

Welcome to St Nicholas Parish



St. Nicholas' Parish News
8th Sunday of the Year
February 26th 2017
www.saintnicholasparish.ie

E-mail: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com



Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.
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Mass times:

St Munchin's College.

9.45am. — Mon, Tues & Wed.

St Nicholas, Westbury

7.00pm — Thursday

Weekends:

St Nicholas

7.00pm — Saturday.

10.30 am — Sunday.

St Munchin's College

12 noon — Sunday

Items for newsletter

To be in to:

John 085 7406822

Dympna 348510

by Wednesday please.

E-mail

Stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

Feasts this Week

March

Wed 1st

ASH WEDNESDAY

Sat 4th.

St Casimir

God loves everyone,
But probably prefers
'fruits of the spirit'
over 'religious nuts!'

He who angers you,
controls you!

THE DEEP END

Don't Worry. Be Happy

We all have moments of worry and anxiety. Many people are anxious about the future, planning their lives and stretching forward months and sometimes years. We can worry about finance, about relationships, about the world, our communities. In today's Gospel, Jesus urges us not to worry about material things. We should not be enslaved by possessions. We are asked 'what really rules our lives?' If it is money and objects then that leads nowhere; they do not lead to fulfilment. Worry is unproductive. We all know this but that's not very helpful when we are actually anxious about something. Jesus is urging us in today's Gospel to free ourselves of worry. Worry is a symptom of a lack of faith. Jesus is not calling us to apathy or a life of carelessness but to realise that nothing was ever achieved by worrying.

Baptism Notice

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 in St Nicholas church or Sunday 1.00p.m. in St Munchin's College Chapel. (In the boys secondary school on Corbally Road)

Trocaire Lent 2017.....Focus on Honduras

Honduras, which translates as 'depths' in Spanish, is a country in Central America with a population of over 8 million people. For the most marginalised and rural populations in Honduras, it has become increasingly difficult to farm what land they have due to the extreme erratic weather conditions caused by climate change. The effects of relentless climate change have created an extraordinary situation for communities in Honduras that are already struggling. Crops have either failed or produced small yields. Rivers have flooded, leaving high levels of salt deposits, affecting farmland and polluting the water table. For some, migrating to surrounding cities often appears to be the only solution. Honduras is one of the poorest countries in Central America. Currently, about 1 million households live below the poverty line. Honduras is one of the countries in the world most vulnerable to climate change, and the impact of extreme weather events is felt most strongly by the poor especially in the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch in 1998.

Please collect a Trocaire box from the church, if You have not already done so.

Ministry of Public Prayer

In Ireland, when we gathered for public prayer in the last 50 years' we have almost exclusively celebrated Mass. This was a great blessing but it has let us not-so-confident about other types of liturgy. So when it is not possible for a priest to lead public liturgy, we sometimes find ourselves nervous and unsure. Fortunately there are clear, positive resources to help us to prepare and lead liturgical celebrations locally. Some parishes are already doing this, and soon we will all have the experience. This spring we will be offering formation over three Saturdays in March, April and May; for a number of people from every parish. This should ensure that every parish has a team capable of leading local public prayer as needed. In April there will be an opportunity for every parish to celebrate a liturgy led by a local commissioned lay leader, on behalf of the whole parish. The lay person(s) who prepare to lead liturgy in parishes in Limerick diocese will be called into a 'Ministry of Public Prayer'.



Please take home a copy of this newsletter. We encourage you to avail of it to promote upcoming events, let us know if someone needs prayers etc.

Adoration Chapel

Will be open from 9.30a.m to 6.00p.m. each day. We encourage you to come along for a quiet moment of prayer.

Fairtrade Fortnight Launch.



Limerick Fairtrade City Committee invites you to the launch of Fairtrade Fortnight 2017 in Council Chamber, County Hall, Dooradoyle, Limerick on Wed 1 Mar 2017 at 2.30pm. RSVP to Dolores OMeara at dmtom@eircom.net

Remembering our Sick

Let us continue to remember in our prayer each day those who are sick at home or in hospital— Pat, Evelyn, Monica, Ailish, Annette, Aidan, Gabriel, Jim, Kathleen, Garrett, Helen, Maura, Philip, Tony, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Ciara, Paddy, Michael, Vera, Frank, Dympna, Let us pray for those facing surgery & tests, all those in nursing homes, and all who care for our sick. To family members friends and parishioners— we assure you of our prayers at this time.

