



St. Nicholas' Parish News

Sunday 22nd April 2018

4th Sunday of Easter

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



THE DEEP END: The Good Shepherd

In Jesus' time, being a shepherd was not a pleasant job. Sheep became easily lost and the shepherd's job was to guide them back to safety. There were many dangers and the sheep were totally dependent on the shepherd. Shepherds would round up their sheep in the evening and guide them into their pen. But it had no gate so the shepherd would have to lie across the space in case the sheep were attacked in the night. The shepherds literally laid down their lives for their flock. John compares the sacrifice of the shepherd to the 'hired hand' who is not really committed to the flock. He does what he has to but flees at the first sign of trouble.

This Good Shepherd Sunday, the gospel describes Jesus as the 'genuine' Shepherd who wants a personal relationship with each one of us and who would lay down his life for us. The gospel emphasises the importance of relationship as the shepherd knows his flock and cares for them. They 'follow him' and it is not a Facebook or Twitter type of following, rather it is a genuine relationship. Everyone matters to the Good Shepherd, regardless of their situations. We are told 'I know my own and my own know me'. We are called today to follow Jesus in a more personal, more intimate way. Even when we stray off the path and get lost, it is then - especially - that the Good Shepherd comes looking for us.

'We think we are fleeing from God, but in fact we are running into his arms.'

Meister Eckhart

Jane Mellett
mellettj@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

Feastdays— April

Mon 23—St. Felix

Wed 25—St. Mark



Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Mid West Region.

Do you have some spare time and an interest in volunteering with the **Society of St Vincent de Paul**? We are looking for new Members interested in volunteering their time and skills in the following areas:

Assisting us with our technology and systems

Doing home visits

Advocating in the areas of social justice or the developing world

Shop volunteers or

Working in our Drop In Service

To find out more you are welcome to attend our

Recruitment and Information Evening on

Wednesday April 25,, 2018 at the

Savoy Hotel, Limerick commencing at 7.30 pm.

For further information phone 061 317 327

MUSINGS: Family Vocation Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for giving your life for us. Please help more young people to follow your example by giving their lives in service as priests and religious. If you are calling someone in our family to the priesthood or the religious life, please help them to say 'yes'.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



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.



Baptism

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 St. Nicholas Church, Sunday 1.00p.m. St Munchin's College.



Mass with Pope Francis

St Nicholas Parish is organizing a bus to bring parishioners to the Mass in Phoenix Park with Pope Francis on Sunday, August 26th for World Meeting of Families. It will leave from the car park of the church and return that evening. Cost is €15 per person. To reserve a place on the bus, please give your name and full payment to the member of the Pastoral Council at the back of the Church.

Family Life Meeting

Our next meeting to discuss Family Life in our Parish will take place on Thursday, April 26th at 7:30pm in St. Nicholas Church, Westbury. This is based on "The Joy of Love" by Pope Francis and all are welcome.



My nephew found a cassette tape in my house. It was like watching early man discovered fire.



PRAY
FOR THE SICK

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

APRIL 30TH: PAPAL NUNCIO UNVEILS PLAQUE OF SAINT JOHN PAUL II

"There is no such thing as an ordinary lay person"
Saint John Paul, Freeman of Limerick

On Monday April 30th, our Papal Nuncio Archbishop Jude Thaddeus Okolo will visit Limerick Diocese for a number of engagements.

That afternoon he will unveil and bless a plaque to Saint John Paul II at Bishop's Quay, Limerick. This plaque was commissioned by the diocesan committee for Limerick city of culture 2014, and honours this freeman of our city and his visit to Limerick in 1979.

This will be a public event and all are welcome – please feel free to attend and spread the word. Full details will be released nearer the time.

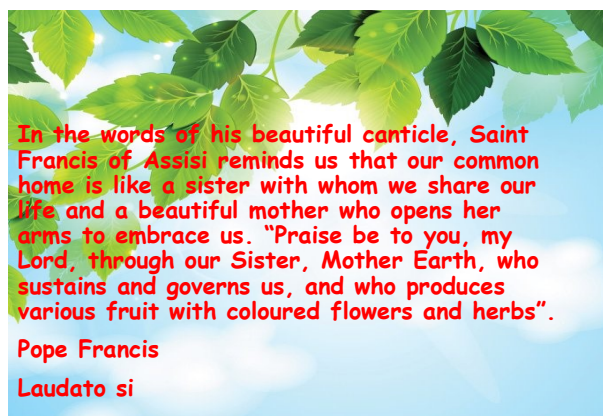
Muinteras Iosa

Relax & Retreat!

29th April-3pm to 7pm
Limerick Diocesan Centre,
St. Munchins, Corbally



Relaxation, Meditation, Affirmation, Inspiration Pizza Celebration and we'll say a few prayers too! - Cost €5
Places are limited and can be booked by messaging us on Facebook or texting 085-2527465



In the words of his beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. "Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs".

Pope Francis

Laudato si

WORLD EARTH DAY 2018— SUNDAY 22 APRIL COSMOLOGY 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. Sunday 22nd April is "Earth day". Earth Day is a day of global action calling for the better care of our planet earth by its stewards, humanity. The action point for this year is "End Plastic Pollution".

From poisoning and injuring marine life to disrupting human hormones, from littering our beaches and landscapes to clogging our waste streams and landfills, the exponential growth of plastics is now threatening the survival of our planet. In response, Earth Day 2018 is dedicated to providing the information and inspiration needed to fundamentally change human attitude and behaviour about plastics.

Stand up! Join up! Take action!

See this link for more information and ideas for action:

www.earthday.org