

# St. Augustine's Church Limerick

## World Day of Migrants & Refugees 14th January 2018

website: [www.augustinianslimerick.com](http://www.augustinianslimerick.com)  
email: [info@augustinianslimerick.com](mailto:info@augustinianslimerick.com)



### Mass times:

#### Monday—Friday

7.30am—8.30am—

10.15am— & 4.00pm

#### Saturday --

8.30am—10.15am—3.00pm

(Mass for the Sick)

#### Sunday—

9.00am, 11.15 am & 7.30pm

### Confession:

#### Monday & Friday

10.45am—12.00 / 3.00pm-4pm

#### Saturday —

10.45am—12.00 / 2.30pm-4pm

### Taize Resumes

Thurs Feb 8th at 5pm

## Message of His Holiness Pope Francis On World Day of Migrants & Refugees

*Dear brothers and sisters!*

"You shall treat the stranger who sojourns with you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God" (*Leviticus 19:34*).

Throughout the first years of my pontificate, I have repeatedly expressed my particular concern for the lamentable situation of many migrants and refugees fleeing from war, persecution, natural disasters and poverty. This situation is undoubtedly a "sign of the times" which I have tried to interpret, with the help of the Holy Spirit, ever since my [visit to Lampedusa on 8 July 2013](#). When I instituted the new [Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development](#), I wanted a particular section – under my personal direction for the time being – to express the Church's concern for migrants, displaced people, refugees and victims of human trafficking.



Every stranger who knocks at our door is an opportunity for an encounter with Jesus Christ, who identifies with the welcomed and rejected strangers of every age (*Matthew 25:35-43*).

The Lord entrusts to the Church's motherly love every person forced to leave their homeland in search of a better future. This solidarity must be concretely expressed at every stage of the migratory experience – from departure through journey to arrival and return. This is a great responsibility, which the Church intends to share with all believers and men and women of good will, who are called to respond to the many challenges of contemporary migration with generosity, promptness, wisdom and foresight, each according to their own abilities. In this regard, I wish to reaffirm that "our shared response may be articulated by four verbs: **to welcome, to protect, to promote and to integrate**".



Introduction to Pope Francis message for World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2018

[www.w2.vatican.va](http://www.w2.vatican.va)

The Holy Mother of God herself experienced the hardship of exile (*Matthew 2:13-15*), lovingly accompanied her Son's journey to Calvary, and now shares eternally his glory. To her maternal intercession we entrust the hopes of all the world's migrants and refugees and the aspirations of the communities which welcome them, so that, responding to the Lord's supreme commandment, we may all learn to love the other, the stranger, as ourselves.

Amoris  
Let's talk Family! Let's be Family!

Augustinian Church  
Taize Service  
Thur 8th February  
5pm

Christian Unity Week  
Jan 18th - 25th  
Special Service  
St. Augustine's Church



Wed. January 24th  
at 7.30pm  
Everyone Welcome



## Amoris Six Week Programme

As part of our preparation for WMoF in August; local faith communities are invited to offer a special six week programme called 'Amoris'.

At the end of this month we will offer **training for facilitators**. An Amoris facilitator is not an expert, a mediator or even one who gives speeches. (S)he is simply the person who organises the evening, and facilitates some group reflection, as part of a team.

We have written to clergy and parish Pastoral Councils asking that parishes - and other faith communities - nominate some facilitators. Everyone who is interested is welcome to come to this, and we will create teams in pastoral areas or parishes depending on numbers - no one will have to work alone!

The facilitators training will run in three locations, for two nights each. This will allow us to meet locally and decide together what are the best options for West Limerick, South Limerick and the city - our goal is to ensure facilitators and participants feel well supported in this opportunity.

Limerick City Mon 22nd Jan & 29th Jan LDPC, Denmark St, Limk  
West Limerick Tues 23rd & 30th Desmond complex, NCW  
South Limerick Wed 24th & 31st Deebert hotel, Kilmallock  
If you are curious or have questions - contact Noirin on 061 400133 or Sr. Mara Grace at <[wmof2018@ldo.ie](mailto:wmof2018@ldo.ie)

### What is this 'Joy of Love' programme?

Families are being offered the chance to reflect on the reality of family, and on a special letter Pope Francis has written to families - 'The Joy of Love - Amoris Laetitia'. The six session programme looks at what he has to say to us here in Ireland this year. This will be a very interactive, positive and encouraging program with fresh resources, in a relaxed setting.

Limerick Diocesan Newsletter

## Feast of St. Ita: Monday 15th January

Saint Idé - or St Ita - was known as the foster mother of the Saints of Ireland. Her name - idé - meant a thirst for holiness, and her feast day is on January 15th ( tomorrow Monday).

Idé was born Deirdre, to noble parents in Deise, Waterford. She rejected an arranged marriage, instead professing vows to God. She left her father's safe home and set out with some companions for the Ua Conaill territory in the West of Munster, the present Co. Limerick, to a place called "Cluain Creadhail" which some interpret to mean "Meadow of Faith" and which is now called Killeedy. Here she founded a convent and remained for the rest of her days.

When she decided to settle in Killeedy, a chieftain offered her a large grant of land to support the convent. But Ita would accept only four acres, which she cultivated intensively so she became known as a patron saint for small holders. The convent became known as a training school for little boys, many of whom later became famous churchmen. One of these was St. Brendan, whom Bishop Saint Erc gave to Ita in fosterage when he was a year old. The great Navigator revisited her between his voyages and always deferred to her counsel. St. Ita, along with St Munchin and St Senan, is a patron saint of our diocese.

Limerick Diocesan Newsletter

The annual St. Ita's Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Donal Murray in St. Ita's Church Ashford Co. Limerick on Monday 15th at 11.00am.