

### **Mass Times**

Monday-Friday

7.30am, 8.30am, 10.15am, & 4pm

**SATURDAY** 

8.30am, 10.15am 3pm Mass of the Sick **SUNDAY** 

9.00am, 11.15am & 7.30pm **CONFESSIONS** 

### **MONDAY & FRIDAY**

10.45am-12 Noon

3.00pm-4.00pm **SATURDAY** 

10.45am-12noon

2.30pm-4.00pm

All Masses are 'Live Streamed' at St. Augustine's



#### St. Augustine's Church **Child Safeguarding** Representatives.

Fr. Flor O'Callaghan O.S.A. Fr. John Lyng O.S.A. Ms Geraldine van Dam Mr. Robert Ryan Ms Charlotte Gleeson Mr. John Doyle

# St. Augustine's Church Limerick **17th August 2025** 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time website: www.augustinianslimerick.com

email: info@augustinianslimerick.com

# Family Matters

The fox must be chased away first; after that the hen might be warned against wandering into the bush. (Achebe: No Longer at Ease).

That was the response of the village elders after their brightest son had succumbed to pressure, broken the law and been caught. The villagers resources had invested heavily in sending him away to be educated. They intended that as he rose in the world he would pull more youths of the village behind him and ultimately the whole village would have a rich harvest from its investment Now the police were looking for him. He had let his people down and they were disappointed with him. Nevertheless, he must be protected from the outsiders first. Later he could be reprimanded by themselves for his misdeeds. Blood is thicker than water. The fox must be chased away first; after that the hen might be warned against wandering into the bush. No matter how foolish our hen, we'd never take the side of the fox against her.

Family does great things to people. It is life, comfort, protection, and refuge - "the place where when you have to go there they have to take you in." But it can be something else too. The so-called black sheep takes on a different

hue when it's our own black sheep. In this matter the Mafia sets a strong headline. It's not for nothing that in one of its stronger manifestations it is self-styled as La Famiglia, the family. The paramount value there is mutual support and cohesion. As against La Famiglia outsiders have no rights and can expect no concessions. General or universal rules about law and justice make no impression when the welfare of the Family, even in small matters, is at stake. No outside claimant can expect any help from a family member when a brother/sister is the respondent.



Omerta is a law, not of God, King or Parliament but often of life and death.

In today's gospel Jesus seems to be annoyed and rather lashes out. Maybe it was his own family trying to rein him in, telling him to be careful, or wanting to take charge of him thinking he was out of his mind, that sparked it off. In any case he was clear that the received wisdom in my own family or group is not always to be the end of the story. Even at the cost of local division.



## Thought for the Day

The famous reflection of Teilhard de Chardin suggests itself: The day will come when, after harnessing the ether, the winds, the tides, gravitation, we shall harness for God the energies of love. And, on that day, for the second time in the history of the world, man will have discovered fire. The uncertainties of today are evident, political, economic and environmental. What can we as people of faith contribute? Again in the words of Teilhard, "there is something wonderful afoot in the universe." The eyes of faith see the deeper pattern.

**Prayer:** God of the cosmos, you hold everything in being. God of love, you love the human race. God of our hearts, helps us to see your handiwork not only in the universe, but in the everyday events of our lives. Amen.

Source: www.tarsus.ie/Sunday Readings

### **Accord Marriage Preparation Programme**

Venue : South Court Hotel, Raheen, Limerick V94 E77X

Date: Friday 22nd August 2025 7-10pm and Saturday

23rd August 2025 09am to 04pm

Bookings can be made online at www.accord.ie





St. Augustine's Church Last Sunday's Collections came to €890

We would like to thank you for your continued support and generosity to this church.



## National Heritage Week: Theme: Exploring our Foundations

National
Heritage
Week
16-24 August

Each year national and local communities participate in Heritage Week by organising events throughout the country. This year National Heritage Week takes place from the 16th –24th August. It brings together volunteers, community groups and heritage enthusiasts to share their experience, knowledge culture and practices. This year's theme invites us to delve into the building blocks of our heritage; not just the structures but the landscapes and cultural activities that have shaped us. The programme of events taking place in Limerick and county can be found at www.limerick.ie /discover/whats-on/national- heritage- week 2025 Source: www.nationalheritageweek2025

## Some of the many events taking place from Sunday 17th August

- Sunday 17th —Stories in Stone: A self guided tour of the Hunt Collection. Free Event Hunt Museum
- Sunday 17th— Dancing the Walls of Limerick -Old Clare St, Irishtown –Family Fun Day- 2pm
- Monday 18th —Guided tour of Foynes Architectural Conservation Area & Flying Boat Museum -2pm-St. Senan's Church Foynes /Free
- Tuesday19th –A Photographic History of Athlunkard Boat Club at 7pm –to discuss the collection of historic photos which span 125years.
- Events on limerick.ie are subject to change, check with organisers for further details.