

Salt of the Earth and the Light of the World

Following upon the teaching of the Beatitudes, Jesus uses the now familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. We take salt and light for granted in our society, but these commodities were more precious in ancient cultures. Just as now, salt was used in Jesus' time for flavouring, as a preservative, and as a healing agent. Similarly, the widespread use of electricity in the modern world makes us less aware of the value and importance of light in our lives.

Still, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel speaks well to the abiding power of the imagery that Jesus presented. Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians. Our commitment to social justice flows from the exhortation that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Some of the activities that this commitment leads us to are given more concrete expression as the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, console those who mourn, and so on, we show ourselves to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. When we do these things with the community of faith, the Church, we are indeed acting as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be hidden!

Loyola Press



Parish Contacts

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With Love We Remember... Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th February

Ballymurphy Anniversary Mass John Doyle Kilcoltrim

Rathanna Anniversary Mass Patrick & Sarah Murphy Crannagh



Borris Anniversary Mass Gretta Kavanagh Shabeg Borris & her husband James

We also pray for: John & Ciss Rapple Tomduff, Joan Quinn Mountain View Borris, Michael & Ann Murray Dublin, Nan Quinn Ballynattin, Birdie McCabe Woodlawn Park, Ned Coleman Station Road,

Joseph O'Neill Slyguff, Liam (Billy) Hayden Crannagh

Mass Intentions this Week

Wednesday 8th February: MASS IN BORRIS LODGE NURSING HOME Thursday 9th February: Paddy Carter Upper Cottages Friday 10th February: Mary & Paddy Mahon Main Street Borris

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

Quote from Pope Francis

"Jesus keeps knocking on our door in the faces of our brothers and sisters, in the faces of our neighbours, in the faces of those at our side."

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.

February by Jane [Goodwin] Austin

I thought the world was cold in death; The flowers, the birds, all life was gone, For January's bitter breath Had slain the bloom and hushed the song.

And still the earth is cold and white, And mead and forest yet are bare; But there's a something in the light That says the germ of life is there.

Deep down within the frozen brook I hear a murmur, faint and sweet, And lo! the ice breaks as I look, And living waters touch my feet.

Within the forest's leafless shade I hear a spring-bird's hopeful lay: O life to frozen death betrayed Thy death shall end in life to-day.

And in my still heart's frozen cell The pulses struggle to be free; While sweet the bird sings, who can tell

Pilgrimage to Assisi and Rome

Visiting the Tombs of St Francis, St Clare and Blessed Carlo Acutis; a guided tour of the St Peters Basilica and attendance a General Papal Audience.

Travelling dates 25th – 31st May 2023, cost €1235 pps, single supplement €270.

Spiritual directors Fr Liam Merrigan & Fr John McEvoy.

For further details contact Monasterevin Parish 045-525346, Rathvilly Parish 059-9161114 or visit <u>www.marian.ie</u>

Feast of St. Brigid February 1st

Oh dear St. Brigid hear our call, And guard our native isle, In olden days you spread the light Of love o'er the soil, Your mission full of ardent love, With pleadings did not fall, And ever shall thy memory live, As Mary of the Gael.

How oft you prayed with fervent hope To save our native land, The fire of Faith you kindled here, By a heavenly breeze was fanned, Thy earthly life our guiding star, A beacon of light to all Fond patroness of Erin's Isle, You heard the plaintive call.

Tho' years have flown O Glorious Saint, Since you trod the Emerald Isle, The hills and pleasant valleys, Seem a-calling all the while. Come dwell again O Brigid true. Amidst the scenes so fair, Where first thy virtues flourished From thy Convent at Kildare.

The Irish race O faithful Queen, Shall ever breathe thy name, With Patrick's aid Apostle true, Our land shall rise to fame. And when all earthly things shall end, We pray our trials are o'er, To meet our Glorious Irish Saint, Yes meet to part no more.

PATRICK McCORMACK Kildare.





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

MondayNo MassTuesdayNo MassWednesdayMass in Borris Lodge Nursing HomeThursday10amFriday7.30pm

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 continued support. Fr Rory

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 <u>safeguarding@kandle.ie</u>



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.