



Mass Times

Monday -Friday

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

SATURDAY

8.30am, 10.15am
3.00pm

Mass for 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 Limerick

Child Safeguarding Representatives.

Fr. Flor O'Callaghan OSA
Fr. John Lyng OSA
Ms Geraldine van Dam
Mr. Robert Ryan
Ms Charlotte Gleeson
Mr. Tom Walsh

St. Augustine's Church Limerick

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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6th September 2026

A Pity about the Begrudgers

(If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone. (Matt. 18:15))

Daniel, we read, coming to the end of his hard life, had nothing to bequeath to his heirs except one large grudge. It was a grudge of which they, through how Daniel had formed them over the years, were already part-owners. They had been told again and again that somewhere in the fog of the past, a neighbour had come into possession of a nearby water-source that might have been theirs. A feckless forebear had ceded the perennial water for some passing pennies. The pennies passed quickly, the water remained and a grudge was born. Down through the generations it came, like a treasured heirloom, tightening its grip until it became a jail from which the prisoners didn't even want to escape.

The things emerging from grudges throughout history are countless, varied and uniformly bad: wars, murders, fires, maiming of man and beast and, most commonly, a brooding and malignant silence. The gospel counsel that the parties talk it out doesn't operate when they refuse to talk at all.

Obstruction for the sake of obstruction would be one of the milder expressions of the grudge—like the dog in the manger not able to feed on hay himself but unwilling to leave it to those who are. There was a period in the history of these parts of the world when it was thought honourable by the better classes to settle grudges and feuds by duel. The only thing that really settled after these was the clay on the coffin of the loser.

It's hard - I've tried - to find a better illustration of the malignancy of jealousy and grudge than Kushner's tale of the two tailors; the older, richer of the two consumed by jealousy because the other was making progress in a place where there was plenty work for both. An angel of the Lord came to the senior man to express God's approval of all the good he had done and offering to give him anything he asked. That pleased him. As a seeming afterthought the angel added that whatever he asked for, the man he saw as his upstart rival would be given twice as much. That shook him. The worm of jealousy had entered and was eating away at the good man, and the first thing eaten was reasonable thought. So his request was that he be made blind in one eye. In a way a silly and incredible story but illustrative of the self-harming effect of ill-will towards others. And the nursed grudge grows: the cuddly puppy brought in to please the children at Christmas may become the unmanageable pit-bull or rottweiler of the following year.

I suppose Kushner meant to suggest that grudges, slights real or imagined, and well-nursed memories of wrongs I've suffered are heavy things to carry. The weight of them can blind and cripple us.

Jesus suggests in today's gospel the tailor would have been better off, they'd both have been better off, to talk. **J.L**

Season of Creation

Each year, the Season of Creation Ecumenical Steering Committee proposes a theme for the Season of Creation. This year's theme, "**Living Water**", explores Ezekiel 47:9 and 12 as a powerful biblical vision of hope and ecological healing. Set amid exile and loss, the image of living water flowing from God's sanctuary reveals divine healing that renews land, water, biodiversity, and human responsibility towards the whole creation.



Creation is God's sacred gift, entrusted to our care. Christians are called to protect and nurture Creation working in partnership with others and passing this responsibility on to future generations. The essential element of water maintains the balance of earth, and if our waters are polluted and threatened, our earth's flourishing is compromised.

Pope Francis challenges us: "What is the goal of our work? What need does the Earth have of us? Leaving an inhabitable planet to future generations is up to

us" (Laudato Si', 160).

Churches engage globally in climate, agriculture, and biodiversity efforts, grounded in theology and a prophetic call for repentance and justice. Only through reconciliation with and genuine justice for all living beings will Creation find harmony and flourishing.

Source: resources from catholicbishops.ie /season-of-creation-2026/



Trees by Joyce Kilmer

Think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the earth's sweet
flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in Summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree.

Prayer

Lord when we are overwhelmed and anxious,
remind us of the presence of the Spirit in a quiet breeze,
and the way you went into quiet spaces to pray. Nature
has a healing power, where we can find space and be
restored. In this Season of Creation, may we be restored
as we contemplate in the beauty of our natural spaces.
May we share this restoration with other species as we are
invited to tend and rebuild as we go.

Source: resources from catholicbishops.ie /season-of-creation-2026/

Marantha Prayer Afternoon

You are invited to the Maranatha Prayer Afternoon
next Sunday 13th September at 2.30pm
at St. Michaels Church, Denmark Street, Limerick.
Guest speaker Fr. Thomas (Monks of Moyross),
with the sharing of God Word, Music &
followed by Mass at 4.30pm. All are welcome.

Alone

Would you be willing to provide some companionship to an older person in your local community?

ALONE is seeking volunteers in Limerick city and surrounding areas to visit or keep in touch with an older person locally. This could be as simple as calling in for a cup of tea and a chat, going for a walk, or making a friendly phone call — just giving someone the gift of your time and company.

You don't need any special qualifications or experience. ALONE provides full support, guidance and training to volunteers throughout their volunteering journey.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please apply through the ALONE website at www.alone.ie or for further information, please contact Caroline on 086 059 1399.

If you are over 60 and would like to learn more about the services ALONE can offer, please call 0818 222 024.