



St Nicholas Parish News  
19 February 2017  
7th Sunday in ordinary Time

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**Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.**

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**Salesian Sisters:**

348510

**Mass times: Weekdays:**

9.45am. Mon, Tues. & Wed.

St Munchin's College Chapel

7.00pm Thursdays in St.

Nicholas's

**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**

Wed 22nd: Chair of St.

Peter

Thurs 23rd: St. Polycarp

Sat 25th: Sts Versiglia &

Caravario SDB

**Diocesan Needs collection after all masses this weekend**

*Please feel free to take home a copy of this newsletter. We encourage you to avail of it to promote upcoming events, letting us know of someone who needs prayers etc.*

**Turn the Other Cheek**

Today we hear and read one of the most famous passages in the Gospels: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you. It is a radical text and not so easy. How can we be expected to love those who have hurt us or done harm to us? Anthony de Mello, an Indian Jesuit who wrote many books on spirituality, spoke often about the concept of 'loving enemies'. When someone hurts us, when someone triggers emotional pain in us, de Mello suggests that we try to come to the realisation that we are 'standing before our benefactor'. The situation is a reminder that we are still to grow and we are hurt because someone has not met our expectations. It is these expectations that we must let go of. We can learn from the other who has wronged us: how has this affected me? What do I need to let go of?

The teachings in this passage are radical and go against what we hear around us in our world like calls for retribution and revenge. However Jesus has high expectations of his followers, to go against the grain. Jesus is not encouraging passiveness. He is inviting people to a 'third way': to make a non-violent stand when faced with persecution. By 'offering the other cheek' we allow for the potential of conversion of the other to a realisation of what they have done. The easy option is to retaliate, to not see our brother or sister standing before us. We can offer them an opportunity to see our own sacred humanity. 'Loving our enemies' is a call to constantly move towards restoring relationships, offering mercy and peace.

'An eye for an eye will leave the whole world blind'. Gandhi

**Meditation**

Quiet meditation on Tuesday mornings at 3 Oakton Road, Salesian Sisters' home.

Time: 10.30am-11.00am.

You are very welcome to join us.



**Our Synod Journey**

We apologise for the long silence regarding our Synod Journey. The REAL work will begin soon hopefully! The three delegates from the parish and Fr. Sean met recently to discuss a possible way forward. In the light of having three priests now working as a Team for St. Mary's and ourselves, we see this as a very positive and new way of going forward.—a new phase for St. Nicholas' Parish. On Tuesday evening we met with the Pastoral Council and presented a proposal: to give time to take a reality check on our parish—look at what is happening, what could be happening, areas that need resourcing and help etc etc. We hope to be in touch again over the next week or two after the next PPC meeting.

**Baptism Notice**

Anyone wishing to have their baby baptised must give at least one month's 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)



**Maranatha Prayer Ministry**

Invites you to our Maranatha Healing Retreat and Family Tree Mass this Sunday, 19th February, 2017 at 2.30pm at St. Pauls Church, Dooradoyle, With Fr. Michael O'Shea, Limerick, and Jose Sehion UK. With beautiful Spirit Filled Praise, Worship, Music, Song, Confessions, Rosary, Talk, Mass, Adoration and laying on of hands for healing. Tea after in hall. All welcome.....

**Spring Days at Glenstal: 'Ageing Well' - As we live longer, can we age well -**

Saturday 4th March.

### **Remembering our Sick**

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



### **Bereavement Information Evening**

Milford Care Centre, Castletroy, Limerick  
Thursday February 16th 2017 Time: 7.00pm – 9.00pm (Registration from 6:45pm)

This event gives parents an opportunity to hear an experienced bereavement professional talk about the many challenges their family may face after the death of a son or daughter.

Guest Speaker: Patricia Wilson She is a senior tutor on the Irish Hospice Foundation's post graduate course on Children and Loss accredited by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.

This talk will cover: • The complex issues grieving parents must face when they have experienced the death of their child, highlighting what is normal in this process. The gender differences in facing such a loss will be explored to give an understanding for both parents of their differing worldviews. It will highlight the milestones on the journey through this special grief and the small supports that can make the journey a little easier.. Various types of loss, whether expected or sudden, will also be discussed to understand their impact on grieving parents, their families and the deceased child's siblings This event is open to all bereaved parents, regardless of the age of their child, We would appreciate if you could RSVP to [info@anamcara.ie](mailto:info@anamcara.ie) before Tuesday 14th February 2017 or contact us on 01 4045378 – 085 2888 888

### **Catching Your Breath—in Glenstal**

A one-day workshop of gentle movement, breath, chant and meditation Glenstal Abbey, Murroe. Feb 25th , 2017. From 9.30am to 5pm. Breath is the spirit and essence of life, expression and communication. Many of life's events and disappointments can limit our breath. Any restriction reduces our enjoyment of life and being Christmas is a time of great joy and re-birth, but it can also be a time of extra demands and breath-holding. Join us for this New Year's retreat in Glenstal Abbey, exploring and restoring freedom in your breath through gentle activities, breath, chant and meditation. Fee €85, includes workshop, materials, lunch, teas and coffees. Workshop Leader, Niall Kelly is a certified Alexander Technique teacher who has been teaching since 2004. He has run a number of similar workshops in Glenstal and around Ireland. He also teaches Alexander Technique on the MA in Ritual Chant and Song in UL, and on a number of other programmes

### **Irish Catholic**

We encourage parishioners to get a copy of the Irish Catholic weekly. Often the only ideas and insights we get are from the radio and television. Catholic papers will offer a more real message and will also help us have an informed conscience on matters.

### **Annual Divine Mercy Conference, Dublin**

The 26th Divine Mercy Conference will take place in the Main Hall in the RDS, Dublin on 24, 25 and 26 February on the theme 'Have Mercy on US and on the Whole World'. Speakers for 2017 include:

- Father Kilian Byrne
- Father Michael Maher S.M.
- Father Bernard McGuckian SJ
- Dr Robert Stackpole STD
- Fr Brendan Walsh SCA
- Denise Kelly
- Frances Hogan

Booking and programme information are now available on the web-site [www.divinemercyconference.com](http://www.divinemercyconference.com)

### **Congratulations**

We congratulate all the young people who were confirmed this Saturday. We hope it was a special and memorable day for all.



The next and final meeting for the You Shall Be My Witnesses programme will take place on Tuesday 28 February at 7.30p.m. in St. Nicholas Church and Centre.

### **ACE Awards**

We congratulate the following January ACEs:  
Liam Angerman, Nia McInerney, Caoimhe O'Doherty, Stephen Kelly, Sam Duggan and Rebecca McMarlow. Well done!

*"The right word spoken at the right time sometimes achieves miracles."*

*"Don't live in the past. You've already been there."*

*"Believe tomorrow will be better".*

.....  
At a preacher's convention a preacher got up and started his sermon with this sentence; "I spent the best years of my life in the arms of a woman. As the congregation gasped he said, "She was my mother!"  
Back home a young preacher decided to use this line in his sermon, but he was feeling a bit uncertain that he remembered it right. Forging ahead he started with, "I spent the best years of my life in the arms of a woman. The congregation gasped and the young preacher paused, forgetting what the punch line was. After a few nervous moments he said, "And I can't remember who she was!"