



## St. Nicholas' Parish News

Sunday 11th March 2018

4th Sunday of Lent

www.saintnicholasparish.ie  
E-mail: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com



### SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

John 3:14-21

1. Jesus speaks of himself being lifted up, a term that can mean a physical lifting, or also exaltation. By this play on words the evangelist explains to us that Jesus' gift of himself in the passion was a glorious revelation of love, despite all its injustice and brutality. Bring to mind occasions when the love shown by Jesus in his passion was a sacrament of God's love for you.

2. It would be very cushy for us if we could be a source of life to others without cost to ourselves. True life-givers know that they need the generosity of being lifted up by giving their lives so that others may have life. Recall when you have had that generosity and give thanks for others who have been like that for you.

3. We receive life from God when our faith enables us to trust in God's love for us. We give life to one another when the love between us is trustworthy. Recall memories of that kind of trustworthy love. For whom have you been able to be a 'Jesus person' and give a love that another could trust? Who has shown that kind of love to you and been for you a sacrament of God's love?

John Byrne osa  
Email jbyrneosa@gmail.com

### THE DEEP END: Rejoice!

Today, the 'middle' Sunday of Lent, is known as Laetare Sunday. The name comes from the opening words of the entrance antiphon of the Mass, 'Laetare Jerusalem' or 'Rejoice, O Jerusalem'. We tend not to think of Lent as a time to rejoice, but a few small signs of joy are permitted at Mass today, such as the use of flowers on the altar and rose-coloured vestments for the priest instead of the Lenten purple. The shadow of the cross still looms large, but we look forward with hope to Easter, when light will conquer the darkness.

We are offered an opportunity today to pause and reflect on our Lenten journey. Listen to the words of St Paul: 'You are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.' Many of our efforts during Lent are aimed at improving ourselves, being more generous with our time or resources, more patient, more attentive to the needs of others - living as true followers of Jesus. What changes do I need to make to be 'God's work of art'?

And in John's Gospel we hear: 'The [person] who lives by the truth comes out into the light, so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.' One question we might ask this Lent is: Am I living a truthful life? Am I honest in my dealings with others, trying always to choose what is right and just, or are there things I think or do in secret that are unkind or dishonest? How might I step out into the light this Lent?

Triona Doherty  
Athlone, Co Roscommon

Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.

061 340614

Fr. John O'Byrne

085 7491268

Fr Sean Harmon

087 9870284

Salesian Sisters:

061 348510

#### Mass times:

St Munchin's College.

9.45am. Mon, Tues & Wed.

St Nicholas, Westbury

7.00pm — Thursday

#### Weekends:

St Nicholas 7.00pm — Sat.

10.30 am — Sunday

St Munchin's College

12 noon — Sunday



#### PARISH NEWSLETTER

Please feel free to take home a copy of this news-let-ter. A neighbour or friend who does not attend church in our parish might also welcome it. If you decide otherwise, please leave it on the table at the Exit on your way out. Thank you.

We also encourage groups to avail of it to promote upcoming events, letting know of someone who needs prayers etc.

Items for the newsletter to be in to:

John... 085 7406822

Maura. 086 0429952

by Wednesday please.

E-mail:

Stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

#### Feastdays— March

Saturday 17th—

St. Patrick—Patron Saint

Of Ireland

## Congratulations

to the 2nd class students from Scoil Ide who received their 1st confession this week in St Nicholas Church

## Thank You!

To all those who came along recently to help with the cleaning of St. Nicholas Church.

It was very much appreciated.





**Parish Office Opening hours** Tues 2pm—4pm. Thurs 9.30am—12.30. for anyone who may need to book Masses get certificates or any other church related enquiries. Entrance to the office is through the Adoration Chapel opposite the priest's house. Phone: 341300 **Please Note that the office will be closed on Tuesday 13th March next.**

### Adoration Chapel

The Adoration Chapel is open from 9.30am to 6.00pm each day. We encourage you to come along for a quiet moment of prayer.



