

Anniversaries for Week Ending
May 16th & 17th 2026

Ballymurphy: Anniversary Mass:

Jack & Kathleen Whelan the Forge Borris & deceased members of the Whelan family

Rathanna: Anniversary Mass:

Pat, James & Brigid O'Neill Raheenkyle

Borris: Anniversary Mass:

Patrick Treacy 1 Station Road Borris

**Owen & Tom Brennan Killedmond
Jim, Ellen & Michael Byrne Cournellan
Jamie Spruhan Borris**

Those who died recently and whose funerals took place during the week:

Mary Quigley Woodlawn Park

Paddy Roche Graiguenamanagh

Larry Ellard Bagenalstown & Borris

Clement (Clem) Stewart 34 Killeaton Gardens, Dunmurry, Belfast...father of Áine O'Shea, his funeral mass takes place in St. Anne's Church, Belfast next Monday 18th May at 10am

Safeguarding

The Parish of Borris in common with all other parishes is committed to safeguarding the children of their parish.

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

Director of Safeguarding: Ms. Ms Michele Hughes
Mob: 086-171 0643 or Email: safeguarding@kandle.ie

Do you have a Notice for the Parish News?

If your group / club / organisation has a notice that they wish to be included in the Parish News please forward the details to borrisparish@gmail.com by 12:00 noon on Thursdays for inclusion in the following week's edition.

The Parish News can be found on the Parish Website www.borrisparish.ie and on various local Facebook pages. Inclusion in the Parish News is at the discretion of the editor. **Fr Rory**

Letter from Bishop Denis
on the occasion of
First Holy Communion

Bishop Denis has asked that the following letter be shared with the families and the children who will celebrate First Holy Communion in the Parish this year. I feel it is a letter that can benefit us all as a Parish and Faith Community.

First Holy Communion takes place next weekend, Saturday 9th May, for the children of St. Patrick's School, Ballymurphy & Saturday 16th May for Borris National School. On our faith journey in life this is a major event that enriches the child's and family faith and the faith of the wider community.

I hope this letter speaks to you, not just as a recipient of First Holy Communion or Parent but as one who have prayed with this group at masses on Sunday throughout the year.

May you continue to hold the children in your prayers at this special time for them.

Fr Rory



Diocese of Kildare & Leighlin

Dear First Communicants, parents and families,

Warm greetings and blessings to you in this very special month.

Children, you will receive the Body of Christ for the first time in a couple of weeks. This is the gift you have been preparing for.

Now, I also know that you will receive lots of gifts from many people who love you and are so happy for you on this day. But I ask you to remember just one thing for me. Please, remember that the gift of Jesus in Holy Communion is the most precious gift of them all. And the wonderful thing is that after your First Holy Communion you can come to Mass and keep receiving this gift, again and again. I very much hope and pray that you do.

Parents and families - you and your family are important members of the family of God and of this parish. You are loved, you are wanted, and you are needed. And when you are not here you are missed. As Christians we need the nourishment of God's Word and Eucharist to bring meaning and peace to our lives. That is why Sunday matters and why Sunday Mass is so important.

As you celebrate this wonderful day as a family my parting request to you is to seriously think about making

Sunday Mass here in the parish, (whether on a Saturday evening or Sunday morning), a part of your family life, if it is not already so. The first step might be simply deciding to make it a habit in your week.

I pray that your First Holy Communion Day may be a treasured day in the life of all your families. And, for our First Communicants, that it is the first of a lifetime of receiving Jesus, the Bread of Life.

Every blessing,

✠ Denis Nulty
Bishop of Kildare & Leighlin

**Important Dates in the
Parish of Borris 2026**

Mass of the Holy Angels

Remembering children who died before and after birth

Wednesday 16th November

7.30pm

Sacred Heart Church Borris

Mass for those who Died during the Year

Wednesday 25th November

7.30pm

Sacred Heart Church Borris

Cemetery Masses & Blessing of Graves*

Kiltannel Cemetery

Sunday 21st June 12.30pm

Rosary & Blessing of Graves

Sacred Heart Cemetery Borris

Friday 26th June 7.30pm

Mass & Blessing of Graves

Clonagoose Cemetery

Friday 3rd July 7.30pm

Mass & Blessing of Graves

Rathanna Cemetery
Sunday 2nd August 3pm
Mass & Blessing of Graves

Ballymurphy Cemetery
Sunday 30th August 3pm
Mass & Blessing of Graves

**Subject to Weather on the Day/Evening*

Masses in our Deanery/Pastoral Area

Borris Parish Mass Times

Weekly Mass Times

Saturday	Ballymurphy	7.30pm
Sunday	Rathanna	9.30am
	Borris	11.00am
Wednesday	Borris	10.00am
Friday	Borris	7.30pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in the Sacred Heart Church, Borris each Wednesday after the 10am mass until 1.00pm.

