



God's Vineyard

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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

website: www.augustinianslimerick.com

email: info@augustinianslimerick.com

4th October 2026

The Land Lord, God

*(A landowner planted a vineyard, fenced it, built a watchtower, and leased it to tenants.
(Matt 21:34)*

In Old Ireland it was common for a young man to build up a farm with a view to supporting a wife. I lived for a time where it was more common that a man, young or not so young, would build a team of wives in order to support a farm. Land was plentiful. Labour was scarce and automation still in the future. The work was done by hand. The rainy/planting season was short. The area you could cultivate and plant depended on how many hands were available in your household. And what better way to build up a labour force than by marrying them? Simple and obvious.

In a sense I too, like Isak Dinesen, had a farm in Africa. In a cash-starved but generous place, while preaching God you'd keep a respectful eye on Mammon too. One option, personal polygamy, had to be ruled out but the crowd calling you Fada pointed to another. The parish council would mark out a tract of unclaimed land. The people of God, maybe hundreds of them, would pledge a few days a year to prepare, plant, weed, reap, thresh, store and guard what could be sold to help pay church expenses for the coming year. Defaulters were threatened with censure not found in Canon Law. Many parables of Jesus were acted out. In our case, a hundred and more men and women cultivated the land, driven on by drummers like a marching army. You could call it combined harvesting. As they toiled they looked forward with as much joyful hope to the beer-pots waitnig on the headlands as to the hundred-fold promised in the life to come. From the working, singing and drinking together came a sense of ownership and a fierce protectiveness. J.B. Keane's Field was not so jealously guarded nor John Healy's Nineteen Acres so carefully tended as our few acres at the foot of the Mukuta hills.

You could see there a trace of what impelled the tenants of today's gospel to such drastic action. Granted, in our parish farm no person died for threatening our bit of sorghum, beans and groundnuts but the monkeys were not so lucky. One had his enjoyment of fresh groundnuts, and everything else that was his, terminated by an unusually accurate arrow while many others were encouraged by machete, spear and flung rocks to go back to the hills to think again. And perhaps chatter into the night about the dangerous lunatics on the plain below

When Jesus made up stories to teach he didn't go in for understatement – "*he will bring those wretches to a wretched end!*" And the people he was addressing weren't landowners or tenants. They were *the chief priests and elders of the people*, the powerful religious and civic leaders of ancient Judea. They knew too that the servants Jesus spoke of were the prophets so badly treated by their predecessors. And, still closer to the bone, the manner in which the son was and would be treated when he came to claim his own.

As we hear Isaiah – "*Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard*" we might remember Paul telling the Corinthians, and us, *You are God's farm, God's building*, and a warning about the consequences of producing sour grapes. As for the building, the gospel recalls Psalm 118 to assert that it has only one keystone without which it would crumble in on itself. The same gospel leaves no doubt as to the One from whom the whole lot - position, land and all - is borrowed. The wretches seem to have had bad memories as well as bad manners.

J.L.



Season of Creation Cratloe Sunday Walk with Special Blessing for your Dog

To celebrate the last Sunday of Creation we invite you to join us on this Sunday's Walk. We will meet in the main Car Park in Cratloe Woods at **2.45pm on Sunday 4th October** (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi). Dogs are welcome.

We will have a short reflection by the lake and a special prayer of blessing for our doggie friends and all the creatures who inhabit the lake there. Afterwards, for those who wish to join us for a cuppa, there is limited space outside (for those who have dogs) and plenty inside for those who are not bringing their pets to have a social gathering to chat and enjoy the facilities of Bunratty village.

We give thanks to God for the Creation, for the gift of each other, the gift of our pets and all the beautiful nature that surrounds us. Please join us for this afternoon of appreciation of Creation and the Creator and enjoyable get together. All are welcome. The event is weather permitting.

Desert Day To Remember Our Dead

Saturday, November 7th 10.30 am - 4.45 pm

Facilitated by Phyllis Moynihan RSM and Bernadette Murphy



Limerick Diocesan Centre
St Muchin's, Corbally,
Limerick. V94 925C

Please bring your own packed
lunch. Tea/coffee/snacks
provided
Donation €20

Book your place by contacting
Phyllis at 087-9636893 or email: Moynihanphyllis525@gmail.com

HOLY HOUR
FOR

VOCATIONS

PRESTHOOD - MARRIAGE - RELIGIOUS LIFE



ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL
LIMERICK

6:30 - 7:30pm

-2026-

21 October

18 November

16 December

vocations@limerickdiocese.org



GLENSTAL ABBEY
OCTOBER 31st

**DYING
TO LIVE:
A BENEDICTINE
PERSPECTIVE**

What matters most?
What keeps us from becoming fully alive?
What does it actually mean to live well?

Saint Benedict offered a surprising tool for finding peace, purpose, and profound joy:

"Keep death daily before your eyes."

This is not a retreat about gloom or fear. It is a day dedicated to the art of truly living. By gently confronting our limitations, we learn to strip away superficial anxieties, silence the ego, and discover what genuinely matters.

Through Benedictine wisdom, quiet reflection, and community fellowship, you will learn to trade daily distractions for eternal priorities.

31st October 2026
Saturday, 9am - 4.30pm
Email: events@glenstal.com
€90 (Lunch included)

GLENSTAL ABBEY, MURROE, CO. LIMERICK V94 TK61

Northstar Family Support Project's

Annual Service
of
**Commemoration
and Hope**

AUGUSTINIAN CHURCH
THURSDAY

**8TH OCTOBER 2026
6PM**

Refreshments & Finger Food
afterwards at
Northstar Family Support Project,
28 John Street - V94 K5N5



NORTHSTAR
Family Support Project

Remembering those lost to substance use
Supporting Families left behind

For more information
Call 061 459260



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