



St. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH LIMERICK

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time 21st August 2016

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Mass Times

Monday –Friday
7.30 am, 8.30am,
10.15am & 4.00pm

Saturday
8.30am, 10.15am
3.00pm
(Mass for the Sick)

Sunday
9.00am, 11.15am,
Evening Mass
7.30pm

Confession

Monday, Wednesday
& Friday
10.45 am – 12.00
3.00pm – 4.00pm
Saturday
10.45 am – 12.00
2.30pm – 4.00pm

Triduum St. Monica & St. Augustine

26th – 28th August
Friday 26th
Masses at
10.15am & 4pm

Feast of St. Monica
Saturday 27th
Masses : 10.15am & 3pm

Feast of St. Augustine
Sunday 28th
Mass at 11.15am

Taize

Beginning here in St.
Augustine's
in September
Join the peace, quiet,
prayer, and chants of
this Taize evening.

MOTHER AND SON

Next Friday 26th we begin the Triduum to St. Monica and St. Augustine (mother and son) which are big days in the Augustinian calendar. With them we return to the roots of the Augustinian family, a global community of ordained priests, brothers, sisters and lay friends. We explore the key elements of our tradition and spirituality which speak to the current needs and hungers of a restless fragmented world. The special relationship between a unique mother and son has many resonances for our own time.

So many times during the Olympic Games the cameras moved from the ecstatic faces of winning competitors to the pride and joy in the faces of mothers in the Stadium. Some expressed regret, some share their moments of glory. Fathers have a different kind of relationship with a son or daughter. Like all mothers and sons the bond between St. Monica and St. Augustine ran deep.

As Augustinians we owe a lot to the woman who moulded, shaped and formed the heart of her son. When he wandered off course she never gave up on him, believing that "the son of her tears" would not be lost. Under the influence of his pagan father Patricius, the young Augustine drifted away from the strong Christian faith which had been transmitted to him by Monica. His restless searching mind and intellectual curiosity lead him into all sorts of cults, sects and spiritual cul-de-sacs. During his adolescent years his behaviour became intolerable and he was barred from the family home at one stage. A mother's love for the black sheep pursued him to the city of Carthage, to Rome and finally to Milan where the prodigal son came to his senses and the process of his conversion began under the influence and guidance of St. Ambrose. The world and ourselves are deeply indebted to St. Monica. She gave us her son, as "spiritual father" and friend to all of us.

After his conversion he formed a community of friends modelled on the experience of the first Christians. With them he made the journey inwards to God. As a busy priest and bishop he held on to the monastic ideal. In his writings and letters, his passion for people and their problems is displayed.

In the life of St. Augustine and St. Monica we could be reading the story of contemporary Ireland. Worried mothers, parents and grandparents struggling to keep the door open to a prodigal son or daughter. The drift away from faith and church upsets the older generation. Stories of conversion from Christian youth festivals in Knock, Roscrea, and Poland give them hope. As Augustinians we are called to minister to all these hopes and worries, to offer friendship and community to the restless searching hearts of today. Let us form a new community of friends, with Augustine and Monica, with one another and with the unrecognized hunger for God around us.

L. Ryan

Thought for Today

For a long time, Western Christianity was marked by a deep pessimism. Most were surely going to hell! In sum, we seem to have moved from clarity and pessimism to agnosticism and optimism. A necessary rebalancing, of course, but with the attendant risk of complacency, convinced as we are, and ought to be, of God's boundless mercy, love and compassion. These gifts, on the other hand, should not trigger a kind of lazy confidence but should invite even greater engagement, commitment and costly discipleship. God desires the whole person, all that I am.

Prayer:

God of costly love, help us to take up the path of discipleship and respond to your Son's call by giving our whole selves to you and the Gospel. Amen.

www.tarsus.ie

**MARANATHA
Prayer Ministry**
You are invited to a
healing retreat with
Mr Sebastian Sales
(Lay Missionary)
Sehion U.K. &
Fr. Ger Fitzgerald Ennis
Mass confession, and
Worship
This Sunday 21st
August at 2.30pm
in **St. Paul's Church**
Dooradoyle

National Heritage Week
national
heritage
week
20-28 August 2016
Pick up an Event Guide
in the Tourist Office



'Strange Occurrences in a small Irish Village'

"Strange Occurrences in a small Irish Village" is a captivating documentary about Religion, and will be launched in Cinema's across the Country on Friday 26th August 2016. Directed by Aoife Kelleher, The film presents a balanced opportunity for believers to celebrate the phenomenon and those who facilitate its ongoing success, while for sceptics it allows a fascinating glance into the thriving world, and business, of Ireland's Marian Shrine.



Director Aoife Kelleher commented, "It's a documentary about religion rather than a religious documentary. At the very heart of Knock is this story about an apparition, but in making the documentary we wanted to look at the apparition in its social context and its historical context." www.iftn.ie

New Abbot in Glenstal Abbey

The Benedictine monks of Glenstal Abbey recently elected a new Abbot who will lead the Co. Limerick community for the next eight years.

46year-old Fr. Brendan Coffey is the sixth Abbot of the monastic community and he succeeds Abbot Mark Patrick Hederman, who held the office from 2008.

Fr. Joseph Coffey was born in Ennis Co. Clare and after studies in Maynooth and Rome he was ordained a priest of the diocese of Killaloe in 1995.

After ordination, he pursued postgraduate studies in cannon law at the Gregorian University in Rome, after which he was appointed curate in the parish of Kilrush.

He entered Glenstal in 1998, taking the name Brendan. He professed simple vows in 1999 and made his solemn profession in 2002. After some years working in the Abbey school as housemaster and teacher of classics Fr. Brendan spent two years in Padua in Italy doing postgraduate studies in liturgy.

On his return to Glenstal, he served as prior of the monastery form 2007-2015. Abbot Coffey takes office immediately and the formal abbatial blessing will take place at a future date after the current renovation works at the abbey church have been completed.

Excerpt taken from catholicirelandnews

Sacred Space Radio 102fm

Sacred Space is a weekly programme on West Limerick 102fm. It includes inspirational music, chat, interviews, what's on locally and not so locally and a reflection on the gospel reading of the day. It is presented by John Keily, regular panellists, contributors and invited guests.

It is broadcast every **Sunday morning from 10am to 11am** on West Limerick 102fm and repeated on Sunday nights between 11pm - 12 mid-night.
Tune in to sacredspace102blogspot.ie



Abbot Brendan Coffey

**Ministers this
Sunday 9.00am :**
Ms Marguerite Coady,
Mr. Dale Harrow .
Eucharistic Minister
Mr. Seamus Maloney.
Mass at 11.15am
Ms Barbara Dillon,
Ms Patricia Cahill
Psalm
Mr. Milo Hurley
Eucharistic Ministers:
Ms G. Fitzgerald,
Mr. G Williams
Ms Anne Williams.
Mass at 7.30pm
Readers
Louise Hennessy
Luke Mc Mahon