Graiguenamanagh Mass Times

Saturday: Mass in Duiske Abbey at 7.00pm

Sunday: Mass in Skeoughvosteen at 9.30am
Mass in Duiske Abbey at 11.00am

Monday to Friday: Mass in Duiske Abbey at 10am

St. Mullins Mass Times 2026

Mass Times for the Year 2026

Saturday Night Mass: Drummond at 7.00pm

Sunday Mass: Glynn at 10am

Holyday of Obligation Mass: Drummond at 10am

Wednesday Mass: Drummond at 9.30am

Thursday: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
2.00pm Drummond

Drummond Church is open daily for private visits.

Paulstown Mass Times

Saturday: Mass in Goresbridge at 7.30pm

Sunday: Mass in Goresbridge at 10.00am
Mass in Paulstown at 11.30am

Why Sunday Matters

An invitation to all parishioners for the coming weeks

Bishop Denis and the Diocesan Commission for Liturgical Formation invite parishioners across the diocese to reflect on the letter from the Irish Bishops, 'WHY SUNDAY MATTERS', for these remaining weeks of Eastertide up to the 'Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ' on June 7th.

From next weekend we will post a short excerpt from the letter each week for you to think about, with a link to the full text.

Sunday matters – it's good every now and again to stop and remind ourselves why.

See: www.kandle.ie/resources/liturgy-pastoral for more on the importance of Sunday and the Sunday Mass.

Visit the Kandle Facebook page and/or X account to see this weekend's highlighted material, including a video message from Bishop Denis.

See also: www.catholicbishops.ie

Sunday 17th May 2026

*Why Sunday Matters; Christ's presence among us:
An excerpt from the Bishop's Pastoral Letter:*

‘Sunday has always been the day of the Lord: the day of resurrection, the day of rest, the day of Eucharist. From the very beginning of our Christian faith, Sunday has been central to the life of the Church and remains the heart of Christian practice. It is on this day that we gather as a community, united in our love for Christ, to encounter the risen Lord and be nourished in body and soul.

The Mass is not just a ritual; it is the source and summit of our faith. It is where we encounter Christ in His living presence, and it is through the Eucharist that we are strengthened to live as true disciples.

Attending Mass on Sundays, or its vigil on Saturday evening, is not just an obligation; it is a profound privilege and a chance to experience God's love in a deeply personal way.

As we come to this sacred celebration let us do so with hearts full of gratitude for the precious gift of Christ's presence among us.’

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Knock

Bishop Denis Nulty invites you to join with him and parishioners from across the diocese at the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock, on Sunday 7th June 2026.

Ceremonies begin at 2.30pm in the Basilica.

Adults €30; Children €20

Bookings to **John Coady**

Phone: 051 424628 or mobile 087 333 0558

Loughlin Doyle

Mobile 085 808 9125

Electrical waste - free drop-off.

Carlow County Council are hosting a free WEEE drop off event in **Borris Mart on Wednesday 20th May from 10am - 4pm. (Eircode R95 AY07)**

Anything with a plug, battery or cable can be recycled for free on the day, from washing machines, TVs, kettles, toasters, power and garden tools, electronic toys, phones, cables, IT equipment, remote controls, watches, batteries of all sizes – even farm fence batteries.

**For further information contact
environment @carlowcoco.ie
or visit www.carlow.ie**

Borris Active Retirement

Borris Active Retirement group meet each Monday in the Library in Borris from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. New members are always welcome...from 55 years upwards! It may be a chance to get out of the house for an hour or two to meet and to chat with others, especially now as the long evenings draw in.

The Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme

The Mother and Baby Institutions Payment Scheme launched in March 2024 following the Government agreed actions arising from the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby homes and certain related matters.

The Payment scheme provides financial payments, and health supports to eligible people who spent time in Mother and Baby and County Home Institutions in Ireland.

Eligibility criteria can be found online, (website below) or by post

Visit: www.gov.ie/en/department-of-children-disability-and-equality/campaigns/mother-and-baby-institutions-payment-scheme/

**Contact Helpline: 01 522 9922
(call to request application pack)**

***All applications are handled
with care, dignity and full confidentiality.***

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in our hour of battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; And do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.

Totus Tuus 2026 Fatima Pilgrimage

The **Totus Tuus Annual Pilgrimage to Fatima** will take place from **28th August to 4th September**.

Learn about the Fatima Message, the Rosary, the First Saturdays, the lives of the three visionaries, and visit the tomb and home of Blessed Alexandrina Da Costa, who lived solely on the Eucharist for 13 years.

The cost is €915 which includes, flights, half board accommodation, airport transfers, day trip to Balasar, trip to Valinhos and Adjustrel, trip to the Irish Dominican Sisters' Convent.

