

# St. Nicholas News

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



29 October 2017

## POPE FRANCIS PHONES THE SPACE STATION



Pope Francis is made his first telephone call above the earth -- and into space. The pope called the International Space Station. Six astronauts are currently working there -- three Americans, two Russians and one Italian. Italian astronaut Paolo Nespoli was

aboard the space station for the first-ever papal call, made in 2011 by Pope Benedict. He returned to space in July. As he did in 2011, he acted as a translator Thursday during his second papal call.

Francis asked Nespoli and the five other astronauts many questions. Some were simple, such as 'why did you choose to become an astronaut?' Other questions were much deeper and more complex. Russian astronaut Sergey Ryazanskiy told Francis that his grandfather, a Soviet engineer who helped build Sputnik, had inspired him. Some of the responses he received from the Russian astronauts marked a small step in improving the Vatican's relations with Orthodox Russia. Francis has worked hard to improve the relationship. Last year, he became the first pope in 1,000 years to meet with the Russian Orthodox patriarch.

The other Russian aboard the International Space Station is Alexander Misurkin. He responded to Francis's question about how the astronauts understood the Italian poet Dante's line that love is the force that moves the universe. Misurkin told the pope that he had been reading Antoine de St. Exupery's "The Little Prince" while in space. He explained that the young prince's understanding of love affected him. "Love is the force that gives you strength to give your life for someone else," he told the pope. Francis responded by saying "It's clear you have understood the message that St. Exupery so poetically explained, and that you Russians have in your blood, in your humanistic and religious tradition."

Pope Francis considered a career as a chemist before becoming a priest. He has often expressed his concern for the environment and care for what he calls "our common home."

Space station commander Randy Bresnik, an American, told Francis that what he enjoyed most about being in space was seeing "God's creation maybe a little bit from his perspective." Bresnik, a U.S. Marine, flew combat missions during the Iraq war. He told Francis that in space there are "no borders, there is no conflict, it's just peaceful." Nespoli thanked the pope for his deep questions. He said that most of the crew's days are spent performing highly technical and mechanical tasks. "You brought us higher up," he said. "You took us away from the daily mechanics of things and made us think about things that are bigger than us." Since his launch in July, Nespoli has published beautiful photos of Italy from space on his Twitter page; one of his recent pictures shows the Alps from 400 kilometers above the Earth.

## CHURCH OF IRELAND CHURCH DESTROYED



and the pulpit, pews and organ all destroyed. The damage came to light on Wednesday.

The Catholic Archbishop of Tuam Michael Neary has described the destruction in a Church of Ireland church in Connemara as "an act of persecution against all Christians". On the remote Errislannan peninsula in Connemara, about 85km from Galway city, the Holy Trinity church was extensively damaged by vandals with its interiors ruined, windows smashed, electrics ripped out of the walls,

## NOTICES

### Money Matters

Sunday 22 October 2017

Thank you for your contributions.

1st Collection: p215  
2nd Collection: p240  
Mission Sunday: p65  
Family Offering: p396



### Remembered at Mass

Sat 6pm: John McDonnell 32nd anniversary, Nellie Molloy & deceased members of the family. Francis Rodgers, Jenny Nugent 5th anniversary, Jemmy Nugent 3rd anniversary, Donal Heffernan 2nd anniversary

Sun 11.30am: Jack Fallon 10th anniversary



### Decaf

the Dublin Eight Comic Arts Festival is an ongoing series of small press comic book events in Dublin. Our next event will be at the Dublin Food Co-op in Newmarket Square on Monday, October 30th, 11am-5pm. Peruse comics & art by over 30 local comic artists and illustrators! Bring your used comics to participate in our communal comic swap! Enjoy your newly obtained comics in our cafe lounge with food & coffee available for purchase by Vegan Surfers Kitchen.



### November Mass of Remembrance

Will take place on Thursday 02 November at 7.30pm here in St. Nicholas of Myra. All are welcome!



### Beginning Experience

is a support group for those coping with the pain of loss of their life partner, through Death, Separation or Divorce. Few people

are able to cope alone with the pain of loss. Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide? Seeking help is a sign of strength and self-knowledge - not weakness. This is a healing ministry, which helps to resolve the grief that goes with the end of a marriage or relationship. Coping effectively with bereavement is a skill we can all learn.

Next residential weekend will be held 17th - 19th November 2017, in Emmaus Retreat Centre, Swords, Co Dublin. For further information please contact 086 0877379 or email bedublin@gmail.com. www.beginningexperience.ie



### Darkness Into Light at Gallery Zozimus on Francis St

An exciting exhibition comes to Gallery Zozimus. "Darkness into Light" brings seven artists from RTE's Painting The Nation together in light of Pieta House. Through our work we would like to provoke a thought and create a moments stillness within it viewers. We want to bring awareness to Suicide and Depression in Ireland and also bring attention to the great connection art and creativity have to combat the darkness people suffer within. Each artist has their own connection with the subject and has given their feeling to the theme through their paintings. Together with Gallery Zozimus we bring this event to raise funds and awareness for Pieta House and its great battle against the darkness people suffer. All proceeds from paintings sold will go to Pieta House. Runs 1st to 7th November.



### Work on Green Spaces

Work is set to commence on two of the smaller parks in the area under the Liberties Greening Strategy. Improvements are being made to St. Audoen's Park on High Street including new entrances to the park, a more open and engaging layout, improved planting and circulation, and better links between the park and the adjoining church grounds. The work is the first phase of a major improvement of this historic space which includes the best surviving section of Dublin's old City Wall.

Closer to the city centre, the Peace Park at the junction of Christchurch Place is set to reopen. In coming weeks work will take place to thin out and enhance the landscaping and to remove the sunken element of the park to create a level space, visible from the street. It is hoped this will encourage greater use of the park and deter the antisocial use that forces the space to be closed.



### The 50 Francis Street Photographer

John Walsh operated his photography business from 50 Francis Street from the 1950s until the 1990s. During that time, the prolific snapper and his camera were much in demand to capture the life events and milestones of people from the area and the wider city. Communion, confirmations, weddings and family events were all marked and over his lifetime, John took many photos of the people around the liberties and Dublin City.

When he passed away he left thousands of negatives and photos which his granddaughter has been busily trying to share with the people in the pic's through a Facebook page. Now many of the images of the 50 Francis Street Photographer have been compiled into a new book by Suzanne Behan and published by Hachette Books Ireland.

## 30th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

### A reading from the book of Exodus 22:20-26

The lord said to Moses, Tell the sons of Israel this, "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.

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

### Psalm 17 I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes. R/

Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed. R/

### Gospel Acclamation: Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Open our heart, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!

### Gospel

### A reading from the Gospel of Matthew 22:34-40

The When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, Master, which is the greatest c o m m a n d m e n t o f t h e L a w ? ' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

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

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