An Hour with Jesus

“Our communal worship at mass must go together with our personal worship of Jesus in Eucharistic adoration in order that our love be complete” (Pope John Paul II) Situated at the back of St. Nicholas’ Church is our Adoration Chapel. It is open from 9am – 9.00pm daily during Lent, and right through the night on Thursday until 7.00pm

You are greatly needed. Enquiries: **061 348866.**

Prayer to the Blessed Sacrament

My LORD Jesus Christ, Who because of Your love for men remain night and day in the Blessed Sacrament, full of pity and of love, awaiting, calling and welcoming all who come to visit You, I believe that You are present here on the altar.

I adore You, and I thank You for all the graces You have bestowed on me, especially for having given me Yourself in this Sacrament, for having given me Your most holy Mother Mary to plead for me, and for having called me to visit You in this church.

Trocaire in Lent

Trócaire’s Lenten campaign 2017 is asking people here at home to join the fight for justice by supporting Trócaire’s work. The injustices faced by the world’s poorest people are many and can only be tackled with your help. To find out more visit trocaire.org/lent

Ash Wednesday



Mass at 9:45am in St Munchin’s College Chapel. 7pm in St. Nicholas Church, Westbury.

Shrove Tuesday

Pancakes are associated with the day preceding Lent because they were a way to use up rich foods such as eggs, milk, and sugar, before the fasting season of the 40 days of Lent. In addition, pancakes, in Christianity, [symbolize](#) “four pillars of the Christian faith—eggs for creation, flour as the mainstay of the human diet, salt for wholesomeness and milk for purity.”^[9] The liturgical [fasting](#) emphasized eating plainer food and refraining from food that would give pleasure: in many cultures, this means no meat, dairy products, or eggs..... **ENJOY**



Meditation



Meditation recommenced on Tuesday mornings at 3 Oakton Road, Salesian Sisters’ home. Time:10.30am-11.00am. You are very welcome to join us.

Card Night

Anyone interested in a card night, we have now moved from Scoil ide to the back room of O 'Driscolls pub corbally Thursday at 8 pm. All welcome. You don't have to have a partner.

PRAYING IN THE WILDERNESS

“I am opening up a way In the wilderness” (Isaiah 43—19) Standing before this wilderness of sand, dust and ashes, earthen vessels and broken pots, bare trees, old reeds, desert plants and desolation,

I pray: -

- For strength in my own wilderness
 - For direction in the desert
 - For fire in the ashes
 - For anchors in the shifting sands
 - For resilience when I bite the dust
 - For the hungry who live in desert and drought
 - For when I experience depression
 - For dignity when I am stripped bare
 - For wisdom in times of desolation and temptation
 - For faithfulness with Jesus in difficult moments
 - For fidelity to others in the bleak times.
- Keep the promise of resurrection alive in me through green moss, the fountain of living water, spring flowers and green shoots of hope, in a stone rolled back from the tomb. In the shadow of the cross, help me make sense of my life, my pain and my suffering. By your cross and resurrection you have set us free *Fr Liam Ryan*



Post-Communion Reflection Lent:

Springtime of the Spirit

Each year the trees give us a lesson in renewal. First the bud, then the blossom, and finally the shoot. Spring dresses the trees in a new robe, and makes them young again. But this is possible only because in autumn they let go of their old leaves, and in between endured a period of nakedness. Lent is in the springtime of the spirit. Lord, help us not to be afraid to let go of old habits, and to face our spiritual Christian Spirituality in this Year of Faith.



A friend was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the priest was standing at the door as he always is to shake hands. He grabbed my friend by the hand and pulled him aside.

The Priest said to him, "You need to join the Army of the Lord!"

My friend replied, "I'm already in the Army of the Lord, Father." The Priest whispered, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?"

He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service." 😊