There are places available to fly from Cork Airport, and also from Dublin Airport. Limited places are available.

For more information call Damien on 087 20 49 048

Accent Dance School

Every Thursday at 6.30pm in Borris Town Hall



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DANCE CLASSES FOR ADULTS **(BEGINNERS)**

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6:30 PM**
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**START YOUR FIRST CLASS
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★ **LIMITED SPACES - BOOK TODAY!** ★

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Balance and resistance training Borris, Myshall, Carlow & Tullow

Further information: Email: foreverfitcarlow@gmail.com

Phone: 085 801 4138

Library News

Get 7-day access to your local library, 8am to 10pm!

My Open Library is the self-service initiative that lets you use library facilities beyond regular opening hours from 8am to 10pm, seven days a week!

At participating libraries during these times, you can Borrow and return books; Read and Study in a quiet space; Access Wi-Fi and computers; Print, scan and photocopy; Use meeting Spaces.

My Open Library operates 365 days a year and is simple and free to use, Register today at your local participating library.

My Open Library is operating in Tullow, Bagenalstown & Borris Library Branches,

For more info:

Drop in to Tullow Library

Or contact us on 059 913 6299

Drop in to Muinebheag Library

Or contact us on 059 912 9703

Drop in to Borris Library

Or contact us on 059 9170350

Radio Maria Ireland

Radio Maria Ireland is a Catholic Radio Station. It offers prayers, teachings, and music to deepen one's faith, and encourages us to keep growing in the faith on a daily basis.

We broadcast 24/7, on three pillars being that of

- 1. Prayer & Catechesis,**
- 2. Music**
- 3. Human Formation.**

Further information can be found on www.radiomaria.ie.

You can listen to Radio Maria:

- 1. Via Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210**
- 2. Download our FREE App “RADIO MARIA IRELAND”**
- 3. Streaming on our WEBSITE - www.radiomaria.ie**
- 4. Via our ‘Listen Live Radio’ link on our Facebook Page.**
- 5. Via PHONE – get live radio feed by calling
+353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).**
- 6. Via DAB Radio in the Leinster area – including locally in Borris and south Carlow where reception from the Mount Leinster transmitter on the DAB radio band is now EXCELLENT – new service started earlier in May 2026.**

Carlow County Council Register of Electors

Even if you receive a polling card, you now need to add your PPSN, date of birth and Eircode to the register.

You can update your details at checktheregister.ie or by paper form.

If you need assistance, Carlow County Council Register Staff will be happy to help you on:

059 9170332 / 059 9170308 / 059 9172448

or email: register@carlowcoco.ie

Jennifer Murnane O'Connor's TD Clinic

Minister of State Jennifer Murnane O'Connor's Clinics will now be held every 2nd Wednesday in The Family Resource Centre, Royal Oak Road, Bagenalstown. Starting from Wednesday 18th March. Times are 10.30am to 12.30pm.

For further information, please contact the
Constituency office on 059-9170754
or email jennifer.murnaneoconnor@oireachtas.ie

Southeast Family Support Network

HAVE YOU BEEN IMPACTED BY ANOTHER'S DRUG OR ALCOHOL USE?

You don't have to face it alone. The Carlow Peer Family Support Group 'You Are Not Alone' is here for you. We offer a safe, non-judgemental space of understanding and compassion where you can:

Share your experiences. Meet with family members in similar situations and who 'get it'. Receive support that will support you to look at practical solutions and effective responses learning how caring for yourself can support the whole family.

Contract 085-7872730 or 086-6045805 for details

SUPPORT FOR YOURSELF CAN HELP THE WHOLE FAMILY

National Epilepsy Week 2026

...takes place on 18th May - 25th May.

For further information, please visit

www.epilepsy.ie/content/national-epilepsy-week-2026-epilepsyweek.

Fr Liam Lawton Concert

On 15 February 2026, Fr Liam Lawton received a papal award for his distinguished service to the Church as a composer and performer of sacred music.

The award was presented by Bishop Denis Nulty on behalf of Pope Leo XIV in the Gunn Chapel, Maynooth College, during a special evening celebrating his music, attended by Archbishop Eamon Martin, bishops, and choir members from across the country.

As many supporters could not attend, a second celebration with the same programme and performers will take place on **Sunday, May 24th, at St Mary's Church, Edenderry.**

Following recent renovations of the church, the concert will raise funds to continue this work.

Tickets will be available via Facebook, Instagram, the Parish website, and in limited supply at the Parish Centre. High demand is expected, so early purchase and arrival are advised, as some seating will have restricted views.

Cupla Focál

Cupla Focail, the Irish Speaking Circle meets every Monday night at 8pm in O'Shea's, Borris. We welcome all to come along and just enjoy a chat. Whatever your level or ability use it and improve it.

