

THE DEEP END - By Triona Doherty

trionad@gmail.com

26th Sunday
of
Ordinary
Time

During the recent 'lockdown' due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many people found themselves turning to nature. There was a surge of interest in gardening. We tended to flower beds, planted seeds, started herb gardens. Lots of people commented that they noticed the birds singing for the first time in years. In the midst of challenging times, we found ourselves tuning in to the wonder of God's creation all around us.

As life begins to return to 'normal', can we retain this sense of wonder and awe? In this Season of Creation, we are invited to discover the presence of God in creation, to give thanks for the gift of the earth, and to change our ways so that we may live in harmony with creation. This requires us to be constantly conscious of how we are living - to not just have good intentions but to follow through in our actions.

In today's gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the two sons who are asked to go and work in their father's vineyard. The first son initially refuses, but then thinks better of it and gets to work. While the second son has good intentions, he doesn't follow through. When it comes to caring for the earth, good intentions are not enough. Our actions matter. We may have been careless in the past but a change of heart is happening, right across our society. It all starts with our actions, as individuals and communities. As we emerge from a challenging few months, let us use the Season of Creation to reflect on how we can do better - to reconnect with God's beautiful creation and do all we can to love and preserve it.

'Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognise that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.' (Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*)

Congratulations to the Scoil Ide children who received their **First Holy Communion** this Weekend.



COVID-19: ways to help protect yourself and your loved ones



HELP

Talk things through with older family members, friends and neighbours. The risk is higher for them and they might be worried or confused.



Check if they need extra help with everyday things like shopping



Recommend they stay home and away from public places



Make sure they have a good supply of any regular medication they need



Sunday October 4th is the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

It is also the end of the Season of Creation which ran from Sept 1st - Oct 4th.

The Sunday liturgies on this day will focus on the theme of Creation.



Thank you to the Stewards and cleaners who have kindly volunteered and help run the weekend masses in accordance with the public health guidelines since reopening in July.

As these guidelines will be in place for the foreseeable future, more volunteers are needed. If you think you can help at the weekend masses and wish to volunteer, please text Fr Derek on 0876261287.



ST NICHOLAS PARISH NEWS

Sunday 27th Sept. 2020, 26th Sunday of Ordinary Time

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Saintnicholasparish/

Parish Website: www.saintnicholasparish.ie

Office email: saintnicholasparishoffice@gmail.com

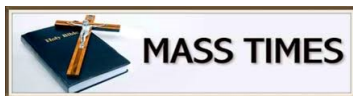
Newsletter email: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

Fr. Derek Leonard P.P. 087 6261287

Fr. John O'Byrne 085 7491268

Fr. Gerard O'Leary 087 9378685

Salesian Sisters 061 348510



Weekday: St. Munchin's chapel, 9.45am
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Weekend: St. Nicholas Church

Saturday: 6pm and Sunday: 10.30am

St. Munchin's Chapel, 12 noon

Places are limited during public mass in accordance with public health guidelines, Mask wearing is advisable,

Thank you for cooperating with the stewards instructions at mass.

LIVE STREAMED PARISH MASSES

Masses and special services (Communions, etc) from St. Nicholas church can be viewed live via the parish webcam at

<https://www.churchservices.tv/limerickstnicholas>

ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER

We encourage local groups to avail of the newsletter to promote upcoming events, pray for the sick etc.

By Wednesday, please *Newsletter* send details to

Maura. 086 0429952

Grace. 086 8296193

or stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com



PARISH OFFICE OPENING TIMES: Tues 2pm-4pm and Thurs 9.30am -1.30pm for Church related enquiries.

Phone: 061 341300



Baptism times will be 4.30pm on 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month, and 1pm on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month. Contact the Parish Office for further details.

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, Orla, Kathleen, Garrett, Helen, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Kiera, Paddy, Michael, Vera, Ailish, Frank, Ger, Fiona, Niamh, Jesse, Amy, Anna, Gwyneth, Young Michael,

William, Méabh, Séamas, Eamon, Declan, Ethel, Agnes, Dympna 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, please contact the newsletter by email or phone.



We sincerely thank you for your continued support. Your donations help to fund the day to day costs of keeping our churches open.

In recent months we have incurred additional costs to ensure we comply with Covid19 precautions, and to instal our webcam, which ensures our Masses can be viewed by all who cannot attend the services in person.

The public health restrictions on how many people can attend Mass in person has impacted our finances greatly.

For your safety we no longer hold a basket collection during Mass, instead we have placed the basket at the church entrance/exit if you wish to contribute.

Thank you once again.