



# St. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH LIMERICK ASCENSION SUNDAY 8th May 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

## Simon Community

A Musical Evening of  
3 in support of the  
Mid West Simon  
Community.

Redemptorist Church  
Thursday 19th May  
8.00pm.

Contact: 061 608980  
Tickets €10



## Queen of the May Concert

St. Joseph's Church  
Thursday May 12th  
Fundraiser for  
St. Joseph's Church  
Restoration Fund  
& Alzheimer's Society  
(Limk Branch)

at 8.00pm  
Tickets €10

## Notes from the Jungle

“The Jungle” is the migrant camp in Calais. These are the words of 3 volunteers who took a week of their holiday entitlement from work to help out in one of the charity organisations there in early April this year. None of them has any formal religion or attends any church.

“Care4Calais was established by a certain Clare Moseley who had read an online article about the Jungle and decided to personally deliver some donations. That was August 2015 and she's still there. The camp is **not** supported by the UN or any of the larger NGOs so it exists on the charity and help offered by such donors and volunteers – mostly from France, Germany, England and Ireland.

The Jungle has existed on UK's doorstep since 1999. The population was in excess of 4,500 (mostly from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan – but also other war-torn countries like Sudan and Eritrea). A large part of the camp has recently been demolished and 3,000 of its inhabitants evicted. The number is expected to rise again as the weather improves.

**Who lives there?** Some women and children but mostly young men – probably because they are thought to have the best chance of completing the journey.

**Their shelters?** Constructed from pallets and canvas – little by way of sanitation and running water.

**Why don't they claim asylum in France?** Because many already have English and feel further daunted by the challenge to learn another language. Some also have relatives and friends already in UK. Apart from the danger of rubber bullets and tear gas from French police, there were 25 documented deaths in 2015 of people being hit by trucks and trains, beaten by lorry drivers or drowning while swimming out to ferries.

**What did we do?** Help sort the many car-loads of clothing and other essentials which arrive every day at Care4Calais depot. We went to the camp to distribute food and clothes, gave some English lessons and helped some of the refugees to improve their make-shift shelters.

**What did it do for us?** We left reluctantly and with mixed feelings. Camp conditions have improved, thanks to organisations like Care4Calais. The daily car and van arrivals with donations mean that people are concerned for these migrants' lives and well-being. There is also some joy in the camp itself. A huge game of football was being organised the day we left. But there is also something entirely unjust, that by a pure accident of birth, we can board a train back home while thousands, who have endured unimaginable suffering before and during their long, perilous migration, must survive in unsanitary camps in countries they hoped would come to their assistance.

Editor's note: As people of faith, we might thank God for so many generous young people and pray for each migrant family and individual.... (Patricia Cahill)

## Opening a Door on the Bible



Final workshop in the present series will take place on Saturday May 14th 10.00am—12.30am At the Dominican Hall  
Theme:  
Meeting Jesus on the Road to Emmaus  
Guided by  
Fr. Kieran O'Mahony  
OSA.  
Contact 061 412333

### MARANATHA Prayer Ministry

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

On Sunday 15th May at 2.30pm in St. Paul's Church Dooradyle

### Ennis Gospel Music Festival

Choirs from all over Ireland and beyond will be performing in venues throughout the Clare capital.  
From 13th — 15th May  
Details  
[www.gospelrising.com](http://www.gospelrising.com)

### Choir Workshop

#### Sing to the Lord with Joy

A workshop for parish choirs with Tom Kenzia will take place on Tuesday May 10th from 7.00-9.00pm in the Holy Trinity Church Adare.  
Limerick Diocese  
Booking is advisable  
Call 061 400133

## Reflection on Sunday's Readings

### We prepare ...

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Ascension. This marks the final part of Jesus ministry here on earth, and the beginning of a new time - a time of the Spirit.

In the old Testament we see that the Spirit of God is given to particular people (like Samson), for a particular purpose at a particular time. In Jesus, people encountered the Spirit of God incarnated in humanity. Now Gods generosity was to explode and Gods Spirit was to be poured out on all people who accepted it! However, there needed to be some preparation before that. Jesus offered the apostles a clear challenge to go out to the whole world, but first they would return to the upper room to ponder and pray about the way ahead.

As a diocese we have been involved in amazing times these past weeks. Our diocesan synod was a real experience of Gods people discerning the voice of God for us, at this particular time and place. This Easter Season has become a true time of reflecting and learning what this encounter means for our lives. While we may be tempted to rush into action, and to respond to the clear challenge to 'go out' ... we too need to take some time in prayer and discernment, in order to be ready for the next steps.

Let us take time re-reading and remembering Synod2016, in order to learn how we are being called. Let us share the stories, listening for how we personally have been blessed, challenged and inspired. Before action, let us acknowledge the call and await the Spirit.  
[www.limerickdiocese.org](http://www.limerickdiocese.org) newsletter

## Synod Moving On

### An armchair conversation -

How does the Synod impact on our Parish Pastoral Council?

Tuesday May 17th 2016 from 7:30—9.00pm

Venue Pastoral Centre Denmark St. Limerick

An open invitation to all officers of Parish Pastoral Councils (Chairpersons, secretaries and presiders), to come and learn:

- What has happened in our synod process and why it is of relevance to the work of Parish Pastoral Councils.
- How this process and other changes might affect our planning for the year ahead as a parish pastoral council
- What resources are now available to parish pastoral councils to support their work

**This is not a formal workshop**, but is a response to those who were not delegates and who want some insight into how the Synod might inspire or affect local plans for Autumn/Winter 2016.

It would be very helpful to know numbers attending - please email [NLynch@ldpc.ie](mailto:NLynch@ldpc.ie) or call 061400133 to book a place.



## Formation Evening for Eucharistic Ministers

Those who have been called by their parish/church to become Eucharistic Ministers are invited to participate in a formation evening on Tuesday **May 24th** from 7.30pm– 9.30pm at the Limerick Pastoral Centre, Denmark St . Current Eucharistic Ministers are also welcome. Parishes are then expected to complete this training locally, so that local practise is clear and understandable for all new Ministers of the Eucharist.

Places must be booked by a parish in advance. Please call the Pastoral Centre on 061 400133 with your name, the name of the parish/church you have been invited to serve in and your contact number. Many thanks.  
Diocesan newsletter