Céad mile fáilte. **John Byrne, Woodlawn Park**

Carlow Pilgrims to Travel to Italy for 27th International Columban Meeting

A Pilgrimage from the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin, led by Bishop Denis Nulty, will travel to Lodi in Italy this July to participate in the 27th International Columban Meeting, continuing County Carlow's central role in celebrating the life and legacy of St Columbanus.

Taking place from Friday July 3rd to Monday July 6th, 2026, the international gathering forms part of a long-standing annual European tradition honouring Columbanus, the 6th century Irish missionary monk born in the shadow of Mount Leinster near Myshall, County Carlow, whose influence extended across Ireland and mainland Europe.

Following the successful hosting of the Columbanus Weekend in Carlow in July 2025, which welcomed visitors from across France, Italy, Germany and Switzerland, this year's event represents an important opportunity to strengthen those international connections and reaffirm Carlow's place at the heart of the Columbanus story.

A rich and engaging programme has been developed for the visit, combining pilgrimage, cultural exchange and spiritual reflection. Highlights of the three-day programme include a visit to the historic town of Bobbio, where Columbanus founded his final monastery and where he is buried, as well as evening concerts, cultural gatherings and shared meals with international participants.

A 13km walk along the Columban Way in Italy, tracing the footsteps of the saint through Sant'Angelo Lodigiano to San Colombano al Lambro, a solemn celebration of the Eucharist, a pilgrim's dinner in the courtyard of the Bishop's Palace and a visit to Milan forms also form part of the programme.

Speaking ahead of the event Bishop Denis Nulty said: "We all remember with great fondness the celebrations in Carlow last July honouring St. Columbanus. This pilgrimage offers a unique opportunity to deepen our understanding of St Columbanus and to strengthen the bonds that exist between communities across Europe. As the birthplace of Columbanus, Carlow has a special responsibility to keep his legacy alive. This gathering in Lodi is not only a celebration of faith, but also of shared heritage, friendship and cultural exchange."

The pilgrimage is open to those wishing to take part in what promises to be a memorable experience of shared cultural

learning and spiritual development. Travel arrangements, including flights, accommodation and a full programme of events, are being coordinated by Tully's Travel, Carlow, who are acting as official booking agents for the group.

The Columban Way, which stretches over 5,000km across Europe, including a 571km route in Ireland from Myshall to Bangor, continues to grow as a significant cultural and pilgrimage route, linking Carlow with key Columbanus sites across the continent.

For further information or to book, contact Tully's Travel, Carlow at 059-9136100 or visit www.kandle.ie or www.carlowtourism.com/thecolumbanway

The Ascension of the Lord

First Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

In my earlier work, Theophilus, I dealt with everything Jesus had done and taught from the beginning until the day he gave his instructions to the apostles he had chosen through the Holy Spirit, and was taken up to heaven. He had shown himself alive to them after his Passion by many demonstrations: for forty days he had continued to appear to them and tell them about the kingdom of God.

When he had been at table with them, he had told them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for what the Father had promised. 'It is' he had said 'what you have heard me speak about: John baptised with water but you, not many days from now, will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' Now having met together, they asked him, 'Lord, has the time come? Are you going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know times or dates that the Father has decided by his own authority, but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and then you will be my witnesses not only in Jerusalem but throughout Judaea and Samaria, and indeed to the ends of the earth'. As he said this he was lifted up while they looked on, and a cloud took him from their sight.

They were still staring into the sky when suddenly two men in white were standing near them and they said, 'Why are you men from Galilee standing here looking into the sky? Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven, this same Jesus will come back in the same way as you have seen him go there.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Response: God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

All peoples, clap your hands,
cry to God with shouts of joy!
For the Lord, the Most High, we must fear,

great king over all the earth.

Response: God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

God goes up with shouts of joy;
the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.
Sing praise for God, sing praise,
sing praise to our king, sing praise.

Response: God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

God is king of all the earth.
Sing praise with all your skill.
God is king over the nations;
God reigns on his holy throne.

Response: God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Second Reading

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians.

May the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and perception of what is revealed, to bring you to full knowledge of him.

May he enlighten the eyes of your mind so that you can see what hope his call holds for you, what rich glories he has promised the saints will inherit and how infinitely great is the power that he has exercised for us believers.

This you can tell from the strength of his power at work in Christ, when he used it to raise him from the dead and to make him sit at his right hand, in heaven, far above every Sovereignty, Authority, Power, or Domination, or any other name that can be named, not only in this age, but also in the age to come.

He has put all things under his feet, and made him as the ruler of everything, the head of the Church; which is his body, the fullness of him who fills the whole creation.

The word of the Lord.