



St. Nicholas' Parish News

Sunday 7th April 2019
5th Sunday of Lent

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Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.
087 6261287

Fr. John O'Byrne
085 7491268

Salesian Sisters:
061 348510

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 newsletter. 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 us know of someone who needs prayers etc. Items for the newsletter to be in to:

Maura. 086 0429952
Grace 086 8296193
by Wednesday please.
E-mail:
Stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

Feast days — April

Sun 7 — St. John The Baptist de la Salle

Thurs 11 — St. Stanislaus

Sat 13 — St. Martin I Pope

The Deep End • Don't look back

'No need to recall the past, No need to think about what was done before. See, I am doing a new deed...' (Isaiah 43: 18-19)

'All I can say is that I forget the past and I strain ahead...' (Phil 3:13)

These poignant words taken from today's first and second readings provide the perfect preamble to our dramatic Gospel reading. Perhaps the line that is most often quoted from the story of the woman caught in adultery is Jesus' challenge to the crowd who bring her before them: 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' It is a challenge to all of us to look inward before we 'cast stones' to judge others.

But there is another equally powerful statement here by Jesus, this time to the woman herself. It is delivered quietly, when she is left alone with Jesus after all her accusers have drifted away: 'Neither do I condemn you. Go away, and don't sin any more.' We notice that Jesus doesn't rake over the woman's past. He doesn't ask her about the claims of her accusers. He does not condemn or criticise her. Instead he accepts her, loves her, treats her with the respect and dignity that was so lacking in the mob, and gently nudges her forward into a new way of living.

*Triona Doherty
Athlone, Co Roscommon
Email trionad@gmail.com*

Thought For The Week



'Which is better to have - a clock that gains twenty seconds each day or the one that does not work at all?'

Answer: The clock that is broken will be the better of the two. Although it does not work, this clock will show the correct time twice each day. The clock that gains twenty seconds every day is right only once every 5 years and 328 days. Every single one of us

has our weaker points, limitations, faults and mistakes. Some of these we are encouraged to let go of and some we have to live with.

Like a broken clock that tells the correct time each day our weaker points can also be points of growth and strength. Even when we get it wrong God always wants to point us in the right direction. We are never condemned, judged or made feel guilty. Others may try but never God. With the clocks having gone forward an hour recently, the spotlight is very much on time. Already the MEP's of Europe have voted to scrap the practice of moving clocks forward by an hour in spring and back again in the autumn from April 2021. Apparently the time change does affect our bodies and puts them out of sync. Some people are more sensitive than others to these changes including babies and young children.

Time as we know is a precious gift with huge spiritual significance. Each day a precious gift of time is given to us to use well and to use carefully. Every day is a new beginning. The very structure of a 24 hour day reveals the goodness of God who always invites us and empowers us to begin again. Hope is reborn with every sunrise. Each evening also invites honest reflection and a time to give thanks for blessings received throughout the day. As we continue our journey through Lent, we make an effort to appreciate the gift of time and we pray for the ability to use it in the best way we can.

*Fr. James McSweeney,
Millstreet, Cork*



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

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.



Garment of Suffering

The patches in the garment represent our worries, our hurts, our sorrow and our pain. Our Parish Garment of Suffering is now being passed nightly to homes in Westbury, the Mill Road and Irish Estates to be joined together along with a simple wooden cross. On Holy Thursday the finished garment will be brought to 7pm mass. It will hang on our cross on Good Friday and we will burn the Garment of Suffering in our Easter Vigil fire



Maranatha Prayer Ministry
Healing Retreat on next Sunday, 14th April 2019 at 2.30pm at St. Paul's Church, Dooradoyle, Limerick through the Ministry of Rev. Fr. John Mockler, Limerick and Lay Speaker Eilish Carter, Nenagh.
All welcome.



Team Limerick Clean-up 5
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.



St. Mary's Adult Education Centre

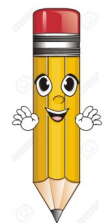
Spring Taster Workshops

Registration: Wednesday 17th April 2019

Time 10:00-12:00 noon

Topic: Office Skills and Creative Based Applications

Venue: St. Mary's Adult Education Centre, Island Rd, Limerick



"I am a little pencil in God's hands. He does the thinking. He does the writing. He does everything and sometimes it is really hard because it is a broken pencil and He has to sharpen it a little more."

Mother Teresa



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, Philip, Tony, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Ciara, 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

Trócaire
Working for a just world.

I WILL HOLD

MAYA

IN MY HEART THIS LENT

Inconceivably, today, the crisis in Syria enters its 9th year. 10 year old Maya - is growing up in a refugee camp in Lebanon. Her family were forced from their home due to the devastating civil war that has ravaged Syria for eight long years.

With your help, Trócaire provides food, shelter and medical care to Maya and thousands more like her. We are also providing them with a safe-haven centre where Maya and her siblings can play, create art and receive an education.

Keep them in your prayers and give whatever you can to Trocaire this Lent.



UNTIL LOVE CONQUERS FEAR

St. Munchins College Parents Council

Are holding a Coffee Morning and Cake Sale in the college on Friday 12th April from 9:00—12:00

All welcome

PARTEEN GAA & CAMOGIE



Community walking group leaves Parteen GAA pitch on Tuesday evenings at 7pm / Shannon Fields 7.15pm.
All ages welcome. Just wear walking shoes / trainers and a high viz jacket.