



St Nicholas Parish News

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 11th 2016

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Mass times:

Weekdays:

9.45am. Mon, Tues. & Wed. **St Munchin's College**

Thurs & Fri. **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

December

Mon 12th

St Finnian (Meath)

Tues 13th

St Lucy

Wed 14th

St John of the Cross

Please feel free to take home a copy of this newsletter. If you decide otherwise, please leave it on the table at the exit on your way out. Thank you.



Driving

We again remind all who are driving at this busy time of year to take care and be

aware of other road users.

This prayer will help you:

“Keep O Lord your Holy hand upon us so that no harm will happen to us on the road.”



This Saturday is one of the most important gatherings for us as parish members. Today we celebrate our Parish Silver Jubilee. We welcome Bishop Brendan Leahy (who is the chief celebrant at our mass today) He is joined by some of the priests who have served and ministered here in St Nicholas Parish over the past 25years.

To ALL parishioners and those who worship here.

* Teenagers * Children * Young Adults * Young in heart and spirit
* Parents *Actively Retired, You are all Very Welcome.

Remembering our Sick

We remember in our prayer each day those who are sick at home or in hospital. Maura, Aidan, Garrett, Baby Tommy, Baby Martin, Dan, Margaret, Tony, Marie, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Ciara, Rita, Brigid, Paddy, Michael, Eric, Kate, Baby Reuben, Vera, Frank, Bridget, Dymrna, Breda, Pat, Ann, Dave, Brigid, Sean and John. Let us pray for those, facing surgery & tests, in nursing homes, and all carers for our sick.

Merciful God, we remember before you all who are sick this day. Give them courage to live with their illness. Help them to face and overcome their fears. Be with them when they are alone or rejected. Comfort them when they are discouraged. And touch them with your healing Spirit that they may find and possess eternal life, now and forever. Amen.



Jesus waits for us in this Sacrament of Love

24 hour Adoration Thursday 7.30pm to Friday 7.00pm. Please feel free to come to our Adoration Chapel, for a short or long period of time. Our Adoration Chapel in St Nicholas church is open until 6.00pm each day. Prayer and meditation before our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament are great ways to spend some special time with Him.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

During the Season of Advent, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed before mass in St Munchin's College Chapel from 9:10am to 9:40am on Monday to Wednesday mornings.

Baptism Notice



Anyone wishing to have their baby baptised must give at least one months notice. Contact Linda in the parish office Tuesdays. 2-4p.m. or Thursdays 9.30a.m.– 12.30p.m. Tel. 341300. Baptisms are on the 2nd & 4th weekend of each month. Times: 6.00pm Saturday evening in St Nicholas church or Sunday 1.00p.m. in St Munchin's College Chapel.(In the boys secondary school)

Jesse Tree

The Jesse tree helps us connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. The Jesse tree is named from Isaiah 11:1: “A shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.” Jesse was the father of King David. We adorn a Jesse tree with illustrated ornaments that represent the people, prophesies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus. The ornaments of the Jesse tree tell the story of God in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history. Many thanks to the 3r, 4th and 5th classes from Scoil Ide NS for all their work on our two Jesse Trees in our Parish for Advent.



Limerick Diocese Synod Closing Mass

As we approach the end of 2016 we also come to the conclusion of the Synod process as the work of the Synod now moves into a new phase – The implementation of the decisions taken in April becomes part of the mainstream activity of the diocese. Arising from the Synod we now have a Pastoral Plan for the Diocese to bring us to 2026. This documents of the Synod, incorporating this Plan, will be formally launched at Evening Mass in St John's Cathedral at 7p.m. on Dec. 11th.

BINGO

Ardscoil Mhuire Corbally Fundraiser for new Extension.
Monday 12th December. School Hall. Doors open 7.30pm.
First game 8.00pm. Adults €10.....Children €5. Door prize & Raffle.
Fun night for all the family. Ardscoil Mhuire Parents Council.

Feeling Lonely or Worried?

Are there days when nobody calls? Would you like to share a worry? Are you feeling lonely? Call Senior Helpline: 1850 440444 Mornings 10am-1.00pm. Evenings 7pm-10pm. You will be speaking to an older person who will welcome your call from anywhere in Ireland for the price of a local call.

