults contact:

#### **Director of Safeguarding** Ms. Kathleen Sherry

Mob: 085-8021633. email safeguarding@kandle.ie

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

takes place each ...

Wednesday in our Parish Church from 10.30am to 1pm

Thursday in Rathanna Church from 11am to 6pm.

All Welcome



# Borris Vocational School



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR in the school hall on the 4th December from 2.30pm till 5.00pm



My heart is beating, filled with joy, awaiting Mary's baby boy. For with this child, we embrace the birth of God's most precious grace.

**Baby Jesus, soon to come!** For us comes the Promised One. Baby Jesus, God's own Son, vou will be the Chosen One

to lead our flock into salvation. Our eternal life awaits. The birth of Jesus brings us nearer Heaven's holy gates.

Sing with joy, and count the days, for soon to come, the Lord we'll praise. Rejoice that Jesus will soon arrive, the Messiah and our faith alive.

### Support Helplines

Alone: Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m., 081 822 2024. Third Age Ireland: Free Phone 1800 80 45 91 10am and 10pm on any day of the week.

Childline: Free Phone 1 800 66 66 66

Barnardos: Monday to Friday 10.00am to 2pm Free Phone 1 800 91 01 23

www.mentalhealthireland.ie www.youth.ie www.hse.ie Women's Aid: 1800 341 900 Men's Aid: 01 554 3811

Samaritans Helpline Free Phone 116 123

Mass Times Ballymurphy-Borris-Rathanna

Weekday Masses

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday

No Mass No Mass 10am 10am No Mass



Sunday Masses 7.30pm Ballymurphy (Saturday evening) 9.30am Rathanna 11.00am Borris

#### Prayer to our Blessed Mother

Take my hand, O Blessed Mother, hold me firmly lest I fall. I am nervous when I'm walking and to thee I humbly call.

Guide me over every crossing, watch me when I'm on the stairs, let me know you are beside me, listen to my fervent prayers.

Bring me to my destination safely, every single day. Help me with each undertaking, as the hours go on their way.

And when evening falls upon me, and I fear to be alone, take my hand, O Blessed Mother, once again and lead me home.

Amen

# Contribution to Parish

I want to thank you most sincerely for your continued financial support of our churches and parish. Contributions can be made in 3 ways.

> Directly, by dropping your donation into the Parish Centre

By donating via the donation link on our website.

Bank transfer directly to:

Name of A/C: Borris Parish Current Account:

IBAN: IE02 BOFI 9065 1531 4388 14

> BIC: BOFIIE2D

AGAIN THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT Fr Rory



Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.