



Vocation Sunday

St Nicholas Parish News
4th SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 26th 2015

www.saintnicholasparish.ie



Good Shepherd Sunday

Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.

Phone 340614

Salesian Sisters:

348510

Mass times:

9.45am

Mondays, Tuesdays

Wednesdays. St. Munchin's

College

7.00pm

Thursday: St. Nicholas'

Fridays: Liturgy of the Word

with Holy Communion. St.

Nicholas'

Weekends:

St. Nicholas'

7.00pm Saturday

10.30 am— Sunday

St. Munchin's College:

12.00 noon Sundays.

Items for newsletter

To be in to

John 085 7406822

Dympna 348510

by Wednesday please.

E-mail:

stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

Feasts this Week

April

Mon 27th

St Asicus

Tues. 28th

St Peter Chanel

Wed 29th

St Catherine of Sienna

Thurs 30th

St Pius V

May

Fri 1st

St Joseph the Worker

Sat 2nd

Readers for next weekend

Sat: 7.00pm:

Tracy English-

Michael Cooke



Sun: 10.30am:

Noel Barabry

Melissa / Baragry

12.00: J Clancy / E Mc Crann

THE DEEP END

SHEPHERDS WHO SMELL OF THEIR SHEEP

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday, so named because of the excerpt from the Gospel of John in which Jesus speaks about himself as the 'good shepherd'. It is also known as a day of prayer for vocations. What makes a good shepherd? John tells us that the good shepherd is willing to lay down his life for his sheep. The shepherd is at the service of his sheep. Above all, he knows his own sheep. What a simple yet profound model for those with leadership roles in our church, and indeed for all of us.

Pope Francis used quite a vivid image in this context a while back, calling on priests to be 'shepherds with the smell of sheep'. In The Joy of the Gospel, he places this responsibility on all of us: 'Each Christian and every community... all of us are asked to obey his call to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the "peripheries".' We cannot be at the service of people unless we know them, spend time with them and understand where they are coming from. We must be willing to serve, wherever help is needed.

A good shepherd does not remain indoors, watching from afar, hoping everything will be okay with his flock. He must be out among them in order to be able to protect and help them. Triona Doherty

PRAYER FOR VOCATION

Loving God, your Son, Jesus, has shown us that an open heart finds the way. Help me to find my way in this world. Keep my heart open to following Jesus' way of serving others in love. Give me the courage to accept the guidance you offer me through my family, my friends, and my parish community. Through the Holy Spirit, you call me to a particular way of life. If it is the way of a priest, sister, brother or deacon, then help me to walk it in joyful service to your people. With you, my God, I know I can find my way. *Amen.*

SYNOD PRAYER

We stand before you, Holy Spirit, conscious of our sinfulness, but aware that we gather in your name. Come to us, remain with us, and enlighten our hearts. Give us light and strength to know your will, to make it our own, and to live it in our lives. Guide us by your wisdom, support us by your power, for you are God, sharing the glory of Father and Son. You desire justice for all: help us to uphold the rights of others; do not allow us to be misled by ignorance or corrupted by fear or favour. Unite us to yourself in love and keep us faithful to all that is true. As we gather in your name may we temper justice with love, so that all our decisions may be pleasing to you, and earn the reward promised to good and faithful servants. *Amen*

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Let us pray for those each day who are sick at he or in hospital John, Johnny, Tony, Noel, Pat, Marie, Brian, Mhuireann, Jean, Orla, Ciara, Rita, Baby Reuben, Michael, Vera, Brian, Frank, Bridget, Anne, Olive, Breda, Geraldine, Kathleen, Alan Martyn Michael, Pat, David, Anthony, Ann, Maureen, Teresa, Kathleen, Hugh, Noel and Patrick.

We pray for all our parishioners who suffer illness and sickness at this time. We pray for those in nursing homes, and all carers. If you would like a sick relative or friend mentioned, **Contact: John 346664**

Parish Facebook

Our Parish Facebook is up and running. Why not check it out at [https:// www.facebook.com/Saintnicholasparish](https://www.facebook.com/Saintnicholasparish) Please "Like us" and tell your friends. We would be delighted to receive any photos or suggestions You would like included on our page

Parish Office The parish office will be open each Wednesday from 12.30—2.30 and Thursday 9.30—12 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**



Please take home a copy of this newsletter. We encourage you to avail of it to promote upcoming events.

