

### 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: 061 341300

### Adoration chapel

The Adoration chapel is open from 9.30am to 6pm daily. 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 and 4th weekend of each month. Times: 6pm Sat. St.Nicholas church, Sunday 1pm St.Munchin's College.

### Remembering the Sick

*please  
pray for  
the sick*

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. Continue to pray for Maurice, Ailish R, Pat, Annette, Aidan, Gabriel, Jim, Kathleen, Garrett, Helen, Philip, Tony, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Kiera, Paddy, Michael, Vera, Ailish, Frank, Ger, Mary and Bernadette.

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



Milford Hospice shop is looking is accepting donations of saleable clothes, shoes, household items and bric-a-brac. They cannot accept electrical goods, safety equipment and children's items such as buggies or cars eats. The shop relies on the generosity of supporters donating used and new goods. Your donations are welcome at their Limerick Shop, Milford Hospice shop, 22 Thomas Street Limerick, Monday to Saturday between the hours of 9 to 5pm. Thank you for your support.

### **GARMENT OF SUFFERING**



You are invited to place a piece of material (6 x 6 inches) in the basket in front of the altar. All these pieces will be stitched together to make our parish Garment of Suffering. The garment represents our worries,

our hurts, our sorrow and our pain.

It will hang on our cross on Good Friday and we will burn the Garment of Suffering in our Easter Vigil fire.

Why shouldn't you iron a four leaf Clover?

Because you shouldn't press your luck.

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What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four leaf clover?

A rash of good luck!

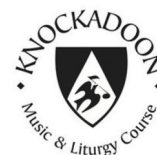
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How is a best friend like a four leaf clover?

Because it's hard to find and you're lucky to have one.

### **The Knockadoon Music and Liturgy**

**Course** is now open for booking! Experience a week of music, friendship and community from the 11th to the 17th of August! More info available on our Facebook, Instagram & Twitter @KnockadoonML and [www.knockadoonml.com](http://www.knockadoonml.com).



### **Maranatha Prayer Ministry** Healing

Retreat on Sunday 24th March, 2019 at 2.30pm at St. Paul's Church, Dooradoyle, Limerick through the Ministry of Rev. Fr. John Walsh, Limerick and Lay Speaker Jomon, Voice of Peace. All welcome.

**Marriage Enrichment weekend:** Refresh, Renew, Rekindle your marriage relationship on a Marriage Enrichment Weekend from 12th – 14th April 2019 in Cork. [www.marriageencounter.ie](http://www.marriageencounter.ie) 086-8334382- 087-2162436

**Remembrance:** We extend our sympathies to Mrs Kathleen Reeves of Rhebogue Avenue on the recent death of her daughter, Jacqueline Cleary of Bracken Gardens. May Jacqueline rest in peace and may Kathleen and her extended family be comforted and consoled during these difficult days.



There will be a farewell mass for Fr. Seán Harmon on Saturday, 6th April at 7pm mass. This will be followed by a presentation and light refreshments in the parish pastoral centre. If you would like to contribute to the presentation please put your donation in an envelope marked "Fr Seán" at the offertory collections at all masses over the coming week and next weekend, or directly to any of the Pastoral Council members.



## St. Nicholas Parish News

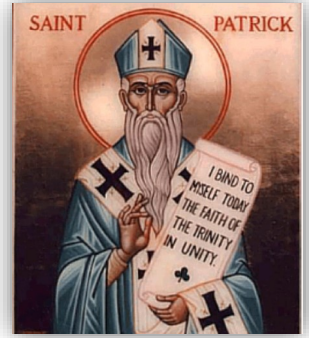
Sunday March 17th 2019

2nd Sunday Lent/ St.Patrick's Day

Follow us on Facebook: @saintnicholasparish

www.saintnicholasparish.ie

E-mail: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com



**Fr.Derek Leonard P.P.**

087 6261287

**Fr. John O'Byrne**

085 7491268

**Salesian Sisters**

061 348510

### Mass Times:

#### Weekdays:

St.Munchin's College

9.45am.Mon,Tues & Wed.

St.Nicholas, Westbury

7.00pm Thursday

#### This Weekend:

St.Nicholas: 7pm Sat.

10.30am Sunday

St.Munchin's College

NO MASS at 12 NOON

### **Items for Newsletter**

to be in to:

Maura. 086 0429952

Grace. 086 8296193

Email:

stnicholasnewsletter

@gmail.com

By Wednesday please.

### **Saints Days March**

19 St Joseph

21 St Enda

23 St Turibius of Mongrovejo

Please take home a copy of this newsletter. We encourage you to avail of it to promote upcoming events, let us know if someone needs prayers etc.

### **ST PATRICK**

Happy St Patrick's Day! – a day when we remember the roots of the Christian faith in Ireland. There is no doubt that to be a Christian in Ireland today is difficult. Often it is easier to hide our faith, to avoid ridicule, arguments and debates which can wear us down. However, today we should take example and energy from St Patrick. His story was not a walk in the park either. We celebrate our Christian identity today and celebrate the Gospel message that a courageous Patrick brought to us, a message that was preserved and passed on; a message that is very relevant to today's world and which continues to nourish and sustain us.

Take heart from the parable of the Mustard Seed in the Gospel today. The mustard seed plant is sometimes wild and out of control. Author and activist, Shane Claiborne, compares it to kudzu, a wild vine that could blanket entire mountain areas, smother trees, even crack stone buildings and footpaths. The shrub was banned in certain areas of Palestine because of how it could completely take over gardens. When we are struggling with being a Christian in modern Ireland, feeling excluded in a world that wants to forget God, we can take courage from the parable of the mustard seed. It grew in places where it was not wanted. You might recall the people in your own life who nourished your faith and who guided you along your spiritual path. 'I arise today, through God's strength to pilot me, God's might to uphold me, God's wisdom to guide me, God's eye to look before me, God's ear to hear me, God's word to speak for me, God's hand to guard me, God's shield to protect me.' (St Patrick's Breastplate)

Jane Mellett mellettj@gmail.com

### **SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPEL:**

#### • Second Sunday of Lent

1. The owner of the field who allowed the wheat and the darnel to grow together is a reminder to us to be patient with ourselves and with others when we see that everything is not right. Sometimes a preoccupation with the negative (the darnel) can blind us to seeing the positive in our own lives and in the lives of others. When have you found that a willingness to live with the messiness of the present created the conditions for future growth?

2. Have you ever found that it was through accepting the darnel that you learned important lessons for life, e.g., learning by making mistakes, or asking stupid questions, or taking foolish risks?

3. The parable of the mustard seed is a reminder that seemingly insignificant things can have very positive results. Have you ever been surprised by the benefit to yourself or others of a kind gesture, a small initiative, a word of encouragement or a smile?

John Byrne osa Email jpb Byrneosa@gmail.com

### **REFLECTION**

As you pursue your vocation –a vocation so intimately related to the word of God –I wish to recall to you one simple but important lesson taken from the life of Saint Patrick; and it is this: In the history of evangelisation, the destiny of an entire people –your people –was radically affected for time and eternity because of the fidelity with which Saint Patrick embraced and proclaimed the word of God, and by reason of the fidelity with which Saint Patrick pursued his call to the end. What I really want you to realise is this: that God counts on you, that he makes his plans, in a way, depend on your free collaboration, on the oblation of your lives, and on the generosity with which you follow the inspirations of the Holy Spirit in the depths of your hearts.

Pope St John Paul II, Address to Seminarians, Maynooth, 1979