

1st Sunday of Advent



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

WELCOME



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 30th November 2025 First Sunday of Advent

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Advent: The Waiting-Room

Pope Leo is in Turkey preaching peace and reconciliation. Meanwhile back at the ranch the president of his native land has just pardoned Two Turkeys while seeming to accuse or threaten almost everyone else.

In his first speech there Leo quoted the concern of his predecessor Francis that "World War 111 is already being fought piece-meal."

Pope Francis used to say that the Church is a field-hospital. Wounded from all walks of life, many not able to walk any farther, should find some solace there.

"The thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the church as a field hospital after battle. It is useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol and about the level of his blood sugars! You have to heal his wounds. Then we can talk about everything else. Heal the wounds, heal the wounds. ... And you have to start from the ground up."

Leo, in the Middle East to patiently build bridges rather than to bomb them would probably agree also that the world is a waiting-room.

We wait: for Christmas, for Summer, for a bus, for a letter, for a woman, a man, a child, a doctor, a cure, for sunrise, for evening, for the Lotto win or the debt collector's knock on the door, or your horse to "come in". Whatever you'd like to have, or fear having, yourself.

"Let us do something, while we have the chance!

It is not every day that we are needed.

Not indeed that we personally are needed.

Others would meet the case equally well, if not better.

To all mankind they were addressed, those cries for help still ringing in our ears!

But at this place, at this moment of time, all mankind is us, whether we like it or not.

Let us make the most of it, before it is too late!

What are we doing here, that is the question.

And we are blessed in this, that we happen to know the answer.

Yes, in the immense confusion one thing alone is clear.

We are waiting for Godot to come -- "

— *Samuel Beckett, Waiting for Godot*

I don't have to understand Beckett's unusual mind think he's mulling over the idea that to be human is to go through the experience of waiting, with no control over the timetable,

Years ago when the great American company American Express were first selling their credit card they advertised saying it "takes the waiting out of your wanting." Prompting us to think we can have what we want without having to wait for it - or having to wait until we're able to pay for it! Clever advertising but hardly an adequate or helpful understanding of man, woman or child.

By nature and necessity we're all waiters and so Advent is the season which reflects what we are. Our lives are a long Advent and our goal is an eternal Christmas. Even the rich must wait. That we wait is unavoidable: How we wait is partly up to ourselves. If, as our liturgy opines, we wait in joyful hope, we are truly blessed. J.L.

Reception of Holy Communion

The Augustinian community wishes to make known that, in the interests of hygiene, our preference in distributing communion is on the communicant's hand.



Meditation: First Week of Advent

"Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be constantly on the watch! Stay awake!...You do not know when the Master of the house is coming.'" Mark. 13:33



O Jesus, your voice sounds through the house of my world: Be on your guard! Stay awake! Yet I hardly hear you. Busy with so much, I go about the things I do like a servant trapped in household routine, hardly giving a thought to what my life is about. My spirit within has grown tired and you, my God, seem far away. How can I hear your voice today? Speak to my heart during this season of grace, as you spoke to your prophets and saints. Remind me again of the journey you call me to make and the work you would have me do. I am your servant, O Lord. Speak to me in this holy season and turn my eyes to watch for your coming. O Emmanuel, Jesus Christ, desire of every nation, Saviour of all peoples, come and dwell among us.

LECTIO DIVINA Monday 1st December

Following the 4pm Mass at
the Altar of Our Mother
of Good Counsel.
All are Welcome!



'Come then, Lord! wake us up!'

Come then Lord! Wake us up!
Call us back to you!
Set our hearts on fire and draw us to you!
Breathe your fragrance on us and let us taste
the sweetness of your presence!
Let us love you!
Let us run to you!

Source: Confessions St. Augustine
A fresh translation by Benignus O'Rourke OSA

Events at St. Mary's Cathedral

Advent Procession. The Cathedral's annual Advent Carol Service with a procession by the choir and clergy all round the darkened Cathedral to mark the start of Advent. Sunday evening 30th November at 7pm.

'Come and Sing Carols' event. You are invited to sing favourite carols on December 13th at 5.30pm. This is a great opportunity to sing along with many of the well loved Christmas Carols.

All-Night-Vigil at Knock Shrine

On the Feast of the
Immaculate Conception of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
December 7th & 8th, 2025

12am Rosary
12.45: Personal Testimony with Guest Speaker
1.30am Stations of the Cross / 2.30am Holy Hour
4.00am: Celebration of Mass
& Final Blessing.

GALA EVENING OF MUSIC & SONG
Thurles Cathedral Choir
With Clonmel Concert Band
& Special Guests



SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30TH
7.30 p.m. THURLES CATHEDRAL

Admission Free
Donations greatly appreciated on the night
towards the Cathedral Roofing Project