Young People If you are aged 13 –17 you are welcome to join us on Sunday evenings 7.30-8.30 in Salesian Sisters home. 3 Oakton Road, Westbury for a time of Fun, Faith & Friendship on Sunday evenings.

If you are a young adult between the ages of 18 and 40 and would like to explore your call to discipleship in the context of the Gospels we invite you to join us in St. John's Cathedral House (adjacent to the Cathedral), Cathedral Place, Limerick, each Wednesday evening during Lent from 7:30 p.m.-9:00pm.

Easter Dues

Your donation to the Easter dues can be given in at any of the Masses . Easter dues donation goes to the support of our clergy.

Last weeks Collection

Total amount **€1250.00**. Thank you for your generosity.

Charismatic Conference

This will be in the Radisson Blu Hotel on this coming weekend April 25th and 26th. Theme: The Word is made flesh. All welcome. We are all asked to pray for a deepening of the Father's gift of Jesus to each of us in preparing for this wonderful annual conference.

A Haven of Peace and Quiet

Adoration is increasing and becoming more popular in the Limerick Diocese. Why not visit our little Chapel at the back of St. Nicholas'. It is a haven of peace, prayer and quiet. 24hr Adoration takes place each week from Thursday following 7.00pm Mass to Friday 7.00pm. 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.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage:

June 21st—26th. Details from Poster on notice board. SacredSpace102fm is a West Limerick Radio religious program. It offers inspirational interviews, resources, information and saints feast days every single week. 10am-11am Sunday mornings and 11pm-12pm on Sunday.

There is no excuse for Elder Abuse

If you know of somebody who is being abused
Call HSE Information Line: 1850 24 1850

Meditation

On Tuesday mornings 10.30-11.00. All welcome

First Holy Communion

This Sunday 26th April we will welcome the children from Ms Greensmiths class who will receive their First holy Communion. Let us pray for them and their families.

Mass for Healing and Consolation.

This will be on Thursday 30th April at 7.00p.m. in St. Nicholas' Church.

Vocations

Holy Hour for Vocations to the Priesthood and Consecrated Life 2nd Thursday of month 7.30—8.30p.m. in our Adoration chapel.

Celebration of the Word and Holy Communion

Takes place Every Friday 7.00pm in our prayer chapel. Everybody welcome.

Pieta House

Starting at 4.15am, and crossing the line just as dawn is breaking, the phenomenon that is Darkness Into Light, the annual 5km walk/run, will celebrate its seventh year on **Saturday**, May 9th 2015 in Limerick. It will begin at Thomond Park. For all those who would like to walk with our parish group on **this morning**, we will be meeting at 4am outside the Millenium Theatre, LIT. we will walk in memory of those from the parish who have died through suicide and support of their families. You can register at www.pieta.ie or call into the darkness into Light centre in the former Munster shop on O Connell st. cost : €25 per adult €15 OAP/ Student / Job seeker children under 14 go free. all those who register will receive a t-shirt for the event.

The annual Barrington's Hospital Great Limerick Run

(BHGLR) The 6th event is taking place on **Sunday** May 3rd. Because of the increasing numbers taking part (13,000) traffic restrictions will be in place throughout the core city centre and parts of the suburbs from early **Sunday** morning until late afternoon. Full race details for those interested or looking to volunteer on the day are available on our website <http://www.greatlimerickrun.com>

St Nicholas Family Day



The Parish family day will take place on **Sunday**, June 14th in the grounds of St Nicholas church, Westbury. It is open to all and will include Bouncing castle, obstacle course, mobile zoo, barbeque and much more. We will not be charging for this event but if any local business would like to sponsor part of this day, we would really appreciate the help in alleviating the cost. We will also be looking for the help of our neighbours and parishioners as volunteers to make this a fun and safe day.

A kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they drew. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's artwork. As she came to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing the girl replied, . . . "They will in a minute."