

11th April 2021

## Divine Mercy Sunday









Shalom.

We do not come through suffering and difficult times unscarred. We are changed by them. Often it brings some sort of growth into our lives and usually it is not a pleasant experience. We only have to think of the past year of lockdowns and isolation and fear. In Pope Francis' new book, Let us Dream, he says 'To enter into crisis is to be sifted. Your categories and ways of thinking get shaken up; your priorities and lifestyles are challenged. You cross a threshold, either by your own choice or by necessity, because there are crises, like the one we are going through, that you can't avoid.'

Today's Gospel shows us that even the most difficult situations can be transformed. The Risen Christ stands amongst the disciples even though the doors were firmly closed. The peace that he gives them (Shalom) is a peace of body, of mind and of spirit and it moves the disciples from despair and being 'locked away' to 'rejoicing'. Jesus then asks the disciples to be an unending witness to God's love. They, and we, are invited to be for others what Jesus has been for them. The Risen Jesus is active in all our lives and in the world around us, but we must be careful not to close ourselves off or let fear take over. John tells us that he writes these things so that we may come to believe and have life. Our call is to bring this peace and joy to others, 'so I send you'. Who can you reach out to today?

Jane Mellett mellettj@gmail.com

### The lighter side of life

 <p>how do bees get to school?</p> <p>on a school buzz</p>	 <p>what season is it when you are on a trampoline?</p> <p>spring-time</p>
 <p>why was the baby strawberry sad?</p> <p>his mom was in a jam</p>	 <p>what do you say to a fancy cactus?</p> <p>you look sharp!</p>
 <p>what's a tornado's favorite game?</p> <p>twister</p>	 <p>what do you call a flower that can't tell the truth?</p> <p>o lliac (lie-laci)</p>
 <p>why did the birdie go to the hospital?</p> <p>for a tweet-ment</p>	 <p>why do bananas use sunscreen?</p> <p>because they peel</p>
 <p>why can't you iron a four-leaf clover?</p> <p>don't press your luck</p>	 <p>what do you call a plant that roars?</p> <p>a dandelion</p>

## Back to school blessing

Dear Heavenly Father,

For all the children returning to school, send your Holy Spirit as their guide and protector.

Keep them free from danger and unnecessary harm. Put our sons and daughters in the right place, at the right time, to receive your grace. Let them learn and grow strong. May the presence of your Spirit fill their hearts. Help us to mature as parents and caregivers.

Bless every family, oh Lord.

We entrust our children to you, dear God. Since from the beginning, they are yours to keep.

In the name of the greatest Son of all, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

prayerforanxiety.com



Let us continue to pray for those who are ill at this time, those who are preparing for and awaiting results of tests, those in hospital. Please pray especially for Ailish, Frank, Fiona, Niamh, Jesse, Eoin, Mary, Michael, William, Méabh, Anna, Eamon, Declan, Ethel, Agnes, Lilia, Muirinn, Orla, Ruby, Carmel, Pat, Michelle, Aoife.

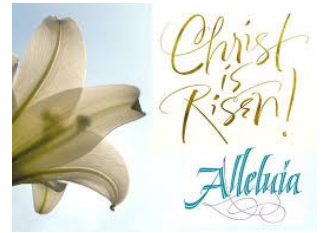
Lord Jesus, you are the true friend of all those who suffer anguish and pain in spirit, mind or body. Please share with them now the gift of your consoling love.



# ST NICHOLAS PARISH NEWS

Sunday 11th April 2021

Divine Mercy Sunday



Fr. Derek Leonard P.P. 087 6261287

Fr. John O'Byrne 085 7491268

Fr. Gerard O'Leary 087 9378685

Salesian Sisters 061 348510



All public masses are online from St Nicholas Church.

St Nicholas Church is open daily from 10.30am to 3pm for private prayers.

WEEKDAY 9.45am Monday to Friday

WEEKEND Sat.6pm, Sun.10.30am, 12 noon

TOILET FACILITIES Please note that toilet facilities cannot be provided in St Nicholas' Church in order to adhere to strict Covid19 guidelines.

**PARISH MASSES LIVE STREAMING** Masses from St Nicholas Church can be viewed live via the parish webcam at the parish website [www.saintnicholasparish.ie](http://www.saintnicholasparish.ie) or <https://www.churchservices.tv/limerickstnicholas>

You can download the free app from the App store and click on St Nicholas church in the Limerick section.

### ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER

We encourage local groups to avail of the newsletter to promote upcoming events, share good news, etc. please send details to

*Newsletter* [stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:stnicholasnewsletter@gmail.com)



Maura. 086 0429952

Grace. 086 8296193

The parish Facebook is updated daily. You do not need to be a member of Facebook to view the page.

[www.facebook.com/Saintnicholasparish/](http://www.facebook.com/Saintnicholasparish/)



### USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

ALONE 0818 222024

SENIORLINE 1800 804591

Community call, Limerick City and County :

Phone: 1800 852 389 or

email: [covidsupport@limerick.ie](mailto:covidsupport@limerick.ie)

PARISH OFFICE OPENING TIMES: Tues 2pm-4pm and Thurs 9.30am -1.30pm for Church related enquiries.

Phone: 061 341300

email: [saintnicholasparishoffice@gmail.com](mailto:saintnicholasparishoffice@gmail.com)



Baptism times will be 4.30pm on 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month, and 1pm on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month. Contact the Parish Office for further details.

## Trócaire

The days after Easter usually see people all over Ireland return their Trócaire boxes to schools and parishes.

If you have a Trócaire box, simply count or estimate what is in your box and donate now in one of these easy ways:

- Online at [trocaire.org](http://trocaire.org)
- Over the phone at 1850 408 408 (ROI) or 0800 912 1200 (NI)
- By post to Trócaire, Freepost, Maynooth, Co. Kildare (ROI) or Trócaire, 50 King Street, Belfast, BT1 6AD (NI)

MY JESUS, I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE PRESENT IN THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT. I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS AND I DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOU IN MY SOUL. SINCE I CANNOT AT THIS MOMENT RECEIVE YOU SACRAMENTALLY, COME AT LEAST SPIRITUALLY INTO MY HEART. I EMBRACE YOU AS IF YOU WERE ALREADY THERE AND UNITE MYSELF WHOLLY TO YOU. NEVER PERMIT ME TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOU. AMEN.



SPIRITUAL ACT OF COMMUNION