

SUNDAY 24th MAY. THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

The Gospel passage for today is the final paragraph of Matthew's version of the Good News. The eleven remaining disciples have returned to Galilee as instructed by the message given to the women by the angel at the tomb and by the risen Jesus himself.

This is the final appearance of Jesus in which he reveals himself in his glorified state to his followers. But there is no goodbye: rather, with the authority now granted him, he commissions his disciples to continue his mission throughout the world. The Gospel ends with an echo of the angel's message in the dream to Joseph: "They will call him Immanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'"; this is fulfilled in the promise of the risen Jesus, "Know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time." Thus the Gospel ends, not with the departure of Jesus, but with the promise of his continuing presence. ■

Bring solidarity to our world in a shared moment of prayer at noon on 24 May. Catholics from all across the globe will be united in spirit because "everything is connected."

HOW TO BEST EXPERIENCE CHURCH ONLINE

Make your faith a priority

- 1 BE FULLY PRESENT**
You'll face a lot of digital distractions once Mass begins. Choose to stay committed & engaged.
(Don't worry! Those notifications will still be there when Mass is finished.)
- 2 LIKE, SHARE & COMMENT**
One of the great benefits of online Mass is we can have MORE interaction. So, ask questions and smash those reaction buttons. Share the Mass on your social threads and invite your friends to watch with you.
- 3 WORSHIP- DON'T JUST WATCH**
Make this prayerful time- sing, pray & read God's word along with us. Most importantly listen for God's voice and respond in faith to what He says.

COMMON PRAYER
for the 5th anniversary of
Laudato Si'

Loving God,
Creator of heaven and earth and all that is in them,
You created us in your own image and made us stewards of all your creation.
You blessed us with the sun, water and bountiful land so that all might be nourished.

Open our minds and touch our hearts,
so that we may attend to your gift of creation.
Help us to be conscious that our common home belongs not only to us, but to all of your creatures and to all future generations, and that it is our responsibility to preserve it.
May we help each person secure the food and resources that they need.
Be present to those in need in these trying times, especially the poorest and those most at risk of being left behind.

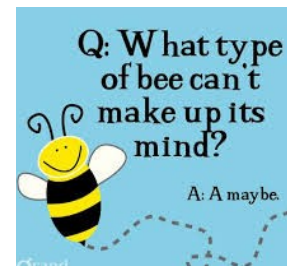
Transform our fear and feelings of isolation into hope and fraternity so that we may experience a true conversion of the heart.

Help us to show creative solidarity in addressing the consequences of this global pandemic,
Make us courageous to embrace the changes that are needed in search of the common good.
Now more than ever may we feel that we are all interconnected and interdependent.
Enable us to listen and respond to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

May the present sufferings be the birth pangs of a more fraternal and sustainable world.

Under the loving gaze of Mary Help of Christians, we make this prayer through Christ our Lord.

Amen



RE-OPENING OF ST NICHOLAS CHURCH

As you know, the Government has indicated May 18th as the next date of the lifting of restrictions, St Nicholas Church will be re-open on May 18th, daily from 9.00am-3.00pm (except in the case of a Funeral Service). The re-opening of St Nicholas Church is just for private visits. **There will be No Organised Prayer moments while the church is open.**

It is not enough simply to re-open the Church, we must continue to take steps in promoting good public health safeguards. Hand Sanitisers will be available in appropriate locations in the church Entrance and Exit. (doors will be designated as Entrance and Exit.) We ask that you adhere to social distancing guidelines of 2 meters.

Mass will continue, for now, to be celebrated behind closed doors.

The Government has indicated July 20th as the date when small public celebrations may begin. We are grateful that we can take this first step in re-opening the Church. It has been a painful time for people not to be able to visit and say a prayer, so this is good news.

Let us remember one another in prayer.

Pope Francis' Prayer to Our Lady

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus' suffering,
and persevered in your faith.

"Protectress of the Roman people",
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection.
Amen.



St. Nicholas Parish News

Sunday 24th May 2020

The Ascension of The Lord

www.facebook.com/Saintnicholasparish/

www.saintnicholasparish.ie

E-mail: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com



Fr.Derek Leonard P.P. 087 6261287

Fr. John O'Byrne 085 7491268

Fr.Gerard O'Leary 087 9378685

Salesian Sisters 061 348510

MASS TIMES.

In responding to the challenges of the Corona-virus all Masses in the Diocese have been cancelled until otherwise advised.

A number of Churches in the Diocese have web cameras and will broadcast Masses online so people at home can participate in the celebration of the Mass.

ONLINE MASSES:

<https://www.limerickdiocese.org/news/masses-available-online-and-on-the-radio-in-the-diocese-of-limerick/>

www.facebook.com/Saintnicholasparish/

ITEMS FOR 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.

To be sent in to: Maura. 086 0429952, Grace. 086 8296193 or Email:

stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

May Altars from our Parish



*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, Annette, Aidan, Gabriel, Jim, Kathleen, Garrett, Helen, Philip, Tony, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Kiera, Paddy, Michael, Vera, Ailish, Frank, Ger, Fiona, Niamh, Jesse, Amy, Anna, Gwyneth, Young Michael, William, Méabh, Séamas, Eamon, Declan and Eoin.

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 contact: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com or Maura 086 0429952/Grace 086 8296193

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS:

- For all news and updates from Limerick Diocese: www.limerickdiocese.org
- CoVID-19 support for Older people: ALONE phone line 0818 222 024, Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm.
- Community Call, For those wanting to help or needing help: Limerick City & County, 1800 852 389. email covidsupport@limerick.ie
- Garveys Supervalu, Corbally now take grocery orders for delivery, strictly for over 70's. Phone: 083 120 3890 (8am to 3pm) email supervalucorballydeliveries@gmail.com