

# PARISH NEWS

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
3 FEBRUARY 2013

## A Fortified City

The prophets of the Old Testament often needed a pep talk before they set about their mission. Jeremiah's first reaction when God called him to be a prophet was "Ah Lord God! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." Prophecy was not an easy path; there would be challenges and persecution, people would refuse to listen to him, his own friends would turn against him and there would even be plots against his life. In the First reading, God offers Jeremiah some words of reassurance: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you... I will make you into a fortified city... I am with you to deliver you." In spite of the obstacles ahead, Jeremiah had no need to fear. God would be with him and would give him strength. Following in the footsteps of the prophets, today's Gospel sees Jesus face a plot against his life. As he speaks in the synagogue, the people are at first astonished by his words, but then become uncomfortable. "This is Joseph's son, surely?" they ask. They turn against him and are so enraged that they lead him out of town and try to throw him off a cliff. But God is with him and he is kept safe. Today's Psalm tells us that God is our rock, our refuge, our stronghold. He knows the challenges we face, yet he has a plan for our lives. He is our strength.

**Collections:** 27 January 2013 Envelopes " 672.00 Baskets " 741.00

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

**Mass schedule:** Mass at 7.30 pm on Mon. 4<sup>th</sup> Feb. Throats will be blessed after this Mass.  
Mass at 9.00 am from Tues. 5<sup>th</sup> Feb. to Thurs. 7<sup>th</sup> Feb. Mass at 7.30 pm on Fri. 8<sup>th</sup> Feb.

**Visitation of the Sick** Ballymurphy and Rathanna Tues. Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> and in Borris on Wed. Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>

**Diocesan Congress for Year of Faith Theme:** *Lord Increase our faith* Carlow Cathedral and Carlow College **March 8<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>** Parishioners across the diocese are invited to gather for our Diocesan Congress . a time of prayer, celebration and deepening of faith with liturgies, keynote speakers, workshops and exhibitions. Keynote Speakers: Rev. Ruth Patterson, Rev. Prof. Eamonn Conway & Bishop Brendan Kelly. Launch of Congress takes place in Emo National School, 7.30 pm Wed. Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>. Parish representatives will bring back posters and booking forms to parishes. All information on the Congress will appear on the website [www.kandle.ie](http://www.kandle.ie) after the launch.

**Parish Finance Meeting** will be held in the Parochial House on Mon. 11<sup>th</sup> Feb. at 8.00 pm.



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**Creed:** a pilot programme During Lent, Faith Development  
oration on the Creed. These sessions will take place in the  
re, Wed. Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13 at 8 pm. Church of the  
eb. 21, 28, March 7, 14, at 8.15 pm. This is an opportunity  
for parishioners to explore together what it is that we stand and profess as our faith each week in  
Mass.

**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** will take place from 22/23 Oct. to 31<sup>st</sup> Oct./1<sup>st</sup> Nov. 2013 Cost  
" 1,400 per person (approx.) For more information please ring Tullyc Travel, Carlow, at 059  
9131995. Booking forms should be available soon.

**Irish Catholic** The Irish Catholic will again be on sale at the back of all the churches this coming  
weekend. It costs " 1.50. It is also on sale in Kiernans, Borris.

**Vocations Weekend "Come & See"** Do you feel that God may be calling you to the priesthood?  
Would you like to learn more about studying for the priesthood in Kildare & Leighlin? Are you  
curious about the life and work of a priest? If you answer yes to any or all of the above questions  
you are welcome to join us for an afternoon of prayer and information which will be held in the  
Parish Centre, Carlow Town on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb. from 2.30 pm . 5.30 pm Additional information:  
Fr. Ruairi O'Domhnaill 045 434069.

**If you wish to follow Fr. John on Twitter, you can do so @Frjohn51**

**Parish Centre:** Open as usual from Mon. to Fri. from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Phone  
9773128; email [borrisparish@gmail.com](mailto:borrisparish@gmail.com)

**Confirmation** will be celebrated in Borris on Sun. 10<sup>th</sup> March 2013m at 2.00 pm.

**Congratulations to the Juvenile Hurling Team in Borris Vocational School** on winning the  
Leinster Post Primary SchoolsqB Hurling Final recently. Leinster is as far as this competition goes  
at Junior level so it's a fantastic achievement for all concerned.

**Ireland Reaching Out** helps local Irish communities, largely through volunteer effort, trace the  
people who left their parishes, seeking to find them and their descendants worldwide. We would  
like the help of people in YOUR parish, those who have a particular interest, knowledge or know  
the history in the area. Contact Laura in Ireland reaching Out on 087 7718432 or at  
[info@irelandxo.com](mailto:info@irelandxo.com)

### *Thought For The Week*

#### **PRO-LIFE**

Tens of thousands of people ranging from newborn babies to the elderly staged a pro-life  
rally on the streets of Dublin over proposals by the current government to introduce  
abortion into Ireland. While tens of thousands walked through the streets of Dublin toward  
the gathering point on Dublin's Merrion Square near the offices of Ireland's prime minister,  
upward of 250,000 gathered around the country for a Holy Hour of prayer and adoration in  
front of the Blessed Sacrament. Dublin's Archbishop, Diarmuid Martin led hundreds in  
prayer at the Westland Row Church of St. Andrew's, where there was standing room only.  
It would seem that the people of Ireland, 82% Catholic, stood together imploring God not  
to allow abortion into the Land of Saints and Scholars. (to be continued)

*Have A Wonderful Week*