

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 6pm daily. We encourage you to come along for a quiet moment of prayer.

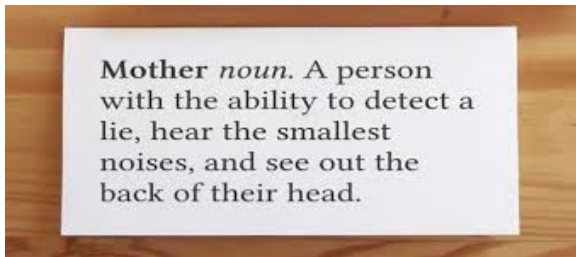


Baptism



Anyone wishing to have their baby baptised must give at least one months notice. Baptisms are on the 2nd and 4th weekend of each month. Times: 6pm Sat. St.Nicholas church, Sunday 1pm St.Munchin's College.

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY to all Mothers, young and young at heart, in our Parish.



As a **Thank You** to Fr. Séan, we have invited him back for 7pm mass, followed by "a bit of a do" in our Parish centre on Saturday 6th April. All are invited to the mass and party afterwards.



Team Limerick Clean-up takes place on Good Friday morning, 19th April. Groups of volunteers in all areas of the parish, including St.Nicholas church, will be participating. Look out for more details in coming weeks. All volunteers are welcome to join in on the day.

Marriage Enrichment weekend: Refresh, Renew, Rekindle your marriage relationship on a Marriage Enrichment Weekend from 12th – 14th April 2019 in Cork. www.marriageencounter.ie 086-8334382-087-2162436



BEST OF LUCK RUBY

Wishing Ruby from our children's choir all the very best this Sunday as she competes in the National Gymnastic Championships!

Remembering 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. Continue to pray for Maurice, Ailish R, Pat, Annette, Aidan, Gabriel, Jim, Kathleen, Garrett, Helen, Philip, Tony, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Kiera, 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

Or Tel: Maura 086 0429952, Grace 086 8296193

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 Suffering. The garment represents our worries, our hurts, our sorrow and our pain.

It will hang on our cross on Good Friday and we will burn the Garment of Suffering in our Easter Vigil fire.

Senility Prayer

God grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway. The good fortune to run into the ones I do, And the eyesight to tell the difference.



Congratulations to the children from Scoil Ide making their First Communion at 10.30am mass this Sunday.



St. Nicholas Parish News

Sunday March 31st 2019

4th Sunday in Lent

Follow us on Facebook: @saintnicholasparish

www.saintnicholasparish.ie

E-mail: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com



THE DEEP END

Fourth Sunday of Lent 31 March 2019 • Laetare Sunday

The Elder Son Sometimes we can be so familiar with a Gospel passage we tend to switch off after the first few sentences. That would be a shame, especially when the Gospel is one of the great blockbuster parables. The real challenge in today's Gospel is what happens after the lost son returns. The elder brother has 'worked like a slave' all those years and is understandably upset. The Father's welcome of the younger son would have been considered extremely foolish by those listening to this story. However, the Father makes it clear that his outreach to the younger brother will not change his love for the older brother. It will cost the elder brother nothing to reach out. We have nothing to lose in welcoming home the lost. Today, we can try to place ourselves somewhere in this narrative: where do you stand? This Gospel shows us that God returns the lost to the community, regardless of the boundaries that we might put in place. Jesus teaches us a lesson in radical hospitality. No matter how far we wander from home, God is still a loving God. The elder brother has a choice: to come to the party or to sulk in the corner. Luke, excellent story-teller that he is, leaves the reader to decide the outcome. 'God of love, show us our place in this world as channels of your love for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight. Enlighten those who possess power ... that they may love the common good, advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live' (Pope Francis, Laudato Si, 246)

Jane Mellett mellettj@gmail.com

SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENSE OF THE GOSPEL

1. Jesus rejects the idea that personal misfortune is God's punishment for sin. Yet a serious illness or accident can serve as a wake-up call for how we live our lives. How have such experiences given you a greater appreciation of the value of your life and relationships, and of the time and opportunities at your disposal?
2. 'I'll wait till tomorrow to do that'. Have you ever said that and then found the chance is gone the next day? In the story we are called to recognise God at work in our lives and respond to Him. Now is the opportune moment. When have you been glad you did not put off action to the following day?
3. Perhaps there have been times when you saw yourself like the tree in the parable – useless, merely a waste of space, unable to achieve what you wanted. Think of friends who came to you at such a time, people who saw your potential and were prepared to give you another chance, people who also dug the soil around you and gave you the help you needed to grow. Perhaps in your turn you have been able to do this for others.

John Byrne osa Email jbyrneosa@gmail.com

Please take home a copy of this newsletter. We encourage you to avail of it to promote upcoming events, let us know if someone needs prayers etc.

Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.

087 6261287

Fr. John O'Byrne

085 7491268

Salesian Sisters

061 348510

MASS TIMES

Weekdays:

St. Munchin's College

9.45am. Mon, Tues & Wed.

St. Nicholas, Westbury

7.00pm Thursday

Weekends:

St. Nicholas: 7pm Sat.

10.30am Sunday

St. Munchin's College

12 noon Sunday

Items for Newsletter

to be in to:

Maura. 086 0429952

Grace. 086 8296193

Email:

stnicholasnewsletter

@gmail.com

By Wednesday please.

SAINTS DAYS

April

2 St. Francis of Paola

5 St. Vincent Ferrer