



St. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH LIMERICK PENTECOST SUNDAY 15th May 2016

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

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The Spirit of God gives Life to the Church

To-day's First Reading from the Acts of the Apostles transports us into an extraordinary atmosphere. There is a roar of wind from the sky filling the house where the first Christians were assembled. There are tongues of fire, there was amazement as they spoke in many languages. This is an unheard-of experience, an event that goes well beyond ordinary everyday life. Dramatic, to put it mildly.

As the accounts of those early days in the life of the new believers in Christ unfold (the Acts of the Apostles) we see an unending stream of events happening, all the result of that dramatic divine intervention on that Pentecost Day in Jerusalem, the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles.



One simple, yet vital result was that believers from then onwards referred all the time to Jesus as Lord, Master, King, of the whole world, Lord of their very lives. How could they 'feel' like this? The only explanation is that 'Something' got into them, they became a new people, and they were the Church. And that 'Something' is so simple and so subtle: it is just like the all important element of breathing – rarely are we even aware of that fundamental activity that keeps us alive! Such is the fundamental activity of God's Spirit in the Church, in Christians daily living their faith in countless ways, activities, relationships, and thoughts. The Spirit, the Gift, the Advocate promised by Jesus is what makes Church – The Church brought into existence by the Spirit of Jesus.

Progressively the Spirit leads us, the Church, into the Truth – and this is such an ongoing exercise as we frail and fallible human beings encounter new challenges and complex situations day after day. The Spirit of Discernment is with us. We are being led, step by step - perhaps far too fast for some of us, far too slowly for others! A great, yet a simple example: how we Christians say daily "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us". This is the heart, the daily unfolding practice of us all as individuals and Church and the power to have a forging mentality is a gift from the Spirit of Pentecost, the Spirit of the Risen One. The Holy Spirit, the Mystery of Mysteries: Come Holy Spirit, come. make within our hearts your home: breathe your life into us all.

M. L. OSA

ADAPT

Church Gate Collection

Adapt Domestic Abuse Services will hold a church gate collection in Limerick City next Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd May. This collection is a vital source of funding to enable Adapt to maintain the level of service for women and children and your support would be greatly appreciated. Adapt is based in Limerick and offers a 24hr Safe Refuge and 24hr Freephone Helpline

**MARANATHA
Prayer Ministry**

You are invited to a healing retreat with Fr. Thady Doyle (Wicklow) Author of Curate's Diary

**This Sunday
15th May
at 2.30pm
in St. Paul's Church
Dooradoyle**

Exam Prayer

St Rita Saint
of the impossible
Bring serenity to my mind
and heart.
While I take my exams.
Give me a quiet confidence
in my
gifts and talents.
Remind me of my dignity
and preciousness
In a world where we
compete in exams,
for jobs, for a place in life.
Anoint my memory with
the power of recall.
Keep me calm on the day
of my exams.
May my results be for
enrichment of my life
And the education
of my heart.
We ask this prayer through
Christ our Lord.
Amen
Liam Ryan OSA

Alzheimer Coffee Day

To all those who supported our Coffee Day on Thursday 5th May We would like to thank you so much for your fantastic contribution which amounted to €1,100.50



'Open your Hearts to the Holy Spirit'

The Holy Spirit seems to be a "luxury prisoner" in many Christians' hearts: someone who is welcomed to stay, but not allowed to act or move us forward, the Pope said during his homily at Mass on Monday 9TH May 2016.

In the day's reading, when St. Paul speaks with the disciples in Ephesus (Acts 19: 1-8), Pope Francis pointed out that they had "not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Likewise, while Christians today have a knowledge of the Holy Spirit as part of the Holy Trinity, they do not know what the Spirit's role is in the Church.

"The Holy Spirit is the one who moves the Church, the one who works in the Church and in our hearts," the Roman Pontiff said. The Third Person of the Trinity is "the protagonist of the Living Church," he said, while cautioning against simply reducing the Christian life to a code of "morals and ethics." The faith, the Pope said, is something more. It "is not just an ethical life: it is an encounter with Jesus Christ." The Holy Spirit "frees us from the 'orphan-like' condition which the spirit of the world wants to put us in."

"The Holy Spirit is the one who "moves us to praise God, to pray to the Lord" and who "teaches us to see the Father and call him 'Father.'" There is one thing the Holy Spirit "can't do" the Pope said: "The Holy Spirit cannot make us 'virtual' Christians who are not virtuous." Instead, "The Holy Spirit makes real Christians. The Spirit takes life and prophetically reads the signs of the times pushing us forward."

Ahead of **Pentecost Sunday the Holy Father invited Christians to prepare by opening up our hearts to the Holy Spirit.**
"This is what we must do this week: think of the Spirit and talk to him."
C.N.A. www.catholicnewsagency.com

Augustinians Capturing the Spirit

Augustinians take our cues from Saint Augustine of Hippo, the 5th century bishop in North Africa and Father of the Church. What was essential to Augustine when he gathered the first members of his community was capturing the **spirit of the first Christians found in the Acts of the Apostles:** a community that came together and shared all things in common, all the while ministering to God's People.

Our common life is built on mutual acceptance and respect, kindness and concern, as well as a willingness to listen to others and to open oneself to them.



ST. RITA OF CASCIA



Triduum to St. Rita

Begins Friday 20th- Saturday 21st

Feast Day Monday 23rd

With the Blessing of the Roses

Triduum Mass at 10.15am