St. Nicholas' Parish Giving Tree

This year as a way of giving to poorer children in Limerick city and County and County Clare, we are setting up a Giving Tree in St. Nicholas church. If You would like to take part, please take a tag from the tree and buy a new gift for the child. Each tag lists a person and age group e.g. 'Girl aged 4' You can return the unwrapped gift in a gift bag to the church, which will be distributed locally by St. Vincent de Paul Society and Barnardos. We ask people to spend up to €15 on each child. Many thanks for your kindness.



Advent (The Coming of the Light)

Advent is derived from a Latin word meaning "arrival" or "coming." Henry Nouwen, spent the last seven years of his life serving in a community of people with mental disabilities. One Christmas, a member of their community arranged under the altar three small wood-carved figures. A poor small child between them, just the contours of the smaller than a human hand. But when a beam of light shone on the figures, large shadows were projected on the wall of the sanctuary, which, according to Nouwen, functioned as "large, hopeful shadows against the walls of our life and world." Without the light, there was little to be seen, and one could pass by the figures and "continue to walk in darkness." "But everything changes with the light." The season of Advent invites us to reflect on and celebrate the coming of the light. .



Bambino Sunday



We will celebrate the custom of Bambino Sunday at the 10:30am family mass Sunday, December 18th with the blessing of the Baby Jesus. Please bring the Baby Jesus from your Nativity with you to that Mass next week-end. We will be asking God to bless all the cribs and homes they are in.

Confessions for Christmas

Confessions will take place after evening mass next Saturday, December 17th in St. Nicholas Church, Westbury and after 11am mass in St. Mary's on Sunday, December 18th. One priest will be hearing confessions in the Confession box and another priest will be hearing confessions, standing in front of the altar. This provides an opportunity for those who wish to approach the priest in the open, with 1 or 2 sins and receive absolution. All welcome.

St Mary's Parish Carol Service

Takes place on Thursday, December 15th at 7:30pm in St. Mary's Church. All welcome.

I am the light, he who follows me will never be in darkness.

Parish Office:

The parish office opens on Tuesday from 2—4pm. Thursday 9.30—12.30 for anyone who may need to book Masses, get certificates or any other church related enquiries. Phone: **341300**

Meditation

Tuesdays at 3 Oakton Road. Time: 10.30-11.00 am. If you would like to join this group you will be most welcome. For many this silent half hour is a great source of peace and strength. Further information from Sr. Kathleen **348510**

Preparing for Christmas

The Salesian Sisters Invite you to join them on Monday 19th December for a time of creative preparation for Christmas: **Contact: 348510**

Mothers & Toddlers

Mothers & Toddlers meet every Tuesday morning from 10.30-12.30 in the Pastoral Centre. Westbury. All Welcome

Light Up a Memory

Light Up the Memory Tree at Milford Care Centre will take place on 11 December at 6.00pm.

Bogus Phone Calls

Gardai are asking people to be aware of bogus phone calls. Please do NOT give personal information, bank details or any passwords over the phone. If you have concerns please ring Henry Street 212400

Christmas Mission At The Redemptorists

A Time to prepare for Christmas
Mon. 12th – Fri 16th Dec. Daily Masses at 8am, 10am and 7.15pm. Late Night Mission Waiting at the Crib at 9pm.
Scripture, Silence, Chants.

Limerick Garda Youth Awards

Congratulations to Luke, Phillip & Jake Kinsella from Clonlara.



On their wonderful achievements and contribution to their community. Twelve months ago their home was devastated by flooding in the area. For eight weeks the boys worked day and night manning pumps and monitoring sand bags. On Jan. 16th the flood subsided without breaking through the barrier. The boys overcame many challenges during that time with a great display of dedication, strength and perseverance. Their actions are an inspiration to us all.

Maranatha Prayer Ministry:

We Invite you to our Christmas Healing Retreat this Sunday, 11th Dec, at 2.30pm at St. Pauls Church, Dooradoyle, through the Ministry of Bishop Brendan Leahy, and Janice and Moss Carrigg, with Spirit Filled Praise, Worship, Music and Song. laying on of hands for healing.