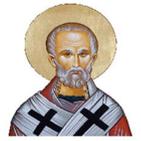


# St. Nicholas News

Francis Street Parish, Dublin 8. ---- 01-4530387 ---- 01-5611390



16 July 2017

## PEACEFUL 12TH OF JULY



Northern Ireland enjoyed one of its most peaceful Twelfth of July days for years, police said. The Orange Order paraded past the Ardoyne flashpoint in North Belfast on Wednesday morning without violent protests and agreed not to hold its return evening procession in what local representatives said was a massive step forward for community

relations. It followed a deal struck by residents and belied the current stalemate between the two largest political parties which has left the country without devolved government for months. Wednesday was the culmination of the loyal order's marching season when thousands took to streets across Northern Ireland. Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) assistant chief constable Alan Todd said officers made a small number of arrests. He added: "These were very much in the margins of what has been widely described as the most peaceful Twelfth of July for some years and a model for years to come." A small number of annual marches by the Orange Order have been blighted by serious violence involving supporters or protesters in the past. At one stage Ardoyne was a byword for conflict at this time of year. This year hundreds of loyalist bandmen marched noisily past the front of Ardoyne shops followed by Orangemen in collarettes in an early-morning parade. Only a handful of local residents watched them, with no sign of the dissident republicans who have helped heighten tensions in recent years. As part of the deal an evening return parade was cancelled. There was a heavy police presence in the residential side streets but the riot-trained officers were not called into action.

Fr Gary Donegan, a Catholic priest who has spent years working in Ardoyne, said: "Every step that happens here, no matter how small it is, is massive." The parades mark King William of Orange's victory over James II at the Battle of the Boyne in Ireland in 1690. Politics has overshadowed this year's marching season but it was agreed to halt substantive discussions between the parties until after the summer. A dispute between the Democratic Unionists and Sinn Fein has seen political tensions rising in recent weeks after efforts to restore devolved powersharing at Stormont failed to produce a breakthrough. One of the sticking points is Sinn Fein's demand for an Irish language act, which the Democratic Unionists want to see reciprocated by protection for Ulster Scots. Orange Order deputy grand master Harold Henning said: "Sinn Fein want Northern Ireland to look and feel more Irish than the Republic of Ireland - and for our taxpayers to foot the bill. "This militant cultural imperialism must be resisted by our elected representatives - whom we have just recently mandated to represent our interests and those of the Union."

*Courtesy Premier News*

## EX VATICAN BOSSES CHARGED WITH DIVERTING FUNDS



Two former senior figures at the Vatican-run children's hospital have been charged with diverting fundraising money totalling 422,000 euros. The ex-president and former treasurer at the Bambino Gesù in Rome are accused with using the cash to fund a renovation of a senior cardinal's apartment. Giuseppe Profiti and Massimo Spina have been ordered to stand in a trial which is scheduled to begin on Tuesday next week. It is alleged they took the

sum of money from the paediatric hospital's fundraising foundation to fund improvements at the home of Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone when he retired as the Vatican's secretary of state. The cardinal has denied knowing about the payment. Mr Profiti's administration was recently the subject of an Associated Press investigation into quality of care at what is referred to as the "pope's hospital". He has admitted to the payment but argued it was an investment to allow the foundation use of the apartment for fundraising events. Bambino Gesù recently caught the attention international news media, after bosses offered to take in terminally ill baby Charlie Gard.

## NOTICES

### Money Matters

Sunday 09 July 2017

Thank you for your contributions.

1st Collection: €135  
2nd Collection: €150  
Share: €45  
Family Offering: €268



### Remembered at Mass

Recently deceased  
Monsignor Dermot Clarke

Sat 6pm: John Carroll, Maureen Coughlan, Lisa Byrne (5th Ann), Kathleen Nugent (nee O'Donnell) Months Mind, George O'Toole (Ann), Mary O'Dea (4th Ann)

Sun 11.30am: Aideen O'Sullivan (1st Ann), Pat O'Sullivan (7th Ann), Margaret Nugent, Thomas Carroll, Marie Mount, Bernie D'Arcy (Birthday remembrance), Malachy Hogan (10th Ann), Brendan Heaney (8th Ann).



### The Liberties Festival 2017

You are cordially invited to the Big Launch of Liberties Festival 2017 and Liberties Snapped (photography exhibition) in the courtyard of the Digital Hub under the epic St. Patrick's Tower on Monday 17th July at 7.30pm. Expect a flavour of the up and coming festival with music from Aoife Scott & John Ward, a performance from former Miss Burlesque Ireland Vixyn Von Trix, and spoken word from this year's 'What's the Story' team. Tim Bingham will also be announcing the Winner of The Liberties Snapped photography competition. <http://www.libertiesfestival.ie/>



### Wood Quay Summer Sessions

Grab your lunch and join us for the Wood Quay Summer Sessions at the Civic Offices Amphitheatre from 1pm-2pm today & every

Thursday this July. This is a FREE event organised by Dublin City Council.

## NOTICES (continued)



### Reek Sunday (30 July)

The Annual Pilgrimage to Croagh Patrick, Reek Sunday takes place this year on Sunday 30 July. Mass will be celebrated hourly on the summit at 8:00am; 9:00am; 10:00am; 11:00am; 12:00pm; 1:00pm & 2:00pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated from 7:30am - 2:00pm.



## 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### A reading from the Prophet Isaiah 55:10-11

Thus says the Lord:

As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

### Psalm 64

Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.

You care for the earth, give it water,  
you fill it with riches.  
Your river in heaven brims over  
to provide its grain. R/

And thus you provide for the earth;  
you drench its furrows,  
you level it, soften it with showers,  
you bless its growth. R/

You crown the year with your goodness.  
Abundance flows in your steps,  
in the pastures of the wilderness it flows. R/

The hills are girded with joy,  
the meadows covered with flocks,  
the valleys are decked with wheat.  
They shout for joy, yes, they sing. R/

### A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans 8:18-23

I think that what we suffer in this life can never be compared to the glory, as yet unrevealed, which is waiting for us. The whole creation is eagerly waiting for God to

reveal his sons. It was not for any fault on the part of creation that it was made unable to attain its purpose, it was made so by God; but creation still retains the hope of being freed, like us, from its slavery to decadence, to enjoy the same freedom and glory as the children of God. From the beginning till now the entire creation, as we know, has been groaning in one great act of giving birth; and not only creation, but all of us who possess the first-fruits of the Spirit, we too groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

### Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the Word of God, Christ is the sower. All who come to him will have eternal life  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

#### A reading from the Gospel of Matthew 1-23 (shorter form)

Jesus left the house and sat by the lakeside, but such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat there. The people all stood on the beach, and he told them many things in parables.

He said, 'Imagine a sower going out to sow. As he sowed, some seeds fell on the edge of the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Others fell on patches of rock where they found little soil and sprang up straight away, because there was no depth of earth; but as soon as the sun came up they were scorched and, not having any roots, they withered away. Others fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Others fell on rich soil and produced their crop, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Abattez mes branches sciez-moi en morceaux  
les oiseaux continueront à chanter  
dans mes racines

Break my branches, saw me into bits. The birds will still sing in my roots.

*Anise Koltz*

