

PARISH NEWS

Third Sunday of Advent

11th December 2016

Jesus asks the crowd in today's Gospel why they ran to see John the Baptist. Sometimes when we go to hear a famous speaker or go to someone we admire we are looking for answers. Our expectations are often not grounded in reality. Jesus asks the people what did they expect when they went to see John. Were they looking for someone nicely dressed? No, they were looking for a prophet and John was the greatest of these. Jesus's words are almost like a eulogy for John.

John announces and makes way for Jesus, marking the end of one era and the beginning of another. John announces a new time. John names the question we so often ask when a new exciting leader comes on the scene: Is this the one? Is this the person we've been waiting for? And if it is, how will we know? Our expectations can often be so great because we are constantly in need of renewal. Where in your life today do you need to experience fresh hope and newness?

The Gospel ends with a paradox: John is the greatest that has ever been born; yet the people who are considered the 'lowest' or the 'least' in this world are considered even greater than John by God. A statement that no doubt would have left a few people scratching their heads.

O' Come, O Come, Emmanuel, come forth from deep within me with Christmas luminous beauty. For my heart has become the sacred crib, the birthing place of God among us.'

Edward Hays

(Prayer for a Planetary Pilgrim)

Collections: 4th Dec Envelopes €919 Baskets €682
No of Envelopes 71 Direct Debits 4

Our thanks and appreciation to all who subscribe so generously to the Parish

Mass Schedule: Mass on Monday 12th & Fri 16th Dec at 7.30pm
Mass Tuesday 13th - Thurs 15th Dec 9am
Ballymurphy Servers Sat 3rd Dec Group 1

Borris Parish Website: www.borrisparish.ie

Diocesan Website: www.kandle.ie

Parish Centre: Opening hours from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. Monday - Friday
Phone 059 9773128; email borrisparish@gmail.com Closed Bank Holidays.

Visiting The Sick Fr. Rory will visit the sick on his list on Monday 19th December in the Ballymurphy & Rathanna areas and on Tuesday 20th December in the Borris area.

Borris St. Vincent de Paul Church Gate Collection takes place on Sat. 10th Dec & Sun. 11th Dec at Borris, Ballymurphy & Rathanna Masses. Please give as generously as possible.

A pre-Christmas treat - 'An Aspiro Christmas' Sunday 11th December, St Mary's Church, Castle Hill, Carlow at 4pm. Tickets €10 available, at the door. Children Free

“Trócaire is hoping for the usual terrific support from parishioners for the Trócaire Gifts and Christmas Appeal. The gifts make a huge difference to the lives of families and communities in some of the world’s poorest countries and start from as little as €5 for olive trees for Palestinian families. To find out more, buy a gift or make a donation log on to trocaire.org or call 1850 408 408.”

'MVW Talent Agency Ireland presents 'Christmas Stars' in aid of the Miscarriage Association of Ireland A lovely evening of Christmas entertainment featuring students from The Talented Kids Performing Arts School. Monday 19th December @ 7.15pm. Mahony Hall, The Helix, DCU, Dublin 9. Tickets available from The Helix Box Office.'

BORRIS CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2016

STATION MASSES	BORRIS	16 TH DECEMBER	7.30PM
	BALLYMURPHY	17 TH DECEMBER	7.30PM
	RATHANNA	18 TH DECEMBER	9.30AM

CAROL SERVICE: ECUMENICAL CAROL SERVICE WITH KILLEDMOND CHURCH IN ST. FORTCHERN’S CHURCH, RATHANNA THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER AT 7.30PM

PENITENTIAL SERVICE:

SACRED HEART CHURCH BORRIS MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER 7.30PM

CONFESSION TIME: SACRED HEART CHURCH SAT 24TH DECEMBER 11.30AM – 12 NOON

MASS TIMES:

CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS SACRED HEART BORRIS 7.30PM

CHRISTMAS DAY ST. PATRICK’S CHURCH BALLYMURPHY 9.00AM

ST. FORTCHERN’S RATHANNA 9.30AM

SACRED HEART CHURCH BORRIS 11.00AM

ST. STEPHEN’S DAY NO MASS

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

VIGIL MASS THURSDAY 5TH JAN 2017 ST. PATRICK’S BALLYMURPHY 7.30PM

FRIDAY 6TH RATHANNA 9.30AM

BORRIS 11.00AM

Third Sunday of Advent -- December 11, 2016

“I send my messenger ahead of you to prepare your way before you.” Are you called to be sent by Jesus as a priest, deacon, sister or brother?

If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood contact: Fr. Ruairi O’Domhnaill
vocations@kandle.ie www.kandlepriest.com

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Let Me Not Keep Christmas

"Let me not wrap, stack, box, bag, tie, tag, bundle, seal, keep Christmas.

Christmas kept is liable to mould.

Let me give Christmas away, unwrapped, by exuberant armfuls. Let me share, dance, live Christmas unpretentiously, merrily, responsibly with overflowing hands, tireless steps and sparkling eyes.

Christmas given away will stay fresh—even until it comes again."

Linda Felver, A Book of Christmas, Nashville: Upper Rooms, 1988, p. 48

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK