



St. Nicholas' Parish News

Sunday 28th January 2018
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.saintnicholasparish.ie
E-mail:
stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com



SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Mark 1:21-28

1. In this first chapter Mark familiarises his readers with the type of things Jesus did to proclaim the kingdom, the reign of God. Our passage today touches on two of these, the first being that 'he taught as one having authority'. It makes a difference when you listen to someone who is clearly speaking from experience and personal knowledge. Remember people who impressed you in this way.
2. Jesus combined teaching with healing, and he drove the evil spirit out of the man. The power of God that worked this wonder through Jesus is also at work in and through us today. When have you been freed from some bad habit?
3. The evil spirit convulsed the man before it left him. The path to liberation can be a painful struggle. If you have found it so, who was the Jesus person that helped you through the struggle to freedom?
4. It is not only individuals but groups that can be struggling with an evil spirit – jealousy, rivalry, malicious gossiping, abuse of power, etc. Sometimes a Jesus person comes into the group and drives out that evil spirit. Have you experienced this? Perhaps you yourself have been this person on some occasion?

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Fr. John O'Byrne

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Salesian Sisters:

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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 news-letter. 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:

John... 085 7406822

Maura 086 0429952

by Wednesday please.

E-mail:

Stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

Feastdays—Jan/Feb

Sun 28—St. Agnes

Tues 30—St. Martina

Wed 31—St. John Bosco

Thurs 1—St. Brigid

Sat 3—St. Blaise



Thursday 1st February the feast day of one of the premier saints in the Irish Tradition Saint Brigid

Her feast day coincides with the ancient festival

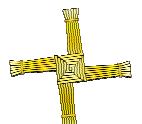
of *Imbolc*, the start of spring in the ancient Irish calendar. Brigid was born near Dundalk, Louth, Ireland in AD 450. According to legend, her father was Dubhthach, an Irish chieftain of Leinster, and her mother, Brocca, was a slave at his court. From earliest childhood, stories of her kindness and miracles associated with her are told. Brigid was also renowned for her love of animals and many stories were told of her kindness to stray and starving dogs. Saint Brigid wanted to dedicate her life to God and refused to marry. Her father eventually accepted her decision to take the veil.

St Brigid founded the first convent in Ireland in Co. Westmeath. She founded many more monasteries, the most famous one in County Kildare. St Brigid went on a journey around Ireland spreading the word of God. On her way she visited St Patrick. Having obtained St Patrick's blessing she continued on her journey.

St. Brigid's Cloak When seeking land for her community, she asked the King of Leinster only for as much as her cloak would cover. The cloak miraculously spread over the whole of the Curragh, an area of grassland famous then and now for horse racing.

St. Brigid's Crosses Many stories of miracles of healing are attributed to Brigid, such as curing lepers and giving speech to the dumb. There are tales of her turning water into ale or stone into salt, and many concern her rapport with animals. She also negotiated the release of captives. Perhaps the best known story is of her visit to a dying pagan chieftain. While she prayed, she plaited rushes into a cross. The chieftain heard her account of the cross as a Christian symbol, and was converted and baptised before he died. It is still customary on 1 February to plait Saint Brigid's Crosses, in the hope that they will protect a household in the year ahead.

Brigid has been called "Muir na nGael", "Mary of the Gaels" which translates as Our Lady of the Irish. She died in AD 525 and was buried in Downpatrick with our other patron Saints of Ireland St. Patrick and St. Columcille.





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

Congratulations to the following who were baptized recently: Sinead, Megan and Zoe. We welcome these into our faith community and congratulate their proud parents. 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.



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, Maura, Philip, Tony, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Ciara, Paddy, Michael, Vera Ailish, Frank & Ger.

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 John/Maura know by E-mail: stnicholaspnewsletter@gmail.com or Tel. John.085 7406822 Maura. 086 0429952

Invitation

The Salesian Sisters invite you to a quiet time of meditation on Tuesdays from 10.30am to 11:00 am. at their home at 3 Oakton Road, Westbury.



FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION

Feb 2nd is the feast of the Presentation of the Lord which occurs forty days after the birth of Jesus and is also known as Candlemas day, since the blessing and procession of candles is included in the liturgy.



Congratulations—Well Done—An-mhaith!

ACE awards are given to pupils who excel in school life through Attainment, Community Spirit or Effort. Well done to our December ACEs. VI: Nolan: Ava Collins & Rory McDermott VI: Heaney: Molly Flanagan & Cian Kelly VI: Boland: Scott Callaghan & Ellie McCarthy



REDEMPTORIST CENTRE OF MUSIC, LIMERICK

The Redemptorist Centre of Music (RCM) is a vibrant centre providing excellent music tuition for children and adults of all ages. We offer lessons on all instruments (including woodwind, brass, percussion and the guitar) as well as singing lessons. In addition, there are fantastic opportunities for budding young musicians aged 2-6 who join the Melody Makers Group on a Saturday morning. With a number of ensembles, lessons and music theory classes to avail of, each student receives a well-rounded musical education.

Now Enrolling for all New Students. Contact 061314924, redscentreofmusic@gmail.com or see our Facebook page: www.facebook.com

The past is history The future is mystery All we have is now. That is why they call it the PRESENT



ALZHEIMER SOCIETY OF IRELAND - SOCIAL CLUB

The Alzheimer Society of Ireland hold a Social Club for people with dementia and their carer, in a supported environment, which takes place each Tuesday morning in St. Mary's RFC Grove island, between 11.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. There is no charge to attend and tea and coffee are provided. Please phone Mary at 313456 if you would like to attend, or just call to St. Mary's RFC on Tuesdays from 11.00 a.m.



3rd February—Feast day of St. Blaise, Patron of throat ailments and animals

"Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Blessing of St. Blaise)

In Memory



We remember in our prayers Patrick Byrne formerly of 38 Shannon Drive whose 2nd Anniversary is this coming Monday 29th January



LAUGHTER is the shortest distance between two people
WORRY is the interest paid on trouble before it falls due.