

# St. Augustine's Church Limerick

## Ascension of the Lord 28th May 2017

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## 'Beyond Africa'

### Mass times:

Monday—Friday  
7.30am—8.30am—  
10.15am— & 4.00pm  
Saturday --  
8.30am—10.15am—3.00pm  
(Mass for the Sick)  
Sunday—  
9.00am, 11.15 am & 7.30pm

### Confession:

Monday- Wednesday —Friday  
10.45am—12.00 / 3.00pm-4pm  
Saturday —  
10.45am—12.00 / 2.30pm-4pm

### Taize- Summer Break

Resumes in October

All this week we are celebrating Africa in Limerick! One of the many rich aspects of the cultural mix of the vibrant new Limerick will be marked from Monday (22nd May 2017) when the Africa Day 2017 celebrations commence.

The week long Irish Aid supported and Limerick City and County Council led programme culminating with celebrations on 28th May – is now in its twelfth year and is a celebration of the wonderful fusion of African cultures that have merged into and become an integral part of Limerick today.

Organisers of this year's festivities are promising the biggest splash of African colour and conversation across Limerick yet and inviting one

and all, African and otherwise, to join in a week-long party as it gives voice to the new and welcoming Limerick.

Titled 'Beyond Africa', the gathering will be all about highlighting the positive experiences Africans are having living in their new country and in their new homes. The week finishes up on Sunday 28th May with a variety show in Limerick Milk Market.



## Pope Francis Blesses Homes in Ostia Italy

Like parish priests throughout Italy do during the Easter season, Pope Francis spent the afternoon of Friday 19th May going door to door and blessing homes. Continuing the "Mercy Friday" visits he began during the Year of Mercy, Pope Francis chose a public housing complex in Ostia, a Roman suburb. The Mercy Fridays see the Holy Father engaged in specific corporal and spiritual works of mercy. The Vatican press office said Father

Plinio Poncina, pastor of Stella Maris parish, put up signs on 17 th May announcing a priest would be visiting the neighbourhood to bless houses. The signs, which indicate a date and give a time frame for these visits, are a common site in Italy in the weeks before and after Easter. To the surprise of many of those who opened their doors it was the Holy Father and not the parish priest who was there offering a

blessing of the homes of the parishioners in the complex located at Piazza Francesco Conteduca.

[www.catholicnews.ie](http://www.catholicnews.ie)





## World Meeting of Families / Volunteers Needed

At least three thousand volunteers are needed to assist with the planning and organising of the ninth World Meeting of Families which Pope Francis asked Archbishop Diarmuid Martin to host in Dublin in 2018. This six-day festival of faith will take place from 21st to 26th August **next year with the theme: “The Gospel of the Family: Joy for the World”**.

As part of its pastoral preparations the organisers of the World Meeting of Families are now inviting thousands of volunteers to participate in this once-in-a-generation event. The volunteers will be part of the operational team which will organise and run what will be the largest gathering of families in the world. Volunteers must be resident in Ireland, over 18 years of age and respectful of the Catholic ethos of the event. Volunteers will also assist at related preparatory events which will take place around the country. We are a welcoming nation and people who will offer a warm welcome to the many families who are expected to join us from across the world for this incredible event, are now invited to **apply to join as a volunteer.**”

Volunteers will be needed in a variety of roles such as acting as event ambassadors, stewards, ushers, meeting and greeting guests, offering hospitality, supporting media communications and providing information, music, liturgy, medical services, pastoral support, language translation, administration, transport, photographic services, and in logistics. Most importantly of all we are looking for people with a welcoming, positive and flexible attitude, who can work as part of a team to assist the thousands of pilgrims who will come to participate in the World Meeting of **Families in 2018.**”

To apply to become a WMOF2018 volunteer, whether to start with helping with the preparations in the run up to the event and/or during the five days of the event, please visit [www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer](http://www.worldmeeting2018.ie/volunteer).

Becoming a volunteer will include a formal online volunteer application, a training programme, as well as Garda vetting and screening process in line with WMOF2018 safeguarding policies. [www.catholicbishops.ie](http://www.catholicbishops.ie)



## Waiting for the Spirit

People don't like waiting. We are told that after the Ascension of Jesus into heaven the apostles “went back to Jerusalem and they joined in continuous prayer, together with several women, including Mary the Mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.” Acts 1:14

They waited **for the Spirit.....whatever that might mean, for they had no idea: but they waited. They waited, these first Christians, men and women, together in prayer, expectantly, with a certainty that “something” was about to happen to them’. And what a surprise that something would turn out to be on Pentecost Day.**



Join with us as we wait- to celebrate Pentecost next Sunday at the 11.15am Mass. Come and pray for a new outpouring of the Spirit on this church so that we may re-discover the creative gifts of the first Pentecost and make a new beginning for a new time in the power of the Holy Spirit.

## Limerick Diocesan



This pilgrimage takes place every year from June 21st to June 26th, with direct flights from Shannon airport. The Lourdes Office can be contacted at the Social Service Centre, Henry Street, Limerick. Tel. 061-314111.