



St. Nicholas' Parish News

Sunday 25th August 2019
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.saintnicholasparish.ie
E-mail: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com
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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 6.00pm – Sat.

(Summer months)

10.30 am – Sunday

St Munchin's College

12 noon – Sunday



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 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

Feast Days – August

Tue 27 – St. Monica

Wed 28 – St. Augustine

Fri 30 – St. Fiacre

The Deep End—Curiouser and curiouser

'Alice opened the door and found that it led into a small passage, not much larger than a rat-hole: she knelt down and looked along the passage into the loveliest garden you ever saw. How she longed to get out of that dark hall, and wander about among those beds of bright flowers and those cool fountains, but she could not even get her head through the doorway.' (Lewis Carroll, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*)

In the opening chapter of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Alice is having a bit of bother with doors. She finds herself in a hall in which the doors are all locked. When she finds a key, it doesn't fit the locks. When she manages to find a door to match the key, she herself won't fit through; the doorway is too narrow. How frustrating!

The parable in today's Gospel also features a narrow door and a locked door, as well as an unsympathetic doorkeeper - it's almost as if the master wants to keep everyone out! People knock on the door and expect to be admitted, but it's not that simple. The master turns them away, claiming not to know them, despite protestations that they are acquainted.

Jesus is trying to teach his followers about discipleship. What does he mean when he says we must 'enter by the narrow door'? Is it almost impossible to enter the kingdom of God? One thing is sure: a passing acquaintance with Jesus will not be enough. The plea of 'We once ate and drank in your company' is feeble. It is not enough to know Jesus only on the surface - to attend Mass every Sunday or to turn to him only when we are in need. To really know Jesus, one must walk the narrow path of the Gospel.

Triona Doherty
Email trionad@gmail.com

Seeing your Life through the Lens of the Gospel

1. The question put to Jesus is one that many still ask: 'Will many be saved?' In his answer, Jesus is not concerned about numbers but warns his listeners about complacency. Just as his listeners could not regard the mere fact of being Jews as sufficient for salvation, neither can we regard being Christians as enough. Salvation will come from our acceptance of Jesus. For any relationship to be alive - either with God or with another human person - the real question is: 'Is my heart in this relationship?' What does your experience tell you of this?

2. 'Strive to enter by the narrow door.' Jesus himself is on his journey to Jerusalem; purposeful and determined. His true followers will also be purposeful and determined. That is true of any journey, career, or relationship if there is to be growth or progress. What it is like for you when you fail to do this? What is it like for you when the effort is there?

John Byrne osa
Email jpb Byrneosa@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: 061-341300

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: 5.00pm Saturday evening (for summer months) St. Nicholas Church, Sunday 1.00p.m. St Munchin's College.



The Dominican sisters will be leading a **Catechism Study group** meeting every Wednesday evening 7-8:30 in the parish hall of St Saviour's, Dominican Church, Limerick. All are welcome to attend an information meeting **Wednesday, 18 September at 7:00 pm** in the same location. For more information on the course visit www.catechism.ie or contact the sisters at 085 225 5796, limerick@op-tn.org.



ALTAR SERVERS

Training for new altar servers will take place during September. Boys and girls from 3rd class up (any school) welcome to serve.

Further details from Sr. Kathleen or Maura 087 9576148.

St. Nicholas Children's Choir

The children's choir will return mid September. Boys and girls from 1st class up (any school) welcome to join.

Practice is every Wednesday from 6.30 to 7.15 in St. Nicholas Church. The choir sing at 10.30 mass every Sunday from September to May.

Further details from Maura 087 9576148.



FINALE The new curate was delivering his first sermon. It went on and on. Finally he paused and asked, "What more can I say?" "Amen" whispered little Mary in the back pew.



Remembering those who are Sick

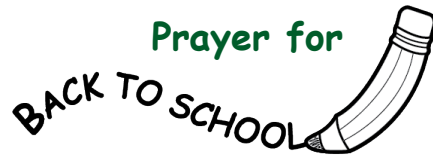
Let us continue to pray for those who are ill at this time, those preparing for and awaiting results of tests, those in hospital. Continue to pray for Maurice, Ailish R, Pat, Annette, Aidan, Gabriel, Jim, Kathleen, Garrett, Helen, Philip, Tony, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Ciara, Paddy, Michael, Vera, Ailish, Frank, Ger, Mary, Bernadette, Fiona, Niamh, Jesse 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 let Maura/Grace know by E-mail:

stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

or Tel. Maura 086 0429952 / Grace 086 8296193



Father, We thank you for the opportunity to begin this school year, and we ask that you bless the school, the students, and students' families.

We pray that you will guide us in all ways, and that we will seek your will in everything that we do.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Inner Peace: This is true

If you can start the day without caffeine,
If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,

If you can resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,

If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it.

If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time.

If you can take criticism and blame without resentment.

If you can conquer tension without medical help.

If you can relax without alcohol.

If you can sleep without the aid of drugs

Then you are probably...

The family dog

