



Season of Creation

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 - 4pm

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



St. Augustine's Church Limerick 7th September 2025 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

website: www.augustinianslimerick.com

email: info@augustinianslimerick.com

Hard Choice

Sir John Moore and his military pals were so impressed by the defensive efficiency of the Torra di Mortella they saw in Corsica during the Peninsular war early in the 19th century that they blew the thing up before leaving and then built imitations all over the Empire, including Ireland. In tribute to their shattered progenitor these came to be called Martello towers. They were meant to repel a Napoleonic invasion. The nearest one I know of is at Ringaskiddy. With heavy gun atop and well-supplied soldiers within it seemed well fit for purpose. Alas, or otherwise, before it was fully built Napoleon met his Waterloo and Cork never met the great Emperor a.k.a. the Little Corporal. Now, back to Sir John: I remember an old man reciting the poem of Charles Wolfe:

*Not a drum was heard, not a funeral note
As his corpse through the ramparts we hurried.
Not a soldier discharged his farewell shot,
O'er the grave where our hero we buried.*

It was of Moore he sang, and of his death at Corunna. Sir John had got around a bit: Glasgow to Italy, Canada to Corsica; then to India. And he found time to sally out from New Ross to defeat Fr Philip Roche in the Battle of Foulksmills in '98 before re-taking Wexford. Things could have been worse there, they say, because Moore got to the town just before General Lake, a man with a much more highly developed taste for slaughter.

*Slowly and sadly we laid him down,
From the field of his fame fresh and gory;
We carved not a line and we raised not a stone,
But we left him alone with his glory.*

Towers always figured large in war and peace. They enabled people to see who was coming; to drop unpleasant things on the heads of unwanted visitors, to withstand those who meant them no good. They were a feature of town, mountain-pass and, in places, farm. They were very familiar to Jesus. Just as he knew that salt that's not salty is useless he also knew that a tower that doesn't tower is useless or worse. Hence the derision in today's gospel for the man who had a tower which towered over nothing as "he started to build a tower and was unable to finish."

Now, after that easy and *distracting excursion*, I'd better acknowledge the presence of a more troublesome element in today's gospel,

"If anyone comes to me without hating father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple."

That's an awful lot of hating prescribed by the author of the Sermon on the Mountain, the one who was emphatic that love of God and neighbour was not only first in importance among laws but the very fullness of the law. That could hardly be hating as we know it. He confirmed the commandment that we honour father and mother (Mark 7). And his greatest interpreter, Paul, declared anyone who does not provide for their relatives to be *worse than an unbeliever*. (1 Tim 5). The hard bit is that throwing in your lot with Jesus may demand that you change priorities. Relationship with him is not inimical to any good relationship. Any other, personal or material, that pushes him out is an aborted tower or an ill-prepared army, not fit for good purpose. J.L.

Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

This Sunday, 7 September, Pope Leo will be canonising two young people, Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati. Bishop Leahy asks you to include prayers for young people in the Prayers of the Faithful, pointing to these two young saints as models. Bishop Leahy has published a book on Carlo Acutis entitled, *In Conversation with Saint Carlo Acutis*. Copies of the book are available through Amazon or on sale at the Abbey Bookshop in Limerick (Phone: 061-400252), the O'Mahony's book seller or at St. Paul's bookstores.



Source: Diocesan parish notes

Eucharistic Adoration, praying for vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and sacramental marriage in the Diocese of Limerick.

All families and individuals of all ages and states of life in the Diocese of Limerick—please join us to pray for vocations! We will gather once each month for Eucharistic Adoration at the Cathedral from 7:00-8:00pm, beginning on 17 September. The hour will include intercessions and a litany for vocations, a very short testimony, and music ministry. The Lord commanded us: "Ask, and you shall receive"! Please join us in praying for the holiness and joy of the next generation, that each young person may follow the call of God to priesthood, sacramental marriage, or the consecrated life.

Source: Diocesan parish notes

St. Augustine's Church

Last Sunday's Collections came to €1,085

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

DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO SEEK GOD IN PRAYER & CONTEMPLATION, MONASTIC WORK, AND COMMUNITY LIFE?

The Cistercian community at St Mary's Abbey, Glencairn invites single women aged 19–40 to our upcoming **MONASTIC VOCATIONS WEEKEND** 24th-27th October 2025

Please contact our Vocation Director, Sr Mairéad, at vocations@glencairnabbey.org

Augustinian Safeguarding Training
Tuesday 30th September
Adoration Chapel 7pm

For those who have been contacted



Do you enjoy singing? Have you often considered joining a choir?

VOICES OF LIMERICK

is recruiting new members for all lines:

Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass

If you would like to experience a choir rehearsal

Please join us on

Monday 15th September in Room G37

Mary Immaculate College from 7.30pm –9.30pm

We look forward to welcoming you.

Season of Creation

This year's season of Creation has as its theme 'Peace with Creation' inspired by the passage from Isaiah 32:14-18, 'My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places'. This year's symbol also inspired by Isaiah is titled 'Garden of Peace'.



The Season of Creation has a special significance for the Catholic Church, particularly since Pope Francis established 1st September as an annual World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. The Season of Creation is marked throughout the Christian world from 1st September to 4th October (Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) and celebrates the joy of

creation as well as encouraging awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment.

Prayer

May we come together as one family
to labour for your peace—
a shalom where all your people may dwell in safety,
and rest in quiet places.

Amen.

Source: www.catholicbishops.ie season of creation 2025resources