



The Lord
is my
Shepherd

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 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

website: www.augustinianslimerick.com
email: info@augustinianslimerick.com

11th October 2026

Wedding Woes

*The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast
for his son's wedding." Matt 22.*

A priest I know was there to rehearse the next day's wedding. As he waited for the leading actors the florist got on with her job. She was assisted, or otherwise, by the mother of the bride. The long-serving local parish priest, in the slowing-down phase of his ministry, ambled in to chat. They talked about this and that and weddings. It was all amiable until the P.P. mildly remarked "I'd rather a funeral." There was no ill-will there, but ill judgement there was. He was thinking only of the amount of work and uncertainty imposed on him in preparing for the respective ceremonies. But his words detonated the lady and her explosive reaction shook him badly. She attributed to him the wish that her dear daughter be dead rather than wed. Then she moved on to a critique of his fifteen years in the parish, enumerating crimes he'd never thought of even in his most rigorous examinations of conscience. He had said the wrong thing, particularly to a lady high on the drug of her daughter's wedding, the most important event in the history of the world. Still, I think I know where he was coming from. He was veteran of more weddings than he could remember and survivor of a few that didn't give him much pleasure. With funerals much of the heavy lifting, re. times and punctuality and paperwork, is done by the undertaker and it's all done in days. Furthermore, while there are many conditions demanded for your church wedding, the funeral doesn't ask for much more than that you be dead. Preparing for a wedding may be more fluid. Getting the couple to focus on the conditions laid down by state and church enliven or blight the previous months. Many may be the appointments and disappointments involved. That done, we move on to the Day. It will surely be long and probably loud. The priest must not be late though others may. He can't be cross if the church is turned into a rowdy school-outing while the wait for the bride drags on. He can't be put off his game by the witticisms of pals lobbed at the nervous groom as he makes his more or less solemn vows. Though professional photographers are respectful of the ceremony, amateurs often disregard the offside law. He plods through his homily determined not to let it die for lack of the oxygen of interest. Then the outside photographs; hours of intense activity to which there is nothing or no-one so irrelevant as himself. But he can't stand down because he has to say Grace at whatever hour the celebrants and guests reconvene from bars, bedrooms, bookies offices or God knows where. Then to the meal where he may be seated beside someone lubricated well past the upper level on the dipstick. Or, worse, maybe with his own liquor sloshing near the same mark.

Jesus, like the above-mentioned lady, gave great importance to weddings. Characterisation of the relationship between God and his people as a good marriage is strewn all over the books of the Bible. All about love, life and the survival of the people into the future. Jesus has a story today of an eventful wedding. The first invitees sent their excuses. The father of the groom took that badly: executed them, no less, and torched their town! Among the second batch there was one not properly dressed. He paid dearly too, handcuffed and shackled and thrown out into the dark. The roughest of stuff. A tall tale, of course, but telling a truth. The chief priests and leaders Jesus was addressing might think again about the invitation Jesus represented and how they and their predecessors, responded to it. The invitation still stands. The RSVP asks for an answer.

J.L.



Confirmation Club at St. Saviour's

Join us for Confirmation Club at St Saviour's Dominican Church! Confirmation Club takes place every second Sunday from 5-7pm and is open to 5th and 6th class pupils who are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Our next meeting will be on Sunday 18th October. For more information and to register, please visit <https://stsaviourslimerick.ie/blog/confirmation-club/>

Thought for the Day

In the parables of Jesus, wedding feasts are mentioned from time to time. The original parable may have ended with the words invite everyone you can find to the wedding. The detail of the troops—highly unlikely as an actual part of a wedding invitation(!)—realistically portrays the later destruction of Jerusalem, which Christians looked back upon as punishment precisely for that rejection. The end is difficult for us today on a spiritual level. However, it is meant to provoke conversion in a possibly complacent church.

Prayer

Lord, we know that you love us and invite us to the wedding feast of the Lamb. Help us to respond to your love that we may be followers of your Son not only in name but also in fact.

Source: www.tarsus.ie Sunday readings

Irish National Synodal Assembly

"The *Working Document* for the Irish National Synodal Assembly, taking place in Gormanston, Co Meath, on 17 October, brings together the fruits of five years of prayer, listening and discernment and will guide delegates as they consider and vote on suggested actions to be presented to the bishops of Ireland. While the Assembly marks an important moment in the journey, the Synodal Pathway is now moving towards a new phase of implementation. Everyone is invited to read, pray with, and reflect on the *Working Document* and the question: "What does God want from the Church in Ireland at this time?" Please pray for all those taking part in the Assembly and for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. You will find a copy on the document on the Synod website: www.synod.ie

Do you feel -- Called to Ministry?

Would you like to play an active role in your parish/pastoral unit team?

Limerick Diocese are recruiting now for our Lay Pastoral Ministry and Leadership Formation Programme November 2026—May 2029

I am interested, what do I need to do?

- Speak to your local Priest and Moderator to seek their support and endorsement.
- Attend an information session on 21st of October, Limerick Diocesan Centre (V94 925C), 7.30 pm.
- Complete an online application form at: [Diocese of Limerick Lay Pastoral Ministry Programme – Fill out form](#)

Reception of Holy Communion

In view of the various infections now circulating in the community and the hospitals, and out of care for the most vulnerable members of our congregation, the Augustinians wish to make known our preference for administering holy communion on the hand.



The Irish Red Cross will hold their annual **church- gate** collection this Sunday after all Masses at St. Augustine's Church.

Grow Mental Health

Grow Mental Health- Friendly Community based peer support groups for anyone experiencing mental health issues with connection, hope and identity by empowering people to nurture their positive wellbeing by supporting personal growth. Contact Celia 086-1526966/ Sarah 086-1037856