

# 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](mailto:borrisparish@gmail.com):  
Website [www.borrisparish.ie](http://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

Martin Kavanagh Ballytiglea

*Mass Times*

*& Intentions for the coming Week*

*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**

**Borris: 11am**



## *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 Bagenalstown Parish*

**Christmas Eve**

Bagenalstown 6.00 pm

Newtown 7.00 pm

Ballinkillen 8.00 pm



**Christmas Day**

Bagenalstown 8.00 am & 11.30 am

Newtown 9.00 am

Ballinkillen 10.00 am



## *Christmas Ceremonies Graigenamanagh*

**Christmas Eve**

Sunday 24th:

Skeoughvosteen: 5.15pm

Graigenamanagh: 7.00pm

**Christmas Day**

Monday 25th:

Graigenamanagh: 8.00am

Skeoughvosteen: 9.30am

Graigenamanagh: 11.00am

## *Christmas Mass Bouquets*

Christmas Mass Bouquets are available in the Parish Centre

Also a wide selection of Mass Bouquets for various occasions.

*The Lord is Near...*

*We wait in Hope and Prayer...*

## *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.hsc.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:**

**BOFIE2D**

*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](mailto: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.**