



St. Nicholas' Parish News

5th Sunday of Easter 2018

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Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.

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Mass times:

Weekday Masses:

Mon, Tues, Wed.

9.45am.College Chapel

Thur, 7.00pm

St Nicholas .Church

Weekends:

Sat 7.00pm . St Nicholas

Sun.10.30 am. St Nicholas

12 noon:

St Munchin's College Chapel

Items for newsletter

To be in to:

John... 085 7406822

Maura. 086 0429952

by Wednesday please.

E-mail:

Stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com

Feastdays for April / May

Mon 30

St Pius V

Wed 4

St Isidore

St Stanislaus

Thur 5

St Vincent

Sat

St John Baptist de la Selle

Successful people are those who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at them.

Believing, as branches in the Vine

[José Antonio Pagola]

Believing isn't a fleeting impression or emotion of the heart. Without doubt, the believer experiences faith, even enjoys it, but it is not just a sentiment. Faith isn't something that depends on feelings, as in: "I don't feel anything anymore; I must be losing my faith." Being a believer is a reasoned attitude. Nor is faith a personal opinion. The believer personally commits self to believe in God, but faith can't be reduced to subjectivism. I have my ideas and I believe what seems right to me. The reality of God doesn't depend on me, nor is the Christian faith one's own fabrication.

It arises from God's action in us.

MUSINGS: Why Pope Francis is happy ...

Question from a young boy during an interview between Pope Francis and young people in 2014: Everyone in this world is trying to be happy.

But we have wondered are you happy? If so, why?

Response from Pope Francis: Absolutely, absolutely, I am happy. And I am happy because ... I don't know why ... Perhaps because I have a job, I'm not unemployed, I have a job, a job as a shepherd! I am happy because I found my path in life and travelling that path makes me happy. And it is also a peaceful happiness, because at that age it is not the same happiness as a young person feels, there's a difference. A certain inner peace, a happiness that also comes with age. And also with a path that has always had problems; even now there are problems, but that happiness doesn't go away with the problems, no: it sees the problems, suffers them and goes on; it does something to resolve them and goes on. But in the depths of the heart there is that peace and that happiness. It is a grace of God, for me, really. It is a grace. (Interview with young people, 31 March 2014)

THE DEEP END: Stay connected ...

As with all good vine growers, God cares for his crop, nurturing it, pruning it, giving it all it needs so that it can grow and reach its full potential. We are no doubt the branches. What does it mean to be a branch? Branches must be connected to the vine or they bear no fruit. Even those branches that do bear fruit need pruning so that they can grow and bear even more fruit. As we are all too well aware, productivity seems to be the measure of success in the world today, in our education system, in the workplace, in economics; we are measured by what we produce. Is Jesus really adding to the pressure by telling us that he wants to see results or else!?

Perhaps we can read this passage in terms of connectivity. Think of your most intimate friendships and relationships. You don't measure their weight in terms of productivity, do you? But you do want to stay connected right? It is this closeness, this intimacy that Jesus calls us to: 'abide in me'. Are you connected or disconnected? If the connection is strong, then fruit-bearing comes naturally and people will see the gospel in our lives and in the way we respond to the world. If we are connected, all manner of things are possible for us.

People see the gospel in our lives; let them read our lives....Pope Francis.

Jane Mellett. mellettj@gmail.com

Invitation



The Salesian Sisters invite you to a quiet time of meditation on Tuesdays from 10.30am to 11:00 am. At their home. 3 Oakton Road, Westbury.

You are also invited to join them for the Rosary at 6.00pm. Mon-Friday during the month of May. (Beginning on Tuesday next May 1st.

Baptism:

Anyone wishing to have their baby baptised must give at least one months notice. Please contact the office to make arrangements.

And Now It's Spring



The grass is green across the hill,
But yellow blooms the daffodil.
It's sunshine on a little stalk,
A friendly flower, I bet they talk...



Of little kids, too long inside
They burst outdoors to play and hide.
Tracking mud and bringing bugs.
Look, there's footprints on the rug!

Tiny whirlwinds, these little tykes,
They skin their knees while riding bikes.
They rip and roar, they're running wild!
What fun it is to be a child.

It grows warmer every day.
Shoo the children out to play!
Pick the flowers, play in mud.
Too much rain, here comes a flood!

My snowy, winter days are gone.
I mourn them, but I hear a song
Of birds in trees; wind chimes ring.
I guess it might as well be spring!



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ST JOSEPH THE WORKER MAY 1ST



"May Day" has long been dedicated to labour and the working person. It falls on the first day of the month that is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pope Pius XII expressed the hope that this feast would accentuate the dignity of labour and would bring a spiritual dimension to labour unions. It is eminently fitting that St. Joseph, a working man who became the foster-father of Christ and patron of the universal Church, should be honoured on this day.

This is a great day to revive the blessing 'Dia leis an obair' - God bless the work!

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, Maura, Philip, Tony, John, Brian, Muirinn, Ken, Orla, Ciara, Paddy, Michael, Vera Ailish, Frank & Ger.

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

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 side of St Nicholas Church (across from the priests house) in Westbury.

Mothers & Toddlers

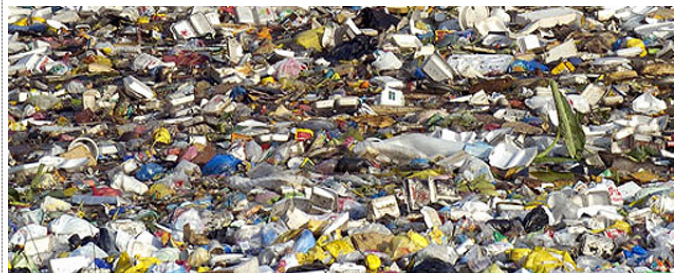
Mothers & Toddlers meet every Tuesday morning from 10.30-12.30 in the Pastoral Centre in St Nicholas Church. All Welcome.



Weekly Reflection

This weekly reflection is created by the Salesian Cosmology Group to help us all to take small positive steps in our care for our common home.

So how can we begin the Journey Away from plastic: "A change in lifestyle could bring healthy pressure to bear on those who wield economic and social power. This is what consumer movements accomplish by boycotting certain products. They prove successful in changing the way businesses operate, forcing them to consider their environmental footprint and their patterns of production". Drink bottles are one of the most common types of plastic waste. In 2016 a million plastic bottles were sold per minute!



Can you move to reusable bottles this week?

The Humorous Side

At the pearly gates, St. Peter greeted a Priest and a Politician and gave them their room assignments.

"Father, here are the keys to one of our nicest efficiency units. And for you, (handing the keys to the Politician) the keys to our finest penthouse suite."

"This is unfair!" cried the priest.

"Listen," St. Peter said, "priests are a dime a dozen up here, but this is the first politician we've ever seen."

