

Gospel Thoughts...

This week's Gospel Reading continues our Advent reflection on the person and message of John the Baptist. Today we hear Jesus' message to John the Baptist, now in prison, about the signs of the kingdom found in Jesus' ministry and Jesus' assessment of John's role in the Kingdom of God.

John sends word to Jesus from prison, asking if Jesus is the Messiah for whom he has been waiting. Jesus responds by pointing to the miracles that he has worked and invites John and the other hearers to make their own determination. In his next breath, however, Jesus praises John for his role in preparing the way for Jesus. Then Jesus says that all of those who work for the Kingdom of God will be as great as John and even greater.

Jesus' message to John about the signs of the kingdom being performed recalls the salvation described by the prophet Isaiah. This passage is a reminder that the beginning of salvation is already mysteriously present to us, but also yet to be fulfilled. Salvation is already in our midst as manifest in the miraculous deeds of Jesus and in the Church. But salvation is also to be fulfilled in the coming reign of God.

Even as we observe our world today, we can find glimpses of God's work among us. Even more, we help to prepare the way for God's kingdom by our words and our deeds. This message is indeed a cause for rejoicing.

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near." The pink candle we light today is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

Loyola Press



Parish Contacts

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With Love We Remember... Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th December

Ballymurphy Anniversary Mass Breda Kavanagh Ballyroughan

Borris Anniversary Mass Kathleen Kelly Woodlawn Park

We also pray for: Margaret & Michael Doran Walshestown Eileen Kavanagh James Fleming Main Street Borris

Mass Intentions this Week

Wednesday 14th December: Special Intention (Thanksgiving) Thursday 15th December: John Joyce Rathgeran & Deceased members of the Joyce Family Friday 16th December: James Ryan Ballytiglea & Mary Nolan The Hollow Ballytiglea



Drive Safe

Please Drive with Care this Festive Season

St Vincent de Paul

Annual Church Gate Christmas Collection Takes Place This Weekend 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.



Prayer 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



Welcome to the Children preparing for First Holy Communion

to the 11am Mass Today 11th December!!

Awaiting Baby Jesus

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 7.30pm



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.

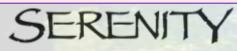
Bank transfer directly to:

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.