## PARISH NEWS

# Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time 9th September 2018

In today's gospel Jesus heals a man who was deaf and who had a speech impediment, unable to hear or speak God's word of truth. Jesus says *ephphatha*, which means 'be opened!' Immediately this man was healed.

During this Season of Creation we are all urged to *listen* to the cry of the earth. Scientists are now telling us that unless drastic action is taken we will lose the battle against the environmental destruction which this world is faced with. The worldwide heatwave and drought which we experienced this summer is one example of how our planet is under pressure. Yet change is possible. All it takes is one good person to restore hope. As followers of Christ we have a duty to lead the way in caring for God's beautiful creation. What prevents us from hearing these messages? We can be cynical and say that the issue is too big, that it is up to governments to sort out. *Ephphatha!* We start where we are and do what we can. This week can you encourage your family to make small changes in the home such as ensuring all waste is correctly recycled, composting, encouraging one another to use public transport or walk/cycle when possible? A very simple action is to reduce the use of plastic by buying a reusable water bottle or coffee cup which removes so much waste from landfills and sends a powerful message. We begin with the small actions and encourage others to do the same. *Ephphatha!* Let us all be open to this call to care for our common home. (You can find out more at <a href="https://www.seasonofcreation.org">www.seasonofcreation.org</a>)

**Collections:** 2<sup>nd</sup> September Envelopes €414 Baskets €576

No of Envelopes 64 Direct Debits 4

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

Mass Schedule; Mass Monday 10<sup>th</sup> & Friday 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. at 7.30pm

Mass Tues 11<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. at 10am Ballymurphy Servers Sat 8<sup>th</sup>Sept. **Group 2** 

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 <a href="mailto:borrisparish@gmail.com">borrisparish@gmail.com</a> Closed Bank Holidays.

Safeguarding: If you are concerned about the welfare & safety of children or vulnerable adults contact the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person (DLP) – Ms. Joan Treacy Mob: 085-8021633, e-mail – <a href="mailto:dlp@kandle.ie">dlp@kandle.ie</a>

<u>YEARLY ENVELOPES</u> – THOSE WHO DISTRIBUTE THE YEARLY BOXES OF PARISH ENVELOPES MAY COLLECT THEM AT THE PARISH CENTRE FROM FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST

**VISITING THE SICK** – FR. Rory will visit the sick on his list on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September** in the Rathanna & Ballymurphy areas and on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September** in the Borris areas.

#### **BORRIS TOWN HALL - Donations Please!**

We are looking for donations of floor and wall tiles to re-decorate the toilets in the town hall. You can contact Magda King at 087-2168929 or the Parish Centre regarding same.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

#### Reflections on a Wonderful World Meeting of Families from Bishop Denis:

There was the concern around tickets, would we have enough tickets? There was the concern around walking, would it be too far? There was the concern around transport, where was the car park or bus park located? ... and yet it all worked out with such prefect precision in the end.

Every aspect of the World Meeting of Families Pastoral Congress and the Papal Visit was thoroughly enjoyable. I'm already meeting people who watched the Festival of Families in Croke Park and are now saying "I only wish I had been there".

Those of us who were privileged to be there at some elements of the Congress or some aspects of Pope Francis' visit were at something we will never forget in our lifetime. 1.2million people tuned into RTE's coverage of the Papal Mass from the Phoenix Park on Sunday last.

It will take time for us all to unpack the message of the Papal Visit. Pope Francis' very moving apology to victims of all abuse during Sunday's Penitential Rite was a profound moment. As was the candour and sincere address of An Taoiseach at Dublin Castle not to mention the very moving visit of Pope Francis to the Capuchin Day Centre on Church Street affirming Br. Kevin and the work of his many volunteers.

I simply want to sincerely thank the many people across Kildare & Leighlin who in any way contributed to the success of these past memorable days. I think especially of our priests, our parish secretaries, our youth volunteers, our team at Bishop's House and Faith Development Services, our choir members, our WMOF volunteers and our pilgrims who travelled from every corner of the diocese to the World Meeting of Families and Papal events. Every blessing & thanks,

+ Denis

HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK