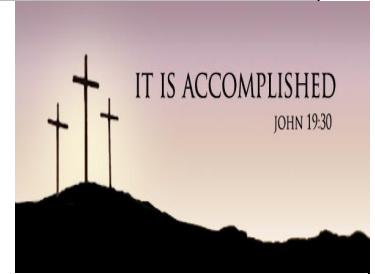




St. Nicholas' Parish News  
**Palm Sunday**  
 13 April 2014  
 www.saintnicholasparish.ie



**Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.**  
 Phone 340614

**Salesian Sisters:**  
 348510

**Mass times:**

**9.45am** Mondays,  
 Tuesdays and  
 Wednesdays. St.  
 Munchin's College  
**7.00pm**—Thursdays St. N.  
**Fridays** Liturgy of the Word  
 with Holy Communion

**Weekends:**

**St. Nicholas'**  
 7.00pm Saturday  
 10.30 am— Sunday  
**St. Munchin's College:**  
 12.00noon Sundays.

**Items for newsletter**

to be in to  
 John 085 7406822  
 Dympna 348510  
 by **Wednesday morning**  
 please.  
 E-mail:  
 stnicholasnewsletter@gmail  
 .com

**Last week's collection:**

Last weekend: €1,210.30

Thank You for your generosity.

**Confessions**

Confessions will take  
 place each Saturday at  
 6.30p.m. in St. Nicholas'  
 Church.

**Readers next weekend:**

Sat: 7pm: Celine Holland  
 Michael Cooke  
 Sun: 10.30: Mary Kelly  
 Emmett Fitzgerald  
 12.00: John Leonard  
 S. Clohessy

**Practice for Good Friday Pageant "At Calvary" this Tuesday at 7.30p.m. in St. Nicholas Church.**

**Not I, Lord, surely?**

'We adore you O Christ and we praise you, because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.' You may have heard these words during Lent if you prayed the Stations of the Cross. The Stations, also known as the Via Dolorosa or the Way of the Cross, are a traditional way of reflecting on the journey of Jesus to his crucifixion. As far back as the fourth century, pilgrims flocked to the Holy Land to walk the route he had carried the cross. The Stations offer a way to immerse ourselves in this familiar story.

Palm Sunday and Good Friday afford us another opportunity to reflect on the Passion and death of Jesus. They are the only two occasions when the congregation is invited to take part in the reading of the Gospel. What strikes you today as you play your part? Do you feel uncomfortable when you answer 'Not I, Lord, surely?' to Jesus' assertion that someone will betray him? What about when you join in with the crowd calling for Jesus to be crucified, or mocking him on the cross?

We begin Holy Week today with an account of the triumphant entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem, but it is a short-lived triumph. In a few short days we will celebrate the Lord's passion and death.

There is a lot to reflect on in these days of Holy Week. By Easter Sunday, will we be able to recognise, like the crowd at the end of today's Passion, 'In truth this was a son of God'? *Triona Doherty*



**Holy Week Services**

**Wednesday 17th: Christ Mass in St. Joseph's Church 7.30p.m.**

**Holy Thursday:** 9.45am Morning prayer—St. Munchin's College chapel  
 7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (St. Nicholas')

Adoration until midnight  
 (11.00—12pm organised Holy Hour)

**Good Friday:**

9.45am Morning Prayer— St. Munchin's Chapel

12noon: Stations of the Cross led by young people. (St. Nicholas')

3.00pm :Celebration of the Lord's Passion (St. Nicholas')

8.00pm: "I was at Calvary" ...pageant

**Holy Saturday**

9.45am Morning Prayer in St. Munchin's Chapel.

9.00pm Solemn celebration of the Easter Vigil. Gather in St. N. church grounds.

**Easter Sunday**

5.45 a.m. : Dawn Mass - Entrance to Shannon Fields (Irish Estates).

10.30a.m. Mass in St. Nicholas'

12.00noon: Mass in St. Munchin's Chapel.

**Confessions:** 8.00p.m. Holy Thursday

11.00a.m. Good Friday

**A Quiet Time with Jesus**

24hr Adoration takes place each week from Thursday following 7.00pm Mass to Friday 6.45pm. This is an ideal opportunity for you to have some quiet time with the Lord.

It is open each day 9am—6pm and we encourage you to pop in for a quiet moment or for as long as you wish.

**Letter from Bishop Brendan Leahy**

As you leave today please take a copy of the letter addressed to each of us. It contains some items of information, words of appreciation and encouragement. Worth reading!

**VIDES VOLUNTEERING**

I am participating in the Great Limerick Run on 4th May next to raise funds for a mission in Finetown, on the outskirts of Johannesburg, who work with children from the nearby squatter camp. If you would like to sponsor me I will be present after Masses Sunday 27 April. All money collected will go to this mission.  
*Catherine Synnott, Westbury*



### Baptisms

Baptisms take place on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at 6.00p.m.. Please make all necessary arrangements with Fr. Derek. A meeting to prepare for this special day will be on Thursday 1 May in St. Nicholas' Church.

Trocaire boxes can now be handed in at any Mass over the next week or so.



### Parish Office

The parish office will be open this Tuesday morning 10.30—11.30 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

### Sympathy

We offer our deepest sympathy to the family of Lydia Flynn who died recently. Also to Carmel Ryan and family, Rosedale Gardens on the death of her husband Pat during the week. May they rest in peace.

*In this world Someone stands behind; silently loving me; reaching out a helping hand when I fall, encouraging me when I'm tested; understanding when no one else does; pointing the light when I am in the dark. God deserves a pause, a hug, a thank you, because I am wrapped in a beautiful truth:*

***I am loved without measure.***

*Have a fruitful Holy Week*

### Remembering our Sick

Let us continue to remember in our prayer each day those who are sick at home or in hospital— Brian, Muireann, Orla, Ciara, Baby Dara, Baby Reuben, Erica, Mark, Des, Michael, Vera, Brian, Frank, Bridget, Anne, Paddy, Olive, Breda, Geraldine, Kathleen, Michael, TJ, Pat, David, Anthony, and Maureen. Let us pray for those in nursing homes and all carers.



### Special Olympics

This year the Special Olympics All Ireland Games, will be hosted at U.L. and other regional venues. On 8 and 9 May there will be fundraiser Golf Classic at Dromoland. €500 per team—all going to Sp. Olympics. Ph. 086 8350004

SacredSpace102fm is a West Limerick Radio religious program. It offers inspirational interviews, resources, information and saints feast days every single week. 10—11 Sunday mornings and 11—12 Sunday evenings.

We wish a pleasant holiday to staffs and pupils of our local schools. To those preparing for exams we encourage you to take some time off to renew your energy and enthusiasm.

### Welcome

To those who are joining us from other lands this Eastertide we welcome you and wish you peace and sunshine.

### Easter Dues

Easter dues envelopes and card will be distributed throughout the parish during the coming week. . Due to break-ins in previous years and for security reasons it might be advisable to pay by cheque if this is convenient for you.. Thanks to all who help deliver these.

The card contains details of all our Holy Week and Easter Ceremonies. Please come along and join us for these. It is important also that our young people attend these.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage June 21st—26th. Details from Limerick Social Service Centre. Poster on notice-board.

### DRIVE SAFELY

Over the past few weeks there have been a lot of tragic deaths on our roads. As we take a break over the Easter period let us all make that extra effort to drive carefully and safely. People continually take chances—using mobile phones, overtaking, speeding etc. Hopefully it won't be their last chance.



### Cuidiú

This is a parent support group recognised by the HSE, They will be in our parish centre one Monday a month from 10—12 beginning this Monday 14th providing information and support on breastfeeding.



### Youth4Life

Youth4Life is a new initiative for youths from 1<sup>st</sup> year to 3<sup>rd</sup> year. We are a group of local volunteers who have come together recognising the need for young people to have a voice in the community.

This is a fun way of getting to know other youths within your community and also sharing ideas while also giving back to the community.

New Volunteers are needed to help provide initiatives and activities during the coming weeks.

At our first meeting they want to get involved in playing soccer, treasure hunts, Street leagues etc. If you can help in any way please contact Bríd: 086 2043599 Check out our Facebook page at Youth4Life – Shannon Banks & Westbury.

