

THE DEEP END - LAETARE SUNDAY 14 March 2021



OUT INTO THE LIGHT

Today, the 'middle' Sunday of Lent, is known as Laetare Sunday - Laetare means 'Rejoice!' We tend not to think of Lent as a time to rejoice, but signs of joy are central at Mass today, such as the use of flowers on the altar and rose-coloured vestments for the priest instead of the usual 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. In our gospel we hear that 'the [person] who lives by the truth comes out into the light'. On the other hand, Jesus says that those who 'prefer darkness to the light' live in fear that their actions will be exposed.

We hear a lot of talk these days about transparency. We have seen the damage caused by those whose private actions gravely contradict the message they proclaim in the public sphere. Some questions we might ask ourselves this Lent are: Am I living a truthful life 'in the light'? Am I honest in my dealings with others, trying always to choose what is right and just, or are there things I do in secret that are unkind or dishonest? Am I attentive to the needs of others or am I more inclined to think of myself? Lent offers us the opportunity to step out into the light, to allow the light of Jesus to sweep away any darkness or destructive habits and to begin again.

'We proclaim the resurrection of Christ when his light illuminates the dark moments of our existence, and we are able share it with others; when we know when to smile with those who smile, and weep with those who weep; when we accompany those who are sad and at risk of losing hope; when we recount our experience of faith to those who are searching for meaning and happiness... and there - with our attitude, with our witness, with our life - we say 'Jesus is Risen,' with our soul.'

(Pope Francis)

Triona Doherty trionad@gmail.com

Trocaire

Trocaire boxes can be collected from St Nicholas Parish church each day during opening hours for private prayer, 9am to 3pm. Please be aware that face coverings must be worn in our Church, hand sanitizer dispenser is located beside Entrance door & Exit.

This Lent I can give up:

Chocolate
Complaining
Caffeine
Worry
Carlessness
Criticism
Facebook
TV Blogging
Comparison
Reviews
Sarcasm
Sugar
Amazon
Twitter



WHAT DO GET WHEN YOU CROSS POISON IVY AND A FOUR LEAF CLOVER?

A rash of good luck!

WHY SHOULDN'T YOU IRON A FOUR LEAF CLOVER?

You don't want to press your luck!

HOW IS A BEST FRIEND LIKE A FOUR LEAF CLOVER?

Because they're hard to find and lucky to have!

WHY DO FROGS LIKE ST. PATRICK'S DAY?

Because they're always wearing green!

a tried & true print

ATWEDDITRUE FREE PRINTABLE - hebbahubb.blogspot.com

For the Thursday evenings of Lent there will be a short Reflection via the webcam from St. Nicholas' church at 7.00p.m.

The remaining dates for these are: March 18th and 25th. We would love if you could join us.



Let us continue to pray for those who are ill at this time, those who are preparing for and awaiting results of tests, those in hospital. Please pray especially for Ailish, Frank, Fiona, Niamh, Jesse, Eoin, Mary, Michael, William, Méabh, Anna, Eamon, Declan, Ethel, Agnes, Lilia, Muirinn, Orla, Ruby, Carmel, Pat, Michelle.

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.



ST NICHOLAS PARISH NEWS

Sunday 14th March 2021

4th Sunday of Lent



Fr. Derek Leonard P.P. 087 6261287

Fr. John O'Byrne 085 7491268

Fr. Gerard O'Leary 087 9378685

Salesian Sisters 061 348510



All public masses are online from St Nicholas Church.

St Nicholas Church is open daily from 9am to 3pm for private prayers.

WEEKDAY 9.45am Monday to Friday

WEEKEND Sat.6pm, Sun.10.30am, 12 noon

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

PARISH MASSES LIVE STREAMING Masses from St Nicholas Church can be viewed live via the parish webcam at the parish website www.saintnicholasparish.ie or <https://www.churchservices.tv/limerickstnicholas>

You can download the free app from the App store and click on St Nicholas church in the Limerick section.

ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER

We encourage local groups to avail of the newsletter to promote upcoming events, share good news, etc. please send details to

Newsletter stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com



Maura. 086 0429952

Grace. 086 8296193

The parish Facebook is updated daily. You do not need to be a member of Facebook to view the page.

www.facebook.com/Saintnicholasparish/



USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

ALONE 0818 222024

SENIORLINE 1800 804591

Community call, Limerick City and County :

Phone: 1800 852 389 or

email: covidsupport@limerick.ie

PARISH OFFICE OPENING TIMES: Tues 2pm-4pm and Thurs 9.30am -1.30pm for Church related enquiries.

Phone: 061 341300

email: saintnicholasparishoffice@gmail.com



Baptism times will be 4.30pm on 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month, and 1pm on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month. Contact the Parish Office for further details.

Wishing a blessed Mother's day to all the mothers in our parish and in all communities.

Everything Mom

How did you find the energy, Mom
To do all the things you did,
To be teacher, nurse and counselor
To me, when I was a kid.

How did you do it all, Mom.
Be a chauffeur, cook and friend,
Yet find time to be a playmate.
I just can't comprehend.

I see now it was love, Mom
That made you come whenever I'd call,
Your inexhaustible love, Mom
And I thank you for it all.

By Joanna Fuchs
Poemsource.com

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 IN 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.

SPIRITUAL ACT OF COMMUNION

