



# St. Nicholas' Parish News

Sunday 24th March 2019  
3rd Sunday of Lent

[www.saintnicholasparish.ie](http://www.saintnicholasparish.ie)



**Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.**  
087 6261287

**Fr. John O'Byrne**  
085 7491268

**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.

**Feast days – March**

**Mon 25 – Annunciation of the Lord**

**The Deep End**

**'It may bear fruit next year'**

Today's Gospel brings a thorny question for Jesus, as the people ask why a number of Galileans were killed by the Romans as they made sacrifices to God. The basic question is why do bad things happen to certain people? Some Jewish leaders at the time viewed the Galileans as second-class Jews, and so they are raising more than a question about meaningless suffering here. They want to know if the Galileans suffered because they were not really 'Jewish enough.' Jesus responds with a sharp question about a recent tragedy involving those killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them. Were they worse offenders than others in Jerusalem? No. Jesus responds further by focusing on those who are still living. In the parable of the fig tree we hear that the tree is not producing any fruit and probably should be cut down. However, the owner of the vineyard agrees to one more year, during which it is given special attention.

Jesus' response to the difficult question on suffering is to focus on the living. We are still alive and therefore should be producing much fruit. Perhaps those who are questioning Jesus need, like the fig tree, much fertiliser, nourishment and growth so that they can focus on producing fruit for the world.



**I WILL HOLD**

**MARIA**

**IN MY HEART THIS LENT**

A kind 9 year old whose family's land in Guatemala was violently stolen, and their home burned before their eyes with all their possessions inside it.

This Lent please help Maria, and **let your love conquer fear**

Please also hold in your hearts the people of Mozambique and surrounding countries who are facing great trauma and devastation following the horrific aftermath of Hurricane Idai.

Keep them in your prayers and give whatever you can to Trocaire this Lent.



**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**

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



our worries, our hurts, our sorrow and our pain. It will hang on our cross on Good Friday and we will burn the

**Rome Pilgrimage** The Dominican Friars and Sisters invite young adults (18-35) to the Upward Call Pilgrimage in Rome, Ostia, and Bracciano from 25-30 August, 2019. Cost is €515 which is all inclusive (except for three meals). The deadline to book is June 1, but if you book by April 21st you could have



**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



Maranatha Prayer Ministry Healing Retreat on today, Sunday 24th March, 2019 at 2.30pm at St. Paul's Church, Dooradoyle, Limerick through the Ministry of Rev. Fr. John



**A Farewell Mass** for Fr. Seán Harmon will be held 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

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**Parishioners celebrate Passover Seder** the ritual meal commemorating the events of the Exodus of the Jews from their bondage in Egypt. In the Christian tradition the Passover Seder is also believed to be when Jesus instituted the Eucharist. Gathered around the table with his disciples, Jesus told them, "I eat this Passover with you before I suffer; because I shall not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God. He passed around wine saying 'Take this and share it among you, because from now on, I shall not drink wine until the kingdom of God comes'. Breaking bread, he gave thanks and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body which will be given for you; do this as a memorial of me'. He did the same with the cup and said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood which will be poured out for you.'" (Luke 22:15-20)

This Christian observance of this ritual meal celebrates not only our tradition of Christ's last supper but our own Jewish heritage which provided the context for Jesus' institution at the last supper.

