



St. Nicholas' Parish News

Sunday 13th January 2019
Baptism of the Lord



www.saintnicholasparish.ie
E-mail: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.

087 6261287

Fr. John O'Byrne

085 7491268

Fr Sean Harmon

087 9870284

Salesian Sisters:

061 348510

Mass times:

St Munchin's College

9.45am. Mon, Tues & Wed.

St Nicholas, Westbury

7.00pm – Thursday

Weekends:

St Nicholas 7.00pm – Sat.

10.30 am – Sunday

St Munchin's College

12 noon – Sunday

PARISH NEWSLETTER



Please feel free to take home a copy of this news-letter. A neighbour or friend who does not attend

church in our parish might also welcome it. If you decide otherwise, please leave it on the table at the Exit on your way out. Thank you.

We also encourage groups to avail of it to promote upcoming events, letting know of someone who needs prayers etc.

Items for the newsletter to be in to:

John... 085 7406822

Maura. 086 0429952

by Wednesday please.

E-mail:

Stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

Saints Feast Days January

Mon 14 –St. Felix

Tues 15–St. Ita

Thurs 17 –St. Anthony

Sat 19 –St. Henry of Sweden

THE DEEP END: The Baptism of the Lord

Today's Gospel tells us that the people were 'filled with expectation'. It sounds like a very exciting time as they wonder who this prophet John could be. John must have been a very dynamic and inspiring preacher as the people speculated if he were the one they had been waiting for. He uses all of this attention for one purpose: to point people to Jesus. There are many people in our own lives who have pointed us towards Jesus, perhaps by an invitation to an event or a retreat or by sharing a reflection with us at just the right time. In them, we see something special and interesting that makes us wonder in our hearts and seek a little further. They are the John the Baptists in our lives, pointing us towards the Lord like signposts along the way.

John humbly responds to the people by saying: 'One who is more powerful than I is coming.' He emphasises that it is He who will really set their hearts on fire. While the words concerning 'winnowing forks' seem harsh, we might interpret them as speaking of God's power to transform our lives through Jesus. When Jesus enters into the narrative, Luke emphasises that He is at prayer, and it is then that this powerful experience of God occurs. A nice meditation for today is to repeat the last sentence of today's Gospel, imagining God speaking these words to you: 'You are my Daughter/Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Jane Mellett

Email [mellettj@gmail.com](mailto:melletjt@gmail.com)



15 January 2019

Feast Day of St. Ita- Patron Saint of the Diocese of Limerick

St. Ita or Íde was born of noble Christian parents in 480 A.D. in Co. Waterford. She was first known as Deirdre, before adopting the name "Ita" as a punning reference to her "hunger for Divine Love".

She had no brothers, that we are aware of, but history tells us the names of two of her sisters- Fiona and Nessa. Ita refused her father's wish that she should marry a local chieftain, as she believed she had a calling from God and wanted to become a nun. An angel appeared to her father in a dream and persuaded him to allow her do as she wished. She set off from her home and established her monastery in what is now called Killeedy (Ita's Church) in Co. Limerick. Her sister Fiona accompanied her on the journey. Many women flocked to her community and put themselves under her guidance. Soon she had a religious community. She was offered some land by a local chieftain; however, she accepted only four acres, which she converted into a vegetable garden.

Ita and her community spent their time praying, teaching the young and caring for the sick, the poor and the elderly. She was endowed with miraculous powers of healing, as when she restored the power of speech to a local wise man. She also cured a blind man. She is sometimes called the "Brigid of Munster". She was also known as the "Foster Mother of the Saints of Ireland." St. Brendan spent 5 years in Killeedy under the care of St. Ita. There is a shrine within the ruins of Killeedy church, which is believed to mark the site of Ita's grave.

For further details see: www.limerickdiocese.org/heritage



A friend was in front of me coming out of church one day, and the priest was standing at the door, 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." Priest questioned, "How come I don't see you except at Christmas and Easter?" He whispered back, "I'm in the secret service ."



Parish Office Opening hours Tues 2pm—4pm.
Thurs 9.30am—12.30. 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

Adoration Chapel

The Adoration Chapel is open from 9.30am to 6.00pm each day. We encourage you to come along for a quiet moment of prayer.



