Ballymurphy...BORRIS...Rathanna

Working towards Clustering with St. Mullins & Graiguenamanagh

17th December 2023

Third Sunday of Advent, Year B
Parish News

Gospel Reflection...

The Gospel for today combines a brief passage from the beginning of John's Gospel with a report about John the Baptist. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfilment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness.

John goes on to report on the ministry of John the Baptist. We learn about the attention that John the Baptist received from the Jewish authorities. Messengers from the Jewish priests, the Levites and the Pharisees question John about his identity and the meaning of the baptisms that he is performing. John's Gospel uses these questions to establish the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist. John the Baptist is not the Messiah, nor is he Elijah or the Prophet.

The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the saviour they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our saviour. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfil the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

The third Sunday of Advent is also called *Gaudete Sunday*. *Gaudete*, a Latin word which means "rejoice". This theme is echoed in today's second reading from the first Letter to the Thessalonians. It is a reminder that Advent is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand. *Loyola Press*

Parish Contacts

Borris Parish Email: borrisparish@gmail.com: Website www.borrisparish.ie: Phone: 059 977 3128 Church Services License No. #76100 Charity Registration No: 20015848

With Love We Remember... Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th December

Ballymurphy Anniversary Mass Cummins Family Knockmore

Rathanna Anniversary Mass Special Intention

Borris Anniversary Mass

Dan Carroll Oak Tree Court

Months Mind Mass

Margaret Freeman Ballinasillogue,
Patrick, Brendan & Walter (Sonny) Freeman

We also pray for:

Elizabeth Malone Kyle
Thomas & Margaret (Peggy) Corcoran,
Ballytiglea
Peter & Patricia Rea,
Powerstown East, Goresbridge
Francis & Catherine Foley Ballytiglea
Daniel Foley Ballytiglea
Patrick & Catherine Corcoran Ballinagree
William Mc Cormack & Margaret Walsh, Borris
Jim & Margaret (Mag) Murphy, Ullard
Michael & Mary Kilbride Bunclody
Jim Kilbride, The Rower
Annie Kirwan Borris
Thomas Coleman Ballyellen

Mass Times & Intentions for the coming Week

Martin Kavanagh Ballytiglea

Wednesday 20th December:
Mass in Borris Lodge Nursing Home
Thursday 21st December:
Carmel Murray (nee Doyle) Upper Borris
Friday 22nd December 7.30pm:
Special Intention

Ballymurphy Parents Association...

Would like to sincerely thank all those who supported our recent fundraiser for Ballymurphy National School. There was a fantastic turnout, and it was a great success. We are most thankful to all who helped out in any way and to those who attended on the night, especially Lori Doyle of Fleurtation Flower Shop in Bagenalstown.

Wishing you all a joyful, happy and peaceful Christmas.

St. Vincent de Paul

A sincere thanks to all who contributed to the collection for the St. Vincent de Paul Christmas collection last weekend.

A total of €1,695.30 was donated.

€1,380.30 from Borris & Rathanna area €315.00 from Ballymurphy area.

Two separate amounts are noted as our parish of Borris is covered by two St. V. de P. conferences, Bagenalstown & Graiguenamanagh.

Again a sincere thanks to all who donated so generously.

All monies collected are distributed locally

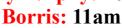
Borris Parish Christmas Ceremonies 2023

Penitential Service: Wednesday 20th December, Borris, 7.30pm

Christmas Eve: Borris: Vigil Mass @ 6.30pm Ballymurphy: Vigil Mass @ 7.30pm



Christmas Day: Rathanna: 9.30am Ballymurphy: 10am





Christmas Ceremonies St. Mullin's Parish

Christmas Eve

Sunday 24th: Drummond: 9.30am Glynn: 11.00am

Christmas Day

Monday 25th: Drummond: 9.30am Glynn: 11.00am

Christmas Ceremonies Graiguenamanagh

Christmas Eve

Sunday 24th: Skeoughvosteen: 5.15pm Graiguenamanagh: 7.00pm

Christmas Day

Monday 25th: Graiguenamanagh: 8.00am Skeoughvosteen: 9.30am Graiguenamanagh: 11.00am

The Lord is Near...

We wait in Hope and Prayer..

Christmas Ceremonies Bagenalstown Parish

Christmas Eve

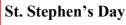
Bagenalstown6.00 pmNewtown7.00 pmBallinkillen8.00 pm



Christmas Day

Bagenalstown 8.00 am & 11.30 am

Newtown 9.00 am Ballinkillen 10.00 am



Bagenalstown 10.00 am

Christmas Mass Bouquets

Christmas Mass Bouquets are available in the Parish Centre

Also a wide selection of Mass Bouquets for various occasions.

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

Come, Follow Me...

Is priesthood for you? Why not make that call?

Contact our Vocations Director: Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill; Tel: 083 3343744

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday in our Parish Church from 10.30am to 1pm

Thursday in Rathanna Church from 11am to 6pm.

All Welcome

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. Ailish Higgins Mob: 085-8021633

email safeguarding@kandle.ie

SERENITY 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.