

## THE DEEP END: GENUINE AUTHORITY

'But man, proud man,  
Dress'd in a little brief authority,  
Most ignorant of what he's most assur'd...'

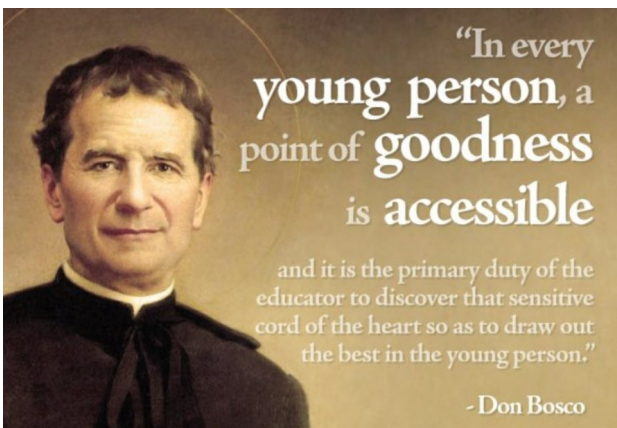
Measure for Measure - William Shakespeare

We probably wouldn't have to think too hard to come with examples of people who seem to fit the above description. Puffed up with a sense of their own importance, they are anxious to be seen as the expert on everything, in spite of limited knowledge or experience. We tend to criticise politicians and other public figures if we feel they are blind to the struggles of ordinary people. They don't know what it's like, to example, to live on a minimum wage, to care for a family member with a disability, or to be at risk of homelessness. On the other hand, it is refreshing when those in power have either faced some of these issues themselves or have made the effort to do some research and really listen to people. We can tell when someone is speaking with genuine authority, care and compassion.

In today's gospel, those who listen to Jesus' teaching in the synagogue know there is something different and exciting about him. His teaching is in sharp contrast to the scribes they are used to hearing, and makes a deep impression on them. The difference, as stated twice in this passage, is his authority and it leaves his audience 'astonished'. He does not use his position the way we might use our 'little brief authority' to make ourselves look good. Instead he uses his authority to serve, to love, and to bring mercy and freedom.

Tríona Doherty, Email [trionad@gmail.com](mailto:trionad@gmail.com)

31st January is the Feast day of **St John Bosco**, the founder of the Salesian order. Let us join in celebrating his feast day with the Salesian Sisters in our parish.



Please  
pray for  
the sick

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.

Please pray especially for John, Brian, Paddy, Vera, Ailish, Frank, Fiona, Niamh, Jesse, Eoin, Mary, Michael, William, Méabh, Anna, Eamon, Declan, Ethel, Agnes, Lilia, Muirinn, Orla..

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.

The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family. This year the first 16 days of February fall during the liturgical season known as Ordinary Time which is represented by the liturgical color green. Green, the symbol of hope, is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection.

## SAINTS FUN FACTS

by John Sheppard

Brigid was raised by Druids in Ireland and as a child heard St. Patrick preach.

She never forgot that and it was St. Patrick who heard her final vows upon entering into the convent.

She founded a double monastery in Kildare, an art school and many convents all over Ireland.

Her extraordinary spirituality, charity and compassion for those distressed were legendary.



St. Brigid of Ireland



# ST NICHOLAS PARISH NEWS

Sunday 31st January 2021,  
4th Sunday of Ordinary time



Fr. Derek Leonard P.P. 087 6261287

Fr. John O'Byrne 085 7491268

Fr. Gerard O'Leary 087 9378685

Salesian Sisters 061 348510



All public masses are online from St Nicholas Church.

St Nicholas Church is open daily from 9am to 3pm for private prayers.

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**WEEKDAY** 9.45am Monday to Friday

**WEEKEND** Sat.6pm, Sun.10.30am, 12 noon

**TOILET FACILITIES** Please note that toilet facilities cannot be provided in St Nicholas' Church in order to adhere to strict Covid19 guidelines.



Masses from St Nicholas Church can be viewed live via the parish webcam at the parish website [www.saintnicholasparish.ie](http://www.saintnicholasparish.ie) or

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

You can download the free app from the App store and click on St Nicholas church in the Limerick section.

## ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER

We encourage local groups to avail of the newsletter to promote upcoming events, share good news, etc. please send details to

*Newsletter* [stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com)



Maura. 086 0429952

Grace. 086 8296193

The parish Facebook is updated daily. You do not need to be a member of Facebook to view the page.

[www.facebook.com/Saintnicholasparish/](http://www.facebook.com/Saintnicholasparish/)



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

**Phone:** 061 341300

**email:** [saintnicholasparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:saintnicholasparishoffice@gmail.com)



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.

## USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Covid support lines for older people:

**ALONE** 0818 222024

**SENIORLINE** 1800 804591

**Community call**, Limerick City and County :

Phone: 1800 852 389 or

email: [covidsupport@limerick.ie](mailto:covidsupport@limerick.ie)

**GARVEY'S SUPERVALU** click & collect

Register at [www.supervalu.ie](http://www.supervalu.ie) , select Supervalu

Corbally, choose click & collect, add items and pay.

Phone 083 120 3890 on collection for your order to be brought to your car

MY JESUS, I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE PRESENT IN THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT. I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS AND I DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOU IN MY SOUL. SINCE I CANNOT AT THIS MOMENT RECEIVE YOU SACRAMENTALLY, COME AT LEAST SPIRITUALLY INTO MY HEART. I EMBRACE YOU AS IF YOU WERE ALREADY THERE AND UNITE MYSELF WHOLLY TO YOU. NEVER PERMIT ME TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOU. AMEN.

SPIRITUAL ACT OF COMMUNION

