

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 16th November 2025 World Day of the Poor

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No End in Sight

Master, when will this happen and what sign will there be....? (Today's Gospel)

More U.S. civilians died in the Twin Towers attack than in any other man-made disaster in history. Next on that gruesome list is Guyana, 1978, where more than 900 people died by poisoning in obedience to their leader, Jim Jones.

Back home Jim had had a vision of Utopia and set up his Wings of Deliverance church - later renamed *People's Temple*. He admired a quasichurch called *Peace Mission* in Pennsylvania, run by Father Divine. After this man died in 1965 Jones tried to take over. But the widow, Mother Divine, was having none of it and gave Jim and his followers the boot. They took a bus for California. There Jim's flock grew into thousands. Unwelcome scrutiny followed and Jim Jones gave the fateful order "Follow Me." More than a thousand did so, to a farm (a.k.a. Jonestown) in Guyana. But the scrutiny didn't end. A US congressman, Leo Ryan, who had an active interest in exposing abuse of people,

turned his attention to Jones and Jonestown. His visit to Guyana seems to have convinced Jones that the game was up. Ryan was shot dead there on the same day that Jones gave his last demonstration of leadership: "We've had as much of this world as you're going to get," he can be heard saying in an audio recording, before inducing the mass-suicide and murder mentioned above.



A remarkable story of survival from Jonestown is that of Hyacinth Thrash. She slept in her cabin through the whole ordeal. In her memoir The Onliest One Alive (1995), She recalled: "All of those dead being put in bags... people I'd known and loved... God knows I never wanted to go to Guyana to die... I didn't think Jim would do a thing like that. He let us down." He surely did.

A less harmful example of one who claimed to have the secret of the end times was Harold Camping, a Californian pastor who announced the big (last) day as 21st May 2012. He used his radio station to spread the word, and to collect donations to be put towards paying for billboards which would spread the word wider. Marie Exley, 33, was among those who spent her own money to put up apocalypse-themed billboards in Colorado and later met her husband while passing out Bible tracts in Japan. The pair travelled through the Middle East to publicise Camping's prophecy and spent May 21 holed up in Montana waiting for the end. "Sure, I was looking forward to it but it's actually a blessing to reconnect with family and friends" said Ms. Exley when the day dragged on like any other. She is writing a screenplay on her experiences.

When the apostles asked: "Lord, when will this happen?" Jesus didn't play it like Jim or Harold. "The end is not so soon", he told them, and not to heed anyone who claimed to know day or date. They had much to do and endure before any end.

Anyhow, what use speculating about some *end of the world*? Isn't the day I kick my own bucket the end of this world for me.

J.L.

St. Augustine's Church LECTIO DIVINA for Advent

'Speak to me Lord, in this Holy Season'
Join us as we gather to hear God speak to us as we reflect and meditate on the coming
Sunday Gospels of Advent through Lectio
Divina. It will commence Monday 24th
November and each following Monday for
Advent after the 4.00pm weekday Mass at the
Shrine of Our Mother of Good Counsel.
Facilitated by Sr. Mary Dolora RSM and Sr.
Sean Marie RSM. and should take no longer
than 45min.

All are welcome 'Come Lord and dwell among us'.

A Season of Music at Knock Shrine

Workshop for Choirs: The Joy of Shared Song
Join us for a special day of music, prayer, and learning,
facilitated by Dr. John O'Keeffe, Director of Sacred
Music at St. Patrick's College & Director of Choral
Groups at Maynooth University, and Una Nolan, Director
of Sacred Music at Knock Shrine on Saturday 15th
November from 10am -5pm.

Handel's Messiah –A Triumph of Light—Saturday 22nd November at 7.30pm.

Carols by Candlelight— A Night of Peace and Wonder As Advent draws us towards the promise of Christmas, Knock Basilica will glow with the soft light of candles and the familiar warmth of carols. Surrounded by flickering lights and voices joined in melody, you'll feel the nearness of peace—a moment of stillness in a hurried world. Sunday 21December at 8pm Free admission. More details at www.knockshrine.ie

The Thomistic Institute in Limerick presents:

'Friendship: The Art of Striving and Thriving Together'.
A talk by Sr. Mary Madeline Todd, O.P. on 27th November at 7:30pm in St Saviour's Dominican Catholic Church. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Augustinian Peace Day

Can you light a light for peace and encourage others to do so over the Advent and Christmas Season? Our Annual Peace Day will take place, as in previous years, on the day before the First Sunday of Advent,

Saturday 29th November between 1pm and 4pm. We are looking for volunteers to join us to distribute night lights and ask passers by to light them over the Advent and Christmas Season and pray for peace. World peace is an urgent need and we often feel that there is nothing we can do. We believe that it is "better to light a light than to curse the darkness"

Following the distribution of candles, there will be a short lay lead service where we will gather to pray together for peace. The more people we have, the more candles we can give out and the more people will reflect on and pray for peace in the world, in our country in our homes and in our hearts.

If you are able to help please contact Geraldine at 089 2410066.

"Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me"

God's Word 2026

Gods Word 2026 is an invitation to pray Sacred Scriptures every day, as each day presents the readings of the Mass with reflec-

tions. This book is truly a gem and ideal for those in the ministry of Reading the Word, and is available in the Abbey Bookshop.



