



# St. Nicholas' Parish News

Sunday 24th February 2019  
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

[www.saintnicholasparish.ie](http://www.saintnicholasparish.ie)  
E-mail: [stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com)



Love your enemies,  
do good to those who hate you.

- Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.  
087 6261287
- 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 newsletter. 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 us know of someone who needs prayers etc. Items for the newsletter to be in to:

Maura. 086 0429952  
Grace 086 8296193  
by Wednesday please.  
E-mail:  
[Stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:Stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com)

**Feast days – February**

- Thurs 28 – St. Oswald
- Fri 1 March – St. David

## Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

1. Our natural tendency when attacked is to protect ourselves; when we are attacked, we attack back. We respond to an angry word with another, or to a blow by hitting back. Here, Jesus suggests that at times there may be another way to act. What has been your experience of retaliation? Has it been life-giving? Have you experience of another way of acting?
2. When we do good to another, it can sometimes be in return for what we have received. At other times it can be done in the hope of getting something back. Or we may do it simply for the sake of doing good without any strings attached. Jesus suggests that this is when we are at our best. Recall your experience of these different ways of giving and celebrate the occasions when you gave without expectation of return.
3. Jesus proposes the generosity of God as a model for our generosity, and says that the generous will be rewarded. Perhaps you have experienced rewards, even in this life, from generous behaviour.

*John Byrne OSA  
Email [jpb Byrneosa@gmail.com](mailto:jpb Byrneosa@gmail.com)*

## The Deep End • Freely giving

Lord, teach me to be generous, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to seek reward, save that of knowing that I do your holy will.

The 'Prayer for Generosity', which many of us learned as children, is associated with St Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Jesuit Order, yet it is unclear whether he actually composed it. One of the earliest references to it comes from 1910, when it began to be used as a prayer for the French scouting movement. To this day it is often known as 'The Scout Prayer' and is used by many Scout groups as a blueprint for the work they do.

The prayer perfectly sums up the generous spirit of the many volunteer organisations and charities whose members give their time and energy so freely and generously to help others. There are thousands of volunteers all over our country who put love into action by visiting those who are lonely, listening to those who are struggling, providing food and other supplies for those in need, and fundraising for all sorts of worthy causes. Week in and week out, they give without ever counting the cost.

These volunteers are living the message of today's Gospel, which can be summed up in one short sentence: Go the extra mile. Thank you, Lord, for volunteers. Make us ever more generous with our time, energy and resources. Help us to be compassionate, as you are compassionate.

*Triona Doherty  
Athlone, Co Roscommon  
Email [trionad@gmail.com](mailto:trionad@gmail.com)*



**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

### 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.

## Garment of Suffering

This year in our parish, we are making our Garment of Suffering in two parts - to symbolise our pain grief and brokenness.

### THE CLOTH

For the first part of the garment, you are invited during lent to bring a piece of cloth (6 inches by 6 inches) to the church and place it in a basket in front of the altar. These pieces of cloth will later be attached to each other.

### GETTING READY FOR THE JOURNEY

The second part of the garment will be made in homes in the parish. On the weekends leading up to lent you will be invited to put your name and contact details on a list. By giving your details, you are consenting to share them with the person before and after you on the list. When you put your name down you will also be given a prayer pack.

### MAKING THE GARMENT

When you receive the garment in your home you then attach your piece of cloth. You can sew, staple or glue it. While attaching your cloth you might think about your hurts and pray for healing. You then contact the next person on the list to arrange passing on the garment. You are asked to handle the garment of suffering with reverence - remember it holds people's grief and hurt.

The person who has the garment on holy Thursday will be asked to bring it to mass on that evening.

### "IT IS FINISHED"

Both garments will be presented during Holy Thursday Mass. On good Friday the garment will drape over the cross. We will burn the garment in the Easter Vigil fire.



**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, Philip, Tony, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Ciara, 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](mailto:stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com)

or Tel. Maura 086 0429952 / Grace 086 8296193



The Westbury toddler group is on in the Parish Centre, St. Nicholas church, every Tuesday 10.30am - 12noon. For babies to pre-schoolers.

All parents/carers/grandparents/minders welcome for a cuppa and chat.

### Bereavement Information Evening

Milford Care Centre & Anam Cara the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding a Bereavement Information Evening on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 7:00pm in Milford Care Centre, Limerick. This is a free event and open to all bereaved parents. As Milford Care Centre & Anam Cara will need to confirm numbers for teas, coffees, etc, please RSVP to [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie) before Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February or call the Information Line on 085 2888 888.



### Some recent Tweets by Pope Francis

In the darkest moments of our history, the Lord draws near, opens paths, lifts up discouraged faith, anoints wounded hope, and awakens sleeping charity.

I invite you to pray during these days for the Meeting on the Protection of Minors in the Church, an event that I want to be a powerful gesture of pastoral responsibility in the face of an urgent challenge of our time.

Christians promote peace, starting with the community in which they live.

Follow the Pope on Twitter @Pontifex

Yummy fruit & veg, straight to pot without *all* the air-miles. Would you like your veg to be like that? Well its guaranteed if you "*Grow It Yourself*"

Limerick GIY is part of a national movement to help people grow their own food whether in a garden or a pot on the patio. Why not meet with like minded people who want quality food for a change. Whether you're an expert or a total novice, come share the knowledge and learn something new. Join in the seed and plant swaps.

Limerick GIY are meeting this Tues Feb 26th from 6-7.30pm at Central Buildings, Community Rm First Floor in O'Connell St Limerick (near USIT office)

Come along, make new friends and get Limerick growing again!

