



St. Augustine's Church Limerick

Third Sunday of Easter

19th April 2026

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Limited Heartbreak

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem (Luke 24:33).

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



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



Before Limerick's recent, and ongoing, domination of hurling, 1994 must have represented the high, or low, point in Henry Martin's chronicle *Unlimited Heartbreak*. (Collins, 2009). An ardent Offaly supporter tells a tale of that year's All Ireland Final. He expected his county to win it. They had beaten, among others, the champions of the previous two years to get there. The man's eldest son, though very young, was showing promise of a pleasing fanaticism in his support for the hurlers and the dad thought this a great opportunity to introduce him to Croke Park. We'll by-pass the excited preparation that filled the week and just say that they got there. As for the match itself, things didn't go as well as they had hoped and expected. With five minutes left and Limerick as many scores ahead, the young lad was very depressed and the old lad worse. His son'd first experience of headquarters would be a bitter one. They headed for the nearby exit, their faces downcast. They didn't talk but thought along the lines "our own hope had been that....." They took the feral roars behind them as evidence that things were getting even worse. They weren't far out of the shadow of the Cusack Stand when a radio being nursed by a man in his little garden screamed the news that Offaly were the All Ireland champions of 1994. There must be some mistake! But there wasn't. A bit shamefaced the father decided they would try to get back into the stadium. They were facing a crowd coming against them now. However, the news of victory had, like Red Bull, given them wiings and they got to a good vantage point in time to see their captain Martin Hanamy lift the McCarthy Cup.

Some will see comparison between those Offaly supporters and the disciples on the Emmaus road as frivolous or even irreverent but we, who understand, understand. They had left a scene of defeat with faces downcast. They flew back to the same scene on a carpet of euphoria. That they had prematurely abandoned ship didn't bother them yet.

It wasn't a little radio but a mysterious stranger that told the two disciples they had thrown in the towel too soon. And it was the sharing of bread that was the real eye-opener and turned them around. Bread, that stuff which was the mainstay of human life since the grains of wild cereals were first consumed thousands of years before. "By the sweat of your brow you shall eat bread" Genesis had told their ancestors. Countless sweating women and men learned the truth of this the hard way They were and are people for whom "nose to the grindstone" was not a figure of speech but the literal truth, an interminably recurring reality. A lot of life and labour went into the making of bread and it should be no surprise that the God of Life was recognised in its sharing (Lk24:35). The final disgrace turned out to be the very opposite to final or disgraceful. The disappointed disciples learned, like the Limerick fans of recent years, there's no such condition as Unlimited Heartbreak.

J.L.

REFLECTION:

All through life's day, you walk with us, Lord. But often we don't recognise you, for we are blinded by work and worry, doubt, confusion and fear, and so you remain a stranger to us. Before the day's end we will ask many questions, experience many sorrows and disappointments. And then, suddenly, whether we are young, middle-aged, or old, we will find that night is approaching. In that moment we pray, that, like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, our eyes will be opened, and that we will recognise you. And you will not vanish from our sight, but stay with us to guide us on our road of life.



St. Augustine for Today

Pavia, a city near Milan in northern Italy is where you will find the tomb of St. Augustine in the Augustinian Basilica there. It is surely fascinating to see how after 1600 years Augustine is still so relevant, so modern. Few people had such insights into human nature as Augustine had and few have written so intimately about the moving of the human heart and spirit. Augustine is a Saint for all those with emotional problems: he has a compassionate sympathy for all who struggle with themselves – he himself wrestled for years with his own memory, his emotions, his restlessness, his yearnings.

M.L

Pope Leo XIV recently recommended reading St. Augustine's 'Letter to Proba' (Letter 130) if needing a guide to deeper prayer and wonderful guidelines about how our prayer can be really meaningful. St. Augustine invites us all to search for God and truth today.

Havens for Nature: Nature Restoration and Biodiversity.

The Catholic Church in Ireland has committed to having 30% of its grounds rewilded by 2030. This is an initiative to show our concern for nature and to aid our implementation of the ideals and objectives of Laudate Si. The Irish Heritage Council in conjunction with the Irish Bishops and Trocaire have produced a booklet called, Havens for Nature: supporting Biodiversity on Faith grounds. The booklet is packed with ideas for Faith groups but is also useful to private individuals. You can get an electric/softcopy of that booklet by simply Googling Havens for Nature. That will allow you to read and download that booklet if you wish.

Source: Parish Notes



Fundraising Event for Women & Babies

Limerick4Life

There will be an Afternoon Tea fundraiser and raffle held by Limerick4Life at St Saviour's Dominican Church Limerick V94 D267 on Saturday 25 April at 1.30 pm (after Mass) in aid of supporting moms and babies in need. You are warmly welcome to support a great cause!

Grow Mental Health

Grow Mental Health. Peer Support Groups for anyone experiencing mental health concerns. New meeting opening Tuesday 21st April at 10am at Grow Office, Henry Street, Limerick along with other meetings times. Contact Celia at 086-1526966 for further information.

Vocations Holy Hour

Wednesday 22 April, Vocations Holy Hour: St. John's Cathedral, 7:00-8:00pm

Please join us to pray for vocations in our diocese! Our celebrant and testimony at this month's Vocations Holy Hour will be Father Chris O'Donnell. See you there!

FUNDRAISING CONCERT
To help defray costs of
Limerick Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Friday, April 24th, 2026
8:00pm sharp
Holy Trinity Abbey, ADARE

**Holy Trinity Abbey
Choir and Suests**

Musical Director: **Cracey Fitzgerald**
MC: **Seamus Hennessey**

Jean O'Dalen - Piano
Ann Phelan - Violin
Niamh Ierin - Flute
Conor O'Shaughnessy - Accordion
Suest Solists: Niamh O'Dalen, Jennifer Walsh,
Rebecca O'Shea

Tickets Available from: Abbot (Diocesan Office) 0611 396172
Limerick Diocesan Office: 0611 350000
Newcastle West (Diocesan Office) 08722441105
Tickets: €20.00

Spot Prizes & Raffle on the night