



St. Nicholas' Parish News

Sunday 13th June 2021
11th Sunday in Ordinary Time



Fr. Derek Leonard P.P. 087 6261287
Fr. John O'Byrne 085 7491268
Fr. Gerard O'Leary 087 9378685
Salesian Sisters: 061 348510

We continue to celebrate masses daily on our Parish webcam from St Nicholas church.

To view, click www.saintnicholasparish.ie or www.churchservices.tv

Parish Website: www.saintnicholasparish.ie

Office Tel: 061-341300

Office email: saintnicholasparishoffice@gmail.com

Newsletter email: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

Webcam: <https://www.churchservices.tv/limerickstnicholas>

Facebook: @stnicholasparish

The Deep End

'It is like a mustard seed'

Something we may not often think about is Jesus' earthly relationship with creation. Jesus walked everywhere, went to quiet places to pray, preached from mountains, from boats on the water; his followers included fishermen in tune with the rhythm of the sea. In Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si' - On Care for Our Common Home*, he reminds us that Jesus *'was in constant touch with nature, lending it an attention full of fondness and wonder'* (*Laudato Si'*, 97). Jesus' parables are full of imagery from the natural world and in today's Gospel we have an example of this in the parable of the mustard seed. People of Jesus' time may have preferred the image of the lofty 'cedars of Lebanon' to explain God's kingdom, mustard plants however, only stand a few feet tall. Jesus is turning the ideals of power and triumph on their head. There is an ancient text which forbade planting mustard seeds in Palestinian gardens because the shrub takes over wherever it is planted and attracts unwanted birds. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to kudzu, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack cement buildings. This mustard seed image of God's dream for this world is one which suggests that it will grow even in places where it is not wanted, putting cracks in seemingly mighty structures.

The New Testament not only tells us of the earthly Jesus and his tangible and loving relationship with the world. It also shows him risen and glorious, present throughout all of creation (Col 1:19-20). *'The very flowers of the field and the birds which [Christ's] human eyes contemplated and admired are now imbued with his radiant presence'* (*Laudato Si'*, 100). As we watch out for traces of the mustard seed kingdom this week, let us also embrace the joy of Christ in all of creation.

Jane Mellett
mellettj@gmail.com



Prayer for when you can't receive communion

*My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.
I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.
Amen.*



PARISH NEWSLETTER

We encourage local groups to avail of the newsletter to promote upcoming events, pray for the sick etc.

We also welcome local **GOOD NEWS** stories or messages you want to share.

Items for the newsletter can be given to Maura 086 0429952 or Grace 086 8296193

E-mail: Stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

Useful Contacts/Numbers

- ◆ COVID-19 Support Line for Older People—ALONE - 0818 222 024. SENIORLINE 1800 804591
- ◆ Community Call—Limerick City and County Council Tel 1800 852 389 E-mail covidsupport@limerick.ie

TOILET FACILITIES Please note that toilet facilities cannot be provided in St Nicholas' Church in order to adhere to strict Covid19 guidelines.



Parish Office Opening hours Tues 2pm—4pm. Thurs 9.30am—1.30pm 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: 061-341300



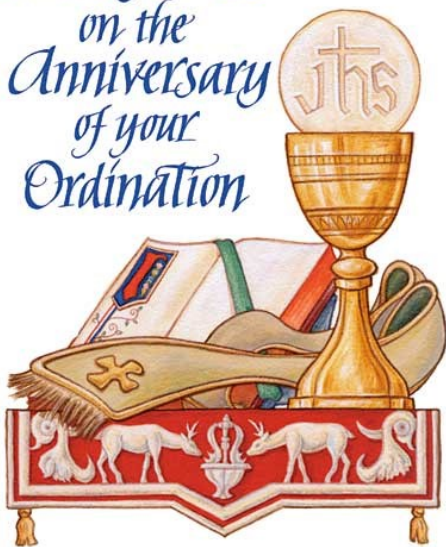
Remembering those who are Sick

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 John, Brian, Paddy, Michael, Vera, Ailish, Frank, Ger, Bernadette, Fiona, Niamh, Jesse, Eoin, Mary, William, Méabh, Anna, Amy, Agnes, Dymrna, Muirinn, Orla, Carmel, Ruby, Michelle and Aoife.

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 Maura/Grace know by E-mail: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com or Tel. Maura 086 0429952 / Grace 086 8296193

BLESSINGS
on the
Anniversary
of your
Ordination



Time to Celebrate!



At this month's meeting of St Nicholas' Pastoral Council, a small presentation was made to Fr Derek to honour the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination. It only came to our attention recently that he is celebrating his silver jubilee as a priest during the month of June, so we felt it important to honour the occasion before our Summer break.

On behalf of St Nicholas' parishioners, we sincerely congratulate him and wish him every blessing both now and into the future. We thank him for the commitment to his vocation so evident in all he does for us, particularly during recent Covid challenges. We are indeed grateful for his presence here in our parish.

Our message is, may God bless you always, Father Derek!
And in the lovely words of John O' Donoghue:

Exam Prayer

God stay close to me today
Guide my study and light my way.
Ease my nerves and comfort me
With peace and love so tenderly.
May I remember the things I need
And understand all I study and read.
May I strive to give my best
And do myself justice in each test.
May the topics I know and like appear
And may your touch ease my fear.
In those moments that I may feel stressed
Remind me Lord of the ways I'm blessed.
And if there are times that I feel at sea,
Help me to trust that you're here with me
Amen



" May the light of your soul bless your work
With love and warmth of heart
May you see in what you do the beauty of your
soul". Always.



18TH - 26TH JUNE

**ONLINE EACH DAY AT
8AM, 10AM, 7.15PM & 9PM**

Join us online as we celebrate Limerick's
Novena in honour of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.
ALL ARE WELCOME



NOVENA THEME

A Man for All Seasons
Celebrating the Year of St Joseph.

The church will be open daily for veneration of the
Icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help from 11am - 6pm.
The Novena Shop will be open each day from 9am - 6pm.



JOIN US ONLINE
www.novena.ie/web-cam

Trocaire
Working for a just world.

Trocaire Lenten boxes can still be returned to
the Church.

For information on the work of Trocaire and how
you can help please visit www.trocaire.org