



# St. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH LIMERICK

## 7th Sunday of Ordinary Time 19th February 2017

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## Ministry of Public Prayer Lay Led Liturgy

**One** of the requests of the **Synod** - and now a goal of our Diocesan Pastoral Plan; is that every parish have some lay people able to lead public prayer when needed. Here is a reflection on this new ministry that we are preparing for this Spring.

A parish church isn't just a building. It holds so many memories, of significant days and unspoken moments - John O'Donohue calls it 'the gathered memory' of a community. A parish isn't just a geography. It's a place we come from and chose to belong to. Donal Harrington says that 'parish means everybody belongs'. So gathering to pray in our parish church is not just a matter of convenience - this is a community who knows one another and is called to be Christ's hands and feet in this place. In Ireland, when we gathered for public prayer in the last 50 years' we have almost exclusively celebrated Mass. This was a great blessing but it has let us not-so-confident about other types of liturgy. So when it is not possible for a priest to lead public liturgy, we sometimes find ourselves nervous and unsure. Fortunately there are clear, positive resources to help us to prepare and lead liturgical celebrations locally. Some parishes are already doing this, and soon we will all have the experience.

This spring we will be offering formation over three Saturdays in March, April and May; for a number of people from every parish. This should ensure that every parish has a team capable of leading local public prayer as needed. In April there will be an opportunity for every parish to celebrate a liturgy led by a local commissioned lay leader, on behalf of the whole parish.

The lay person(s) who prepares to lead liturgy in parishes in Limerick diocese will be called into a '**Ministry of Public Prayer**'. This term is deliberately broad and allows each parish to decide their own needs and plans. For instance one parish might like to have a weekday Liturgy of the Word occasionally. Another parish might have daily Mass but want lay people to lead prayers in the local nursing home. Yet another may need leadership for a Sunday Communion service when a priest is not available to celebrate Sunday Mass.



We will keep you informed of formation, celebration and resources over the next few months via this newsletter. Diocesan Newsletter /[www.limerickdiocese.org](http://www.limerickdiocese.org)

### 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

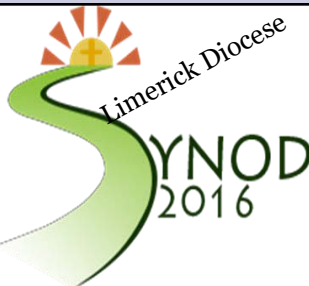
10.45 am–12.00  
3.00pm– 4.00pm

Saturday

10.45 am –12.00  
2.30pm –4.00pm

### Taize

Continues every  
Thursday at 5pm



## Memorial Mass

The Augustinian Church will host a special Mass today Sunday 19th Feb. at 11.15am in support of all members of the community who have been touched in any way by the tragedy of suicide.





## Send out Love

‘If you send out goodness from yourself, or if you share that which is happy or good within you, it will all come back to you multiplied ten thousand times.

In the kingdom of love there is no competition; there is no possessiveness or control. The more love you give away, the more love you will have.”

– **John O’Donohue,**

Anam Cara:  
A Book of  
Celtic Wisdom



There will be a Pro-Life meeting at the Pery Hotel Glentworth St. today Sunday 19th at 3.30pm All welcome.

## Fairtrade



The launch of the Limerick Fairtrade Fortnight takes place here in St. Augustine’s Monday 27th Feb.

There will be an informative display at the back of the church and also a free raffle for a Fairtrade Hamper.

## Thought for Today

Today’s gospel continues the challenge from last week to go deeper into the heart, the seat of hidden thoughts and desires. The call to conversion is a call to give just as we have received: we are loved and so should love; we are forgiven and so should forgive; we are consoled and so should console and so forth. Why is that? Because the love etc. that we have received becomes truly “me” only when I pass it on. Only then have I experienced the message of the prophet: *I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.* (Ezek 36:26)

### Prayer

O God, open our ears to hear the word of Jesus, your Son. Open our hearts, that we may know true conversion from within. Open our hands that we may give just as we have received.

## Salesian Workshop: 'Be the Change'

A transformative educational workshop that explores the role people can play in creating a healthier future for us all. Presenters : Salesian Cosmology Team- Weaving indigenous wisdom and modern knowledge for a thriving, just, and sustainable world. The date is Saturday, March 4th / venue is the Don Bosco Centre, Milford, Limerick.

Schedule : Arrival, registration & coffee/tea –10.30am –Closing time 4.00pm

Cost: €10 Inclusive of lunch.

It is essential to register for this workshop for catering purposes particularly. If you wish to participate please contact: Betty 087 2995004 (Limerick) Bríd 087 417 6728 (Dublin) On or before February 24th 2017.

## Youth Prayer Meeting

Youth 2000 is an international movement of young people to spread the good news of the Gospel. Youth leading youth to the heart of the church. This gathering of young people together in prayer has spread to more than 25 countries all over the world. It is a spiritual initiative established to draw young people through Mary to a deep and lasting union with Jesus Christ, especially in the Eucharist, the “source and summit of the Christian life.”

Here in Limerick every Wednesday night at 8.15pm in the Dominican Church (side door) there is a youth 2000 prayer meeting. Any young people from 16 -35 yrs are most welcome. It will begin with the rosary, hymns , Lectio Divina on the Sunday Gospel followed by 15 min of Adoration. If you would like to meet new friends come along and meet the best friend of all!

Enquiries contact Donal 086 8144783



## Out & About in Limerick

- Join the wonderful Roz Purcell on Sunday 19th February at 1pm in the award winning Limerick Strand Hotel for an Afternoon Tea and Cooking Demo.
- In the University Concert Hall **Nights On Broadway** present a tribute to the Bee Gees through a fantastic live concert, this Sunday 19th at 8pm. €25
- Dancing to Mike Denver on Sunday 19th February from 8.30pm in Adare Woodlands House Hotel
- Limerick Choral Festival begins 3rd March –5th with the opening concert in St. Joseph’s Church given by the Curraghgower Singers & Ensemble at 8pm.
- The Limerick Literary Festival in honour of Kate O’Brien will take place from the 23rd –26th of February . Official opening Friday 24th at 6pm Limk City Gallery Pery Square by journalist Olivia O’Leary. Event guide –Tourist Office
- **Eight week** mindfulness based stress reduction programme beginning Tues 24th Feb from 7pm-9.30pm at the Education Centre , Milford Care Centre, Casteltroy. Cost €350 Contact: **085 8108633 /Email anebuckley08@gmail.com**