Wise Words

Excerpts from the last words of Steve Jobs who died a billionaire at 56yrs of pancreatic cancer:

"I reached the pinnacle of success in the business world. In others' eyes my life is an epitome of success. However, aside from work, I have little joy. In the end, wealth is only a fact of life that I am accustomed to....

Material things lost can be found. But there is one thing that can never be found when it is lost - "Life"....

Whichever stage in life we are at right now, with time, we will face the day when the curtain comes down.

Treasure Love for your family, love for your spouse, love for your friends...

Treat yourself well. Cherish others.

As we grow older, and hence wiser, we slowly realize that wearing a \$300 or \$30 watch - they both tell the same time...

Whether we carry a \$300 or \$30 wallet/handbag - the amount of money inside is the same;

Whether we drive a \$150,000 car or a \$30,000 car, the road and distance is the same, and we get to the same destination...

You will realize, your true inner happiness does not come from the material things of this world...

Therefore.. I hope you realize, when you have mates, buddies and old friends, brothers and sisters, who you chat with, laugh with, talk with, have sing songs with, talk about north-south-east-west or heaven and earth, That is true happiness!!

Five Undeniable Facts of Life:

1. Don't educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be Happy. So when they grow up they will know the value of things not the price.
2. Best awarded words in London ... "Eat your food as your medicines. Otherwise you have to eat medicines as your food."
3. The One who loves you will never leave you for another because even if there are 100 reasons to give up he or she will find one reason to hold on.
4. There is a big difference between a human being and being human. Only a few really understand it.
5. You are loved when you are born. You will be loved when you die. In between, You have to manage!

NOTE: If you just want to Walk Fast, Walk Alone! But if you want to Walk Far, Walk Together!

Six Best Doctors in the World

1. Sunlight
2. Rest
3. Exercise
4. Diet
5. Self Confidence and
6. Friends

Maintain them in all stages of Life and enjoy a healthy life.



Remembering those who are Sick

Let us continue to pray for those who are ill at this time, those preparing for and awaiting results of tests, those in hospital. Continue to pray for Maurice, Ailish R, Pat, Annette, Aidan, Gabriel, Jim, Kathleen, Garrett, Helen, Philip, Tony, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Ciara, Paddy, Michael, Vera Ailish, Frank, Ger, Mary, Fiona and Scarlett.
Lord Jesus, you are the true friend of all those who suffer anguish and pain in spirit, mind or body. Please share with them now the gift of your consoling love.

If you know of anybody needing prayers etc, please let John/Maura know by E-mail: stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com
or Tel. John.085 7406822 Maura. 086 0429952

Healing Service in Corpus Christi Church, Moyross with the Friars of the Renewal next Wednesday 16th January at 7:30 p.m.

There will be no Mass.

Dominican Youth Club All secondary school students are invited to be part of the Dominican Youth Club which meets every 2nd and 4th Sunday from 7-9pm at the Dominican Church. Come join us for fun, friendship, food, and faith. Our first meeting will be on Sunday, January 27th. Please contact

stsaivoursdominican@gmail.com or 085 2255796 for more information.

Catholicism Series Interested in learning more about what it means to be Catholic? We will be offering Bishop Barron's Catholicism Series at the Dominican Church on Thursdays at 1:30pm and Fridays at 7:30pm beginning January 17th and 18th. All are welcome to this course free of charge. Contact

stsaivoursdominican@gmail.com or 085 2255796 for more information.



Catholic Schools Week 2019

27 January— 3 February 2019

Celebrating the Work of Our Local Catholic Schools

Catholic Schools Week 2019 will run from 27th January to 3rd February 2019. The theme for Catholic Schools Week this year is Catholic Schools: Celebrating the Work of Our Local Catholic Schools.

As Irish society changes, it is important that we reflect on the unique contribution of Catholic schools to our collective goal of education. Each Catholic school shares an ethos that is inclusive, welcoming and vibrant. Each school works towards a vision of each student as made in the likeness and image of God (imago Dei). This means that we work towards helping each child, irrespective of background, ethnicity or creed, reach their full potential academically, spiritually and socially. To be in the likeness and image of God

means that we have the capacity to truly care for ourselves,

The daily themes are as follows:

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| Monday: | Living Tradition |
| Tuesday: | Welcoming Diversity |
| Wednesday: | Grandparents Day |
| Thursday: | In Service of our Community |
| Friday: | Supporting Faith |