



#### 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**  
St. Augustine's  
Church  
every Thursday  
5.00pm-6.00pm  
Come & join us.



#### Mother of Good Counsel

St. Augustine's  
Church  
Perpetual Novena to  
Our Mother of Good  
Counsel  
Every Tuesday  
At 10.15am



# St. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH

## LIMERICK

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
11th September 2016

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## Passing on God's Tenderness and Mercy

**By Catherine Doherty**

If only we understood just a little how merciful and tender God is, our life would be changed, and fear would eliminate itself from our lives, the fear that eats us up like a sort of a cancer. Only yesterday someone said to me, “I am so depressed, so afraid.” What can you say to people who are so afraid? True, there are all kinds of antidepressants and chemicals that may be taken, but they don’t chase the fears away. We have so many fears. Healing comes from love; and fears can be dissolved by love.

**It is good to have the ‘gift of healing’, but the family can heal, the parish can heal, the community can heal. Father, mother, children can heal each other. Healing comes from love; and fear, that type of fear, can be dissolved by love. And the community, family, parish, a religious community, each has the power of healing one another, provided they love one another.**

But if I put between me and you a curtain of any kind, then I can't heal, because I can't love. You don't love when you separate people from one another, and so the tenderness and healing love of God cannot pass through your heart and reveal itself through you to someone else. If I put up a guard against anyone in my soul, then how in heaven's name can the tenderness, the mercy, the forgiveness and even the joy of the Lord go through me to someone else? And how can it touch me also, whilst I am giving it to someone else? This is so vastly important.

We can't love humanity as a whole. It's very easy for me to sit here and 'love' people in other countries or cities; I don't know them. But it is quite another story to love a person right in front of you. Really love; I don't mean just say, "I love you. I love you. I love you." No. Show it! Show it as God shows it—in mercy, in tenderness, in trusting one another.

The mercy, the compassion, the gentleness, the forgiveness of Christ—these are all around about us. So isn't it natural, as well as supernatural, that we turn around and act likewise with our brother and sister? We need to show mercy, tenderness, trust—as God shows them to us. One doesn't have to talk too much about it; one has to pray a lot about it.

I pray constantly, unceasingly, asking God for one thing: that Christians may love one another and spill that love over non-Christians. That's all that I want God to grant us—as I am sure he wants to do. But in order to receive his graces we have to cooperate. He made us free, totally free to accept and reject his graces. His gifts may not be visible to our earthly eyes, but they can be seen by the eyes of our heart. Stretch out your hands and take whatever you wish. They are yours for the taking: his mercy, his gentleness, his forgiveness, all of it. Just stretch out your hands.

*Excerpt taken—from a talk given at Madonna House July 29, 1977*

## St. Nicholas Church

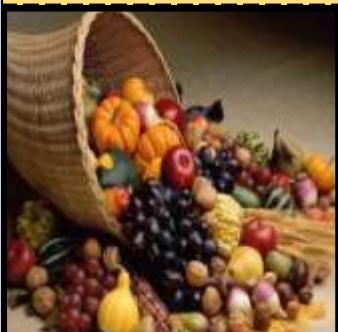
Westbury  
Corbally  
Parish Mission  
Mon 26th-Frid 30th  
September  
Mass each evening at  
Mon-Fri at 7.30pm.  
**Given by St. Patrick's**  
Community  
First evening John  
Pridmore will share his  
amazing story  
**'From Gangland to  
Promise Land'.**  
Not to be missed!

## Blood Donor Clinic

There will be a Blood  
Donor Clinic in St. Johns  
Pavilion, Mulgrave St.,  
On Wednesday 14th Sept  
From 5pm-8pm



Harvest Sunday  
25th Sept  
Thanksgiving Mass  
at 11.15am



MARANATHA  
Prayer Ministry  
You are invited to a  
healing retreat with  
Fr. Ger Fitzgerald Ennis  
& Janice & Moss Carrig  
Newcastlewest  
Mass confession,  
and Worship  
Sunday 18th Sept  
at 2.30pm  
**in St. Paul's Church**  
Dooradoyle

## Thought for Today

Happiness in believing is possibly out of fashion and even out of sync with the times. And yet, engagement with the Good News should surely lead to a profound happiness, even exuberance. Just because we don't feel it all the time doesn't mean it isn't real! The joy of the Gospel is part of who we are.

Prayer:

As we place our trust in you, as we are loved by you and love you in return, unlock our hearts that we may know true and lasting joy in believing.  
[www.tarsus.ie](http://www.tarsus.ie)

## Taize takes off to a Flying Start

Our Taize Prayer service was well attended last Thursday evening. It was a wonderful opportunity to experience the Taize style of worship. The Adoration Chapel was warmly lit with many candles which helped to create a prayerful atmosphere.

The silence was broken only by intermittent chants and prayers. While some sat with cushions on the floor, others sat on prayer stools. Many were slow to leave as they wished to remain a little longer in the contemplative silence. Our service continues every Thursday from 5pm –6pm feel free to come and join us!

## Diocesan Events for Cultural Night 16th Sept



**St John's Cathedral:** Historic tours of the cathedral from 6.30pm followed by a 'Concert of Organ Favourites' by cathedral organist Bernadette Kiely in association with Limerick Pipe Organ Festival.

**St Mary's, Athlunkard Street:** At 7pm church decorator and artist Randall Hodkinson speaks to the work of J. Hodkinson & Sons. The firm, which is carried on in Limerick by Randall, has decorated churches in Limerick, throughout Ireland and also in England and Scotland, for over one hundred and fifty years.

**St Michael's, Denmark Street:** Exhibition and guided tours from 4pm of the renovated St Michael's Church with a presentation on the relics of St John Paul II, St Faustina and the new altar cross. Followed at 8.30pm-9.00pm by a concert of sacred music by Cantate Deo Choir performing both Polish and English hymns.

**St Saviour's, Dominican Church:** Join the recently arrived Dominican Sisters for a glimpse into their spiritual life, 7-8pm. They will be speaking about chant, devotion to Our Lady, and invite you to join in their night prayer. Reception to follow.

Sacred Heart Church, The Crescent: Sacred vestments exhibition and guided tours of the church on the hour, 4pm, 5pm and 6pm. Gregorian chant concert by the resident choir is at 8.30pm.

Social Services Centre, Henry St.

In the Arms of Distant Waters: A reading from the recently launched book, *The Letter Under the Pillow* by Clare Aherne telling of Limerick women who travelled half-way around the world to become Sisters of St Joseph and work with the needy. A presentation of Art, Craft, Music and Imagery demonstrating the creativity of Limerick's daughters.

Tell Me a Story – White Book of Limerick: An exhibition featuring the eighteenth-century White Book of Limerick, annals of the city and diocese by Fr James White which tell Limerick's story from the coming of St Patrick. One of the great treasures of the diocese of Limerick.

For more details see <http://www.culturenight.ie/>