



# St Nicholas Parish News Fourth Sunday of Advent



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**Fr. Derek Leonard P.P.**  
Phone 340614  
**Fr. John O'Byrne**  
**085 7491268**  
**Fr. Sean Harmon**  
**087 9870284**  
**Salesian Sisters:**  
348510

**Mass times: Weekdays:**  
**9.45am.** Mon, Tues. Wed.  
St Munchin's College  
**7.00pm** Thursday  
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  
Maura  
by Wednesday please.  
E-mail:  
[stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com)

**Feasts this Week**  
**Tues. 25** Birth of Christ  
**Wed. 26** St Stephen  
**Thur. 27** St. John  
Evangelist  
**Fri. 28** Holy Innocents  
**Sat. 29** St Thomas  
Becket

**May the God of peace  
bring you comfort in  
the midst of your  
storm.**

**Christmas Dues**  
The Dues Envelopes and special Parish Christmas card, have now been distributed to all homes. We hope you take time to read it and we thank you for your support always.. in support of our priests and parish.

## SEEING YOUR LIFE THROUGH THE LENS OF THE GOSPELS

Luke 1:39-44

1. The greeting of Elizabeth to Mary, 'Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb,' is a joyful welcome of the child to come. Bringing new life into the world through pregnancy and birth is one of the most awesome human experiences. How have you experienced this for yourself or in someone close to you?
2. The image of the pregnant Mary going a distance to visit her cousin is a symbol of willingness to look beyond one's own needs to the needs of others. When have you witnessed that kind of generosity in others, or have been able to act in this way yourself?
3. Mary is praised for her faith, because she believed the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled. In what ways have you experienced blessings from your faith and trust in God's promises?..... John Byrne osa

### Thank You

Fr Derek, Fr Sean, Fr John, Salesian Sisters & Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to Thank You for your continued participation and support of your parish, and wish you all the Peace and Joy of Christmas, and every blessing for the New Year.

**Thank You** to all the volunteers who turned up on Tuesday last to help with the cleaning and preparations for the Christmas celebrations in St. Nicholas Church. The church looks brilliant.

**Thank You** to all who came to our Christmas Carol Service in St. Nicholas Church, which involved all the choirs in our parish. It was greatly appreciated by all who attended. Thank you for your presence and your contribution to the beautiful singing.

**Thank You** to our local Scout Troop for creating our crib this year. All donations to the crib will go to the St Vincent de Paul Society.

**Thank You.** The St Nicholas Conference of **SVP** would like to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to this years Christmas Appeal. Your generosity in both the collection and the giving tree was overwhelming and the people we help are extremely grateful. We would also like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

**Thank You** to the students of Scoil Ide school for creating the "Names of Jesus" tree. This reminds us of the many titles of Jesus such as Good Shepherd, Friend of Sinners, Carpenter's Son, Lamb of God etc and helps us put Christ back into Christmas.

**Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most.**



St Munchin's College Chapel Choir will sing a selection of Christmas Carols before the 12 noon mass on Christmas morning, starting at 11.30. All Welcome.

### The Lighter Side

**A** woman went into a post office to buy some stamps for her Christmas cards. What denomination do you want? asked the lady at the counter. 'Good God!' she replied, Has it come to this? I suppose you'd better give me twenty Catholic and twenty Presbyterian.



### Remembering our Sick

Let us continue to remember in our prayer each day those who are sick at home or in hospital— for Fiona, Scarlet, Tom, Mary, Dermot, 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. May god be with them at this time of worry and anxiety. May he grant them a speedy recovery. Let us pray also for those, facing surgery & tests, in nursing homes, and all who care for our sick.



We pray for all families at this time and we wish you all the  
**Peace and joy of Christmas.**

### 24 Hour Adoration

24 hour Adoration **Thursday 7.30pm to Friday 7.00pm.**

Please feel free to come to our Adoration Chapel at any time.



### Parish Office:

Tuesday from 2—4 and Thursday 9.30—12.30 for anyone who may need to book Masses, get certificates or any other church related enquiries.  
Phone: 341300

### Safe Driving

We wish all who travel this Christmas season a safe journey.



Please continue to be a responsible driver at all times. Your life and the lives of others are precious.

### A little prayer to say:

*Keep O Lord your holy hand upon me and all who travel, so that no harm may happen to us on our journey.*



### Parish Posadas

As we enter the final days of Advent, our Parish Posadas, the nativity set of Mary and Joseph, will be welcomed by the Earls and O'Connor families. The O'Connor family will place the nativity set in our parish crib in St. Munchin's college Chapel during 9pm mass on Christmas Eve.

### A Simple Gesture

Please feel free to take home a newsletter from our parish church and also one for a neighbour who, for one reason or another, may not have attended Mass in our parish. This is a simple gesture and could mean a lot to someone. You might ask your neighbour if they would like to receive it on a regular basis.

### Lost Items

In both churches in our parish there are quite a few items of lost property. Should you be missing your umbrella, glasses, gloves, scarves etc. you might check in the sacristy. These items will not be kept indefinitely.



Among the warmest words which have leaped from our lips over the past few days and nights have been the perfect pair:

**“WELCOME HOME”.**

Welcome Home—to the college student, the emigrant, the missionary...

Welcome Home—to the patient from hospital, the prisoner, the worker...



Welcome Home—to the son / daughter, sister / brother who had broken links with the family...



Welcome Home—to the new born baby....

Welcome Home—to our parishioners and friends who've been away....with pleasure we say.....**Céad Míle Fáilte.**

This chorus of welcomes echoes the whisper of shepherds and the song of the angels: “Glory to God in heaven, and on earth peace to people of good will”.

The power of our prayers and the might of our minds must push for public peace. In many places it is not easily found. Public leaders who are attempting to build peace and reassurance need our expressed support and our prayers, for they need wisdom and courage. There is much hurt to be healed, much fear to be removed, much disappointment to be acknowledged. On a day like this, may North and South, friend and foe, Syrian, Russian, Israeli and Palestinian, find it in their hearts to face one another and say: **“Welcome Home”**

**Gun Tso Sun Tan' Gung Haw Sun.....Gezur Krislinjden**

**Boze Narodzenie..... Nollaig Shona Dhuit**

**Gesëende Kersfees..... Joyeux Noel**

**Feliz Navidad..... Happy Christmas**

### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES IN ST NICHOLAS PARISH 2018:

**MONDAY 24 CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS:** 7.00pm St Nicholas Church 9.00pm St Munchin's College Chapel (Candlelight Mass)

**TUESDAY 25 CHRISTMAS DAY:** 10.30am St Nicholas Church 12noon St Munchin's College . (Preceded by Carol Singing)

★ **There will not be mass on December 26th and 27th in the Parish. Mass in St Mary's each day at 10am.**

**SATURDAY 30:** 7.00pm St Nicholas Church.

**SUNDAY 31 MASS TO CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR:**

Church 12noon St Munchin's College Chapel.

**MONDAY JANUARY 1:** 7.00pm St Nicholas Church.