



# St. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH LIMERICK VOCATION SUNDAY 7th May 2017

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## Mass Times

**Monday –Friday**  
**7.30 am, 8.30am,**  
**10.15am & 4.00pm**

**Saturday**  
**8.30am, 10.15am**  
**3.00pm**  
**(Mass for the Sick)**

**Sunday**  
**9.00am, 11.15am,**  
**Evening Mass**  
**7.30pm**

**Confession**  
**Monday, Wednesday**  
**&Friday**  
**10.45 am–12.00**  
**3.00pm– 4.00pm**  
**Saturday**  
**10.45 am –12.00**  
**2.30pm –4.00pm**

**Taize**  
 Every Thursday  
 at 5pm

## The Faith that Resurrects Hope

By Catherine Doherty

*As our life unfolds, hope becomes elusive. We are almost afraid to believe in it...to hold it close...to use it as a compass of our life.*

Hope...a word we use often. A word which is very little understood even while used often. A theological and cardinal virtue of hope (the expectation of a future possible good; an art or state whereby man tests with unhesitating confidence to obtain all that God has promised him) that we have learned in various religious classes that were offered us through our life...

Yet, as our life unfolds, hope becomes elusive. We are almost afraid to believe in it...to hold it close...to use it as a compass of our life.

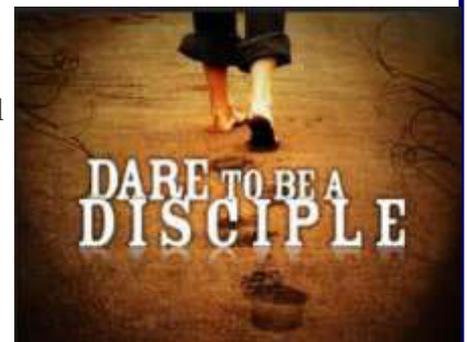
It gets dimmed with years and then when we need it most in time of sickness, in time of pain, of sorrow, of old age, it seems to vanish perhaps because we have forgotten how to hope like children do, with the exciting anticipation of things as yet unseen which in the simplicity of childlike hearts we knew were going to come, and walk with us, and share their gentle or vivid brilliancy with us.

Let us who believe in the Resurrection stop being afraid. Stop worrying about the tomorrow which seems to shrink our hopes into nothingness. The tomorrow is ours, as is today! If we fill it with faith that resurrects hope and explodes love as the resurrection of Christ has truly done, then what is there to fear except our lack of courage? This is the hour for us to truly arise and bring hope to the hopeless, enkindle faith in those who hear so many voices against it. And above all, allow our hearts to explode with that love that fills the Gospel with its deep, constant, invitation.

This is the hour for the Christian to remember that he is "one who is sent," even as the apostles were, for it is to all the laity in the world from the day Christ spoke and told them—the multitudes—to "Go and preach the gospel and baptize in His name," to the end of times that into our ordinary working simple hands has been given the answer to hopelessness, to loss of faith, to loss of love!

Yes, all we have to do is to implement the words of the Lord—"Go forth and preach the gospel!" All are hungry for the Gospel. They are waiting for it to be preached to them without compromise, so that hope might grow once more in their hearts, so that they too might begin to love the way Christ wanted them to love, so that their faith grow until it truly rests in God's heart, and hence become a totality of surrender to Him.

Christ is risen and so is hope, so is love, so is faith. Let us then do the seemingly impossible, remembering that Jesus is the Master of the impossible! Let us return to become childlike, as He has asked us to be. Let us cry out with a loud voice: "GIVE ME THE HEART OF A CHILD AND THE INCREDIBLE COURAGE TO LIVE IT OUT AS AN ADULT." Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!



## ACCORD



Facilitators are needed for Pre-marriage courses in Limerick. There will be a selection day coming up shortly and volunteers are being sought.

**Milford Hospice**  
**5km Memorial Walk**  
**Sunday 28th May**  
**12 noon**

## Vigil of Prayer for Vocations

St. Nessian's  
Church Raheen  
13th May at 6pm



Mass, Adoration  
& Benediction



## Our Lady of Limerick Triduum

St. Saviours Church  
May 25th -27th

Mass & Devotions  
at 1pm

Reflection & Compline  
Procession 7pm

**Saturday 27th**  
Closing Mass &  
Procession at 1pm  
**Family Festival**  
2-5pm  
At Tait's Clock

## Thought for the Day

What is distinctive about our faith as Christians? We do not believe in a system of ideas or even in a higher ethics: we believe in a person, who gives life "a new horizon and a decisive direction" (Benedict XVI).

John's Gospel makes this clear with its great I am sentences, one of which we hear today: "I am the gate." Naturally, we think the gate to what? The gate to life to the full. The risk today is to set our expectations low, to be happy with less. But the Gospel calls not to be half alive, but to be fully alive. Let us enter by the gate himself, because the gate to life is always open.

### Prayer

Often, loving Lord, we find ourselves astray and defenceless. Let us recognise your voice, calling us one by one as you call us to follow you. [www.tarsus.ie](http://www.tarsus.ie)



## Service of Remembrance

We wish to invite you to attend a **Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving** for the lives of those people who have died during 2016 under the care of Milford Care Centre. Their memory is a continuing source of encouragement and strength to your life and that of your family.

In bereavement we are challenged by deep emotions. The memories we cherish are enduring, the pains and sorrows we feel do not often pass quickly, and we are conscious of our lives continuing to be changed by the past and the present.

We invite families to bring along a stone either from your home, or a place that holds a special significance to you and your loved one. Feel free to write your loved ones name on it. At some point in the service a member of each family will have an opportunity to come forward and place the stone on the altar or alternatively you may wish to wait till after the service. These stones will be used beneath the altar at Christmas and again at the foot of the Easter cross next year here at Milford thereafter to find a final resting place around our 'Light up a Memory Tree'.

We hope that you may wish to join with us and we look forward to sharing with you this act of remembrance and thanksgiving to be held at **Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Castle-troy, on Sunday May 14<sup>TH</sup> 2017 at 3pm.** Please feel free to invite family and friends to join you in solidarity and support.



## World Fairtrade Challenge

Irish people can celebrate Fairtrade along with millions of other people around the planet in the World Fairtrade Challenge on May 12th -14th ,2017. Great news! Each year, we're buying more Fairtrade products like bananas, coffee and chocolate. Thanks to people like you, more hard-working farmers and workers around the world can build better lives and brighter futures. That's why we want to celebrate Fairtrade with you !

From 12th -14th May , join Fairtrade farmers, workers and supporters for the World Fairtrade Challenge. Treat your colleagues, friends or customers to Fairtrade products, register your purchase or event on our website and let's create the biggest Fairtrade Celebration the world's ever seen!

Register your purchase or event on the international World Fairtrade Challenge Website:

<https://www.fairtradechallenge.org/int-en/home/>