### Baptism

Anyone wishing to have their baby baptised must give at least one months notice. Baptisms are on the 2nd & 4th weekend of each month. Times: 6.00pm Saturday evening St. Nicholas Church, Sunday 1.00p.m. St Munchin's College.



### Confirmation

The new date for Confirmation is Saturday, March 24th at 10:30am in St Nicholas Church, Westbury.

SATURDAY APRIL 7TH




MUINTEARAS ÍOSA  
CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

Muintearas Iosa is a wonderful youth ministry movement that has affected thousands of young people across Limerick diocese and beyond. This year we celebrate 40 years of Muintearas and we have so many people and so much to be grateful for.

On Sunday, April 7th, Muintearas Iosa will celebrate 40 years! An afternoon/evening of Failte, Foghlaim and Guí is planned in the Diocesan Centre\* - @ St Munchin's College, Corbally - and all are very welcome. Bring musical instruments.

We would love to have some sense of numbers coming, and are also gathering photos and stories to form a collage of memories. So can you contact us on [muintearasmemories@gmail.com](mailto:muintearasmemories@gmail.com) to let us know if you - and your family - are coming along, and/or to share memories with us.

**Location: Newly relocated Diocesan Centre, at St. Munchin's College, Corbally**



**PRAY FOR THE SICK**

### Remembering those who are Sick

Let us continue to pray for those who are ill at this time, those preparing for and awaiting results of tests, those in hospital. Continue to pray for Maurice, Ailish R, Pat, Annette, Aidan, Gabriel, Jim, Kathleen, Garrett, Helen, Maura, Philip, Tony, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Ciara, Paddy, Michael, Vera Ailish, Frank & Ger.

Lord Jesus, you are the true friend of all those who suffer anguish and pain in spirit, mind or body. Please share with them now the gift of your consoling love.

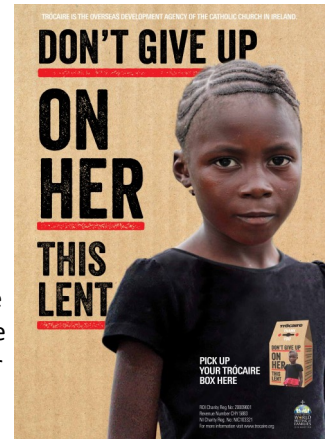
If you know of anybody needing prayers etc, please let John/Maura know by E-mail: [stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com) or Tel. John.085 7406822 Maura. 086 0429952

**Trócaire**  
Working for a just world.

**"Motherhood: All love begins and ends there"**  
Robert Browning

This Mothering Sunday we pray for mothers across the developing world who strive to create a better future for their children. Mothers like those in Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Ethiopia

where a hunger crisis still grips the land. Mothers there are doing without food so their children can have a little more to eat. To find out more about Trócaire's Lenten campaign visit [www.trocaire.org](http://www.trocaire.org)



**Wishing you a rainbow after showers  
Miles and miles of Irish smiles  
For golden happy hours  
Shamrocks at your doorway  
For luck and laughter too  
And a host of friends that never ends  
Each; day your whole life through!**



### St Patrick's Day Masses

Vigil Mass : Friday evening at 7pm in St. Nicholas Church, Westbury

Saturday : 9am St. Munchin's College Chapel

Saturday Evening Vigil Mass as normal on March 17th at 7pm in St. Nicholas Church, Westbury

'A society without mothers would be an inhuman society, as mothers always know how to show tenderness, devotion and moral strength, even in the moments of greatest difficulty. Mothers often also transmit the deepest sense of religious practice ... It is a message that mothers who believe know how to transmit without much explanation; this arrives later, but the seed of faith is planted in those first precious moments. Without mothers ... faith would lose a good part of its simple, profound warmth.'

Pope Francis

**HAPPY MOTHERS DAY**

