



# St. Augustine's Church Limerick

## Second Sunday of Easter

### 12th April 2026

website: [www.augustinianslimerick.com](http://www.augustinianslimerick.com)

email: [info@augustinianslimerick.com](mailto:info@augustinianslimerick.com)

## The Thomas Story

*Blessed those who have not seen and still believe (John 20:29).*

### Mass Times

#### Monday-Friday

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

#### SATURDAY

8.30am, 10.15am

Mass for the Sick

3.00pm

#### 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

According to St. Ephrem, the Satan felt sorely pestered by St Thomas:

***Into what land shall I fly from the just? / The Apostle I slew in India overtook me in Edessa;***

***Here and there he is all himself. / There went I, and there was he. / Here and there to my grief I find him.***

The Devil seems to have been right about the saint's ubiquity. An account from a Marco Polo expedition of the 13th century says Thomas died outside his hermitage in Chennai when an arrow aimed at a peacock hit him. We don't know how the saint was dressed at the time: a defence lawyer worth his fee would point out that many a churchmen's attire does resemble that of the flashy bird. Understandable mistaken identity here. As we see above, he haunted Satan in Mesopotamia too.

There's is tradition that Thomas sailed to India in AD 52 to spread the Christian faith and landed in modern day Kerala state where there was a Jewish community. The *St Thomas Christian tradition* says he set up *Seven and a half churches* in Kerala. But Eusebius of Caesarea reports Origen as saying that Thomas was the apostle to the Parthians — in northern Iran!

A reversal of the apostle's reactions in today's gospel is shown in a text attributed, you might say a little fancifully, to Joseph of Arimathea saying Thomas was the only witness of the Assumption of Mary into heaven. The other apostles were miraculously conveyed to Jerusalem to witness her death while Thomas was left in India, but after her burial he was transported to her tomb where he witnessed her bodily assumption into heaven. It neatly turns upside down the story of Thomas's doubts and says the other apostles are sceptical of his story until they see her empty tomb. Another distinction awarded Thomas by his later admirers was that on his way to India he happened to meet the MAGI. So many tales, however tall, attest to Thomas's popularity with many far-flung Christian communities. They blessed their local church with his name.

Many sources say Thomas was martyred, that he was—like Jesus—pierced with a lance. One version says local priests stoned and speared him. Since, at latest, the 16th century the St. Thomas Mount in Tamil Nadu, has been a site revered by Hindus, Muslims and Christians. Records from the early 16th century say the tomb was then maintained by a Muslim who kept a lamp burning there. It would be poor reward if Thomas was remembered only with the word DOUBTING sticking to him like a second skin.

So many deeds and so many travels were posthumously attributed to Thomas that people might say "there must be two of him" In a sense, that's true. Where was Thomas when Jesus first appeared to the disciples after the resurrection? Maybe after the terrible happenings of Good Friday he went home to tell the sad tale to his twin (brother?). And after the *My Lord and My God* meeting maybe he enlisted the same self-effacing sibling to give him a hand, standing in for him in one place while he beavered away in another, unknown to the reporters. So, his faith and his fame spread. There's a lot we don't know, so we go back to where we started, *Blessed those who have not seen and still believe.*

J.L.



### 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. Tom Walsh



# Thought for Today

How did any of us make the journey towards faith in Christ? No doubt a great part of it is simply what we received—usually from family. At some point, did I make a conscious choice? Perhaps at other times, I felt like walking away from the faith project? What kept me going? Did a more personal ownership of faith result? Perhaps I felt the intuition of John O'Donohue, "Faith is helpless attraction to the divine." In spite of everything, in spite of myself, somehow it is part of who I am.

**Prayer:** Mysterious God, we are those who have seen and at the same time not seen. Help to look beyond the simple gifts of each day to see you the giver behind—and in—every gift. Help us embrace the grace that we may know true blessedness in believing. Source: [www.tarsus.ie](http://www.tarsus.ie) /Sunday readings

## REFLECTION

"Let us leave a little room for reflection, room too for silence. Let us look within ourselves to see whether there is some delightful place inside where we can be free of noise and argument. Let us hear the Word of God in stillness and perhaps we may come to understand it".

St. Augustine 52, 22

## TROCAIRE BOXES

You can still return your Trocaire Boxes. Drop them into the bookshop or Pastoral Office

Thank You.

## Divine Mercy Sunday 12th April

Redemptorist Church  
Limerick  
Divine Mercy Devotions  
will begin at 2.30pm  
Mass at 4.45pm

## St. Augustine's Church

All Mass times resume to their regular times from tomorrow Monday 13th  
7.30am, 8.30am, 10.15am & 4.00pm  
Confessions also resume on Monday  
10.45am –12.00noon & 3.00pm –4.00pm  
Last Sunday's Collections came to €1,150

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



**AnamCara**  
Supporting Parents After Bereavement  
**ONLINE BEREAVEMENT  
INFORMATION EVENING**

Tuesday 14 April  
7pm - 8.30pm  
For all bereaved parents



register at <https://bit.ly/4sMp3KA>

**GUEST SPEAKER: BRYAN NOLAN**



Bryan has an M.A. in Healthcare Chaplaincy from DCU and is a Certified Healthcare Chaplain with specialisations in end-of-life, grief, and loss care. He has worked with the Irish Hospice Foundation for over 13 years.

FREE OF CHARGE TO ALL BEREAVED PARENTS, REGARDLESS OF HOW LONG THEY HAVE BEEN BEREAVED, AND OF THEIR CHILD OR CIRCUMSTANCES OF THEIR DEATH

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## New Arrival at Abbey Bookshop

RICHARD ROHR

## The Tears of Things

Prophetic Wisdom for  
an Age of Outrage



## Life in the Spirit Seminars

Venue: Community Hall,  
Dromcollogher  
Co. Limerick  
Friday Nights at 8.00pm  
From

Friday 10th April—Friday 15th May  
Followed by Light Refreshments  
Everyone warmly Welcome !  
Poster at the back of the church.

## TheWay.ie

**TheWay.ie** is a new digital platform set up by the Irish Bishops Conference dedicated to sharing the 'Good News' and the witness of the Catholic Church in Ireland. It is intended to help people discover the faith, live the faith and pass on the faith. It is for both seekers and followers.