



St. Augustine's Church Limerick

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

website: www.augustinianslimerick.com

email: info@augustinianslimerick.com

17th February 2019

Mass Times

Monday -Friday

7.30am, 8.30am,
10.15am, & 4pm

SATURDAY

8.30am, 10.15am
3.00pm

(Mass for the Sick)

SUNDAY

9.00am, 11.15am
& 7.30pm

CONFESSIONS

MONDAY & FRIDAY

10.45am-12 Noon
3.00pm-4.00pm

SATURDAY

10.45am-12noon
2.30pm-4pm

Maranatha

Maranatha Prayer
Ministry retreat this
Sunday 17th Feb.,
at 2.30pm in St. Paul's
Church Dooradoyle.

Thank You

A big thank you to all
who supported
St. Bridgid's hand made
Crosses in
St. Augustine's Church
on Thursday 31st Jan.
The amount raised was
€444 and all proceeds
will go to AMURT'S
project in Kenya.

Darkness that Nurtures

Every year without fail, in the cold dark days of winter, a quiet miracle takes place. In gardens, at the foot of tall trees or in forgotten corners, a small white flower emerges from the hard and often frozen earth. Like a secret long hidden in the dark, the snowdrop emerges without fuss or fanfare; a little white flower whose presence in these wintry days draws an 'Aah' from even the bleakest soul. Shortly afterwards the crocus comes, then daffodils, narcissi and all the wonderful flowers of spring. But it is the little snowdrop that first breaches the bleakness, that gently and silently hints of something or someone beyond the deepest darkness. 'I will give you treasures from the dark vaults, and hoards from secret places (Isa 45;3)

Who would have thought so delicate and seemingly frail a flower, with her bowed head on so slender a stem could withstand the cold of January? Who could have imagined that the darkness held so precious a treasure?

Life grows in darkness. Hidden in the silent earth seeds and bulbs are nurtured until the day comes when they emerge into the light. We too need darkness in our soul-making journey through life. There are treasures hidden in our hearts, treasures we ourselves do not know, though we may sometimes get a glimpse of the riches within. More often we bemoan the dark, lash out against our painful and unwanted circumstances, and ignore the little shoots climbing to the light.

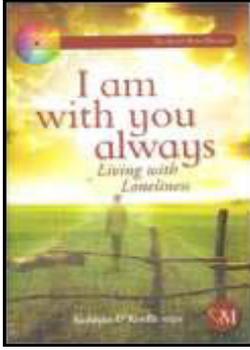


The nurturing power of darkness is a great gift from God. But how hard it is for us to believe this! How difficult to wait with patience, with acceptance, for the creative power of God to bring us through. 'On those who lived in a land as dark as death a light has dawned'. (Isa 9;2)

Seasons of growth take time. No one becomes fully human in an instant. 'In calm detachment lies your safety, your strength in quiet trust' (Isa 30;15). We do not lose hope in the darkness, nor do we give up the struggle. We trust as we reach out to, and work with, our compassionate Creator and Father. We can be certain that, no matter how terrible our lives may seem. He will, in His own time, fill us with light. Then our life, like the snowdrop, will reflect something of His beauty.

Reflection by Sr. Redempta Twomey (assistant editor to Far East at St. Columban's, Navan, Ireland / www.columban.org.au)

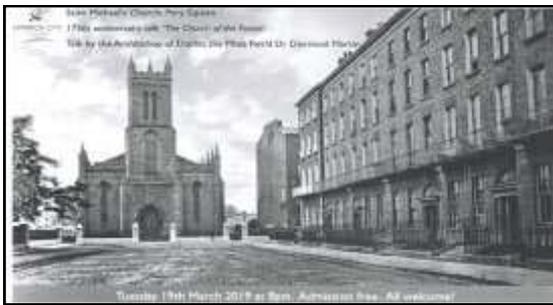




I am with you Always

Living with Loneliness
(Siobhán O'Keeffe SHJM)

Modern life can be lonely. Moreover, modern life can make it feel as if you are the only one who is lonely. Across all of society people are becoming more isolated from one another, spending much of their social life on the internet. The diversity of our experience of loneliness is erased by the glamour and noise of Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. *I am with you always* includes a guide to loneliness in Scripture and a series of reflections on how loneliness is experienced across contemporary society. Available in the Abbey Bookshop €4.95.



St. Michael's Church, Pery Square host its 175th anniversary talk **'The Church of the Future'** on Tuesday 19th March at 8pm. The talk will be given by the Most Rev'd Dr. Diarmuid Martin Archbishop of Dublin. Adm. Free

Thought for the Day

We all know from experience that happiness can be confused with all sorts of things – enjoyment, getting my own way, pleasure etc. We also know— in our heart of hearts—that true happiness is not something that I have for myself but something that I am with others. Rather than something I possess, it is something that I am, with my values and vision. The paradox of human life is that we attain happiness not by aiming at it for ourselves but only making other people the focus of our lives and loves. In the words of St Paul: Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. (Rom 13:8)

Prayer: God of our happiness, give us the wisdom that you alone can give so that we also may be wise and come to life in abundance, according to your will.

www.tarsus.ie



Camino de Santiago -Invitation

From 5th to 15th of September this year a group of 10 people will walk the First Stage of the Camino de Santiago from the French side, Camino Francais. This is a holiday with a difference.



Walking the Camino gives you time for reflection, prayer, exercise and fun, good for physical and mental health. The group number will be between 10 and 20 people giving you the opportunity to have personal space and meet new people, while having the support of a group. There will be time alone when you want it and time to be with others as well as opportunities to enjoy local food and wine with good company.

The scenery is beautiful and we will be beginning in the lovely old town of St. Jean Pied de Port and crossing the Pyrenees and into the Basque country. We will spend two nights in Pamplona en route and continue our walking through forest and streams until we get to Estrella. We will be picked up there and brought to our accommodation to Bilbao to fly home from there, having spent two days sight seeing and relaxing in that lovely city.

If you think you would enjoy the company of a very welcoming group of people and would like further information, you can come to the choir area after Mass, or you can contact Geraldine at 089 2410066, Leo at 089 7036077 or contact Charlotte at the Augustinian Pastoral Office.