

Welcome to



St. Augustine's

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



St. Augustine's Church Limerick Pentecost Sunday

24th May 2026

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If the Lord Does Not Build.....

A hundred years ago Lord Berners engaged an architect to build a tower, a Folly, one of the last great follies of England. Berners understood the essence of the job and explained to the planning inspectors, *'The great point of the tower is that it will be entirely useless.'* The journalist Stephen Bayley goes deeper into the matter, "If you made a fortune from slaves or sugar, you would build yourself a country house with follies in the garden. Besides wealth you needed idleness and wit." If the English are the best known of folly-builders we copied them. And we made our own Irish contribution to the ghost-town world too. More than one cub of the Celtic Tiger grew up too fast and borrowed like a bank robber to cover the country in concrete. Alas the bottom fell out of the banks, without a slate on a house: So, the ghost estate, twenty first century version, was left to mar the face of the earth. Closer to the bone, not so long ago we built seminaries like Soviet workers' blocks and churches like roofed stadia to answer a demand we thought would last forever. Holy Ghost estates of a sort! God may have laughed. Still, both we and the English lag behind another group who really aspired to the height of Folly. Early parts of the Bible tell how people lost the run of themselves. The *Tower and the Town (a.k.a. Tower of Babel)* is a good example of the doings of deluded man. They were well-educated and enjoying the economic benefits of the Babylonian Boom. The days of poverty and ignorance were behind them for good and in front stretched an endless road of prosperity. We're told they said "we'll build a tower as high as heaven". Fuelled and fooled by over-confidence and ambition they set about reaching heaven by their own power. God laughed. He confused them till no one could understand a word anyone else said. Accidents were inevitable: A bricklayer would tell his mate "hold the ladder please" and his mate think he said "take that ladder away". A carpenter would say to his apprentice "don't cut that plank until we measure what's needed" only for young lad to saw the thing into useless halves, each too short for the intended job. Labour relations and esprit de corps went to the dogs, and their Folly followed. Accumulated irritants caused the builders to throw in the trowel and disperse, leaving a ghost estate. They were now aware of their limitations and had an inkling of the folly of trying to take over from God. The project was abandoned leaving a "ghost estate" type of tower. The attempt to take over from God was postponed. The project could be lumped in with the constructions mentioned by Barton in *Monumental Follies (1972)* as *'foolish monuments to greatness and great monuments to foolishness.'*

The wheel came full circle at the first Pentecost. Language had illustrated the people's separation from one another and from God. Language now brought them together. Although they were "from every nation under heaven", as we read in *Acts* today, they heard and understood the same good news, irrespective of mother tongue. Now the sound of rushing wind was not from chickens of delusion and guilt coming home to roost, or the swimming pool on the roof leaking, but the God-sent sound of the Spirit offering wisdom, courage and renewal of integrity.

J.L

Gift of the Holy Spirit

The extraordinary happenings on that first Pentecost Morning beggar belief. Timid and fearful disciples transformed into the world's greatest witnesses. They preached in many languages to the throngs gathered in Jerusalem for the great feast of Pentecost. Thousands of converts. People thought that they were drunken men! No wonder Peter had to stand up and say "these men are not drunk; it is only 9 o'clock in the morning! Yes, it was the very Spirit of Jesus that got into the disciples and no longer were themselves. Again and again during those 40 days after the Resurrection and before the Ascension Jesus had instructed the disciples to go to the ends of the earth and preach, baptise, declare forgiveness and God's love for everyone. But on their own, they simply could not do a thing - they had to wait in Jerusalem for the Spirit of Jesus to come into them and drive them to it. The result was breathtaking to say the least. Jesus has given us all His Holy Spirit, but for most of us It is not really on fire! More like the pilot light of the gas fire, only a tiny fire that would not boil a cup of water. The Spirit becomes ablaze when we really desire It with all our hearts, regularly, daily in prayer,; yearning for the Spirit, asking for the Spirit, longing for the Spirit, crying out for the Spirit. Day in day out - our constant desire and yearning.

This is the New Heart that the Gospel speaks about, not just a transplant under anaesthetic - and the effects, like drink and drug, wear off. The shortest route is the Gospel route of Love. Lovers know the effects of being in love: a swelling of joy, longing, goodwill, giving and receiving, all flowing outwards to the world. It produces what Pope John Paul II called a Civilization of Love, with the culture of Life and Love, not a culture to Death. It is a Gift. Today we pray for the great Gift of the Holy Spirit. promised by Jesus Himself. God wants His Spirit to reign, not just in Jerusalem but over all the world.



ML.

Our Lady of Limerick Triduum

The Triduum to Our Lady of Limerick at St. Saviours Church ends this afternoon 24th with a festival after 1.00pm Mass . There will be a Bake Sale and all money raised will go towards the Frassati Youth Club. We hope to see you there!



Exam Prayer

St. Rita, Saint of the Impossible,
bring serenity to my mind and heart
while I take my exams.

Give me a quiet confidence in my gifts and talents.

Remind me of my dignity and preciousness
in a world where we compete in exams, for jobs,
for a place in life.

Anoint my memory with the power of recall.

Keep me calm on the day of my exams.

May my results be for enrichment of my life
and the education of my heart.

We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen



Mallow Home & Garden Festival

22th, 23th 24th May

Cork Racecourse Mallow

Open 11am-6pm Daily



Jimmy Buckley Dancing Night:

Join us for a night of dancing with Jimmy Buckley on
Saturday 30th May at 7:30pm

in Greenhills Hotel, Limerick V94 X2RV.

This fundraiser will go towards St Saviours Dominican
Church, Limerick, Restoration fund.

Contact 086 8161411 for more details.