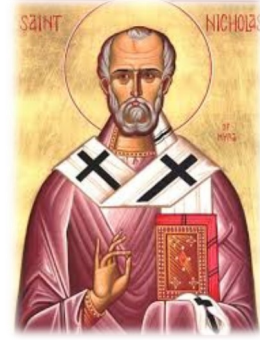


St Nicholas, 6th December

- Candy canes have been a staple in America and are associated Santa Claus. Why? They really derive from the crozier, the bishop's staff, of Sinterklaas, or St. Nicholas
- The inspiration of St. Nicholas led French nuns during the Middle Ages to start the tradition of bringing anonymous gifts under the cover of night to needy families and their children on Dec. 5th St. Nicholas Eve. The next morning, the feast of St. Nicholas, the poor families would wake to discover food, clothing, food treats and some modest money assistance. When the poor tried to find out who their benefactor was, they got the answer, "It must have been St. Nicholas."



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Next Wednesday, December 8th is a Holy Day.

Vigil mass will take place next Tuesday at 6pm in St Nicholas Church and Wednesday at 9:45am in St Munchin's College Chapel.



Christmas Carol Service

Our Parish Carol Service by candlelight will take place on Tuesday, December 14th at 7:30pm in St Nicholas church, Westbury.

It will be a festive evening with Carols and readings and offering us a chance to reflect on the reason for the season.

Join us online or in person



Trócaire GIFTS OF LOVE

When you buy a Trócaire Gift of Love, you're not just giving. You're joining the fight for justice.

How it works:

- You buy a sustainable and ethical gift from the Trócaire Gifts range.
- The recipient receives a beautiful card with details of the Trócaire Gift.
- The gift is sourced in the country and given to a family in need.
- A family in need receives the gift, helping them change their lives.

Buy a Trócaire Gift of Love and send some love around the world this Christmas.

To order by phone call **1850 408 408** or online at www.trocaire.org/ways-to-help/gifts/

Las Posadas

Our parish Posadas continues its advent journey around our Parish this week.



This week, the nativity set of Mary, Joseph and the donkey will be welcomed into homes in Westbury, Shannon Banks and the Mill Road.

We pray that all families are inspired by the holy family in faith, love and understanding.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

You are invited to join us by webcam from St. Nicholas' church for a short Advent Reflection on Thursdays, December 9th and 16th, at 7.00pm as we prepare for Christmas.



A Prayer for the Second Sunday of ADVENT

God of patience, show us your wisdom in time, that we may grow to expect your action on your time. Teach us to be gentle and patient with ourselves. Make us receptive to your timing in others. Help us see the long view when we are caught in the frustration of waiting. Amen.



ST NICHOLAS PARISH NEWS

Sunday 5th December 2021

2nd Sunday of Advent



CONTACT NUMBERS

- Fr. Derek Leonard P.P. 087 6261287
- Fr. John O'Byrne 085 7491268
- Fr. Gerard O'Leary 087 9378685
- Salesian Sisters 061 348510
- PARISH OFFICE 061 341300

OFFICE OPENING TIMES: Tues 2pm–4pm and Thurs 9.30am -1.30pm for Church related enquiries. If you wish to book a mass, order a cert or leave in your offerings to support your parish, please phone or call at opening times to the office, based at St Nicholas Church, Westbury.

With Sympathy mass cards & Christmas Mass Bouquet cards are now available from the Parish Office.

email: saintnicholasparishoffice@gmail.com

WEEKDAY MASSES

9.45am Mon, Tues, Wed, *St Munchin's College Chapel*.
10am in *St Mary's* : Thurs and Friday.

WEEKEND MASSES

Sat.6pm, Sun.10.30am, *St Nicholas' church*
Sun 12 noon , *St Munchin's College Chapel*

PARISH LIVE STREAMING MASSES

Masses from *St Nicholas Church* can be viewed live via the parish webcam at the parish website 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

stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

Maura. 086 0429952 or Grace. 086 8296193

FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/Saintnicholasparish/

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



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 Frank, Fiona, Eoin, Mary, Michael, William, Méabh, Anna, Eamon, Declan, John, Agnes, Muirinn, Ruby, Carmel, Ralph, Karen, Pat, Martina, Ciara.

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.

GIVING TREE

If You would like to take part, please take a tag from the tree and buy a new toy for the child.

Each tag lists a person and an age group e.g "Girl age 4". We ask people to spend up to €15 on each child.

You can return the unwrapped gift in a bag to the church, which will be distributed locally by St. Vincent de Paul Society and Barnardos.



Please return the gift on or before next weekend, Dec 12th. Many thanks for your generosity.

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



The following applies when coming to mass:



- Sanitise entering the church
- Face Coverings are essential
- Be mindful of